



**GRAND VALLEY  
STATE UNIVERSITY**

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**FREDERIK MEIJER  
HONORS COLLEGE**

Graduate Profiles

Grand Valley State University

Class of Winter 2019 and Summer 2019



The Frederik Meijer Office of Fellowships part of the Frederik Meijer Honors College, commends you on completing your undergraduate studies at Grand Valley State University. We know you have bright futures and look forward to your many accomplishments in years to come.

Remember that our services are available to alumni!

Competitive scholarships, fellowships and awards support graduate study, language study, public service, research, foreign service, teaching and other opportunities in the US and overseas. These awards reward past performance, recognize future promise, and often serve as springboards to greater opportunities. Begin your search at [www.gvsu.edu/fellowships](http://www.gvsu.edu/fellowships) under "Award Opportunities" and <http://www.gvsu.edu/financialaid/scholarships-list.htm>.

To learn more about inter/nationally competitive awards, visit our homepage, email [fellowships@gvsu.edu](mailto:fellowships@gvsu.edu) or click on the "schedule an appointment" button and select "alumni" under [www.gvsu.edu/fellowships](http://www.gvsu.edu/fellowships).

We look forward to working with you!

Wishing you continued success,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Elizabeth Harrington Lambert". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Elizabeth Harrington Lambert  
Director



**“Live. Learn. Lead.”** This is the motto of the Frederick Meijer Honors College. It was adopted because it describes what Honors students do. Even a cursory glance through the profiles of the graduates included in this booklet will confirm this. Honors students are accomplished scholars and extraordinary leaders, and they contribute to a remarkable array of fields. They are also global citizens, as is demonstrated by how many of them have studied abroad, have been involved in service activities and organizations, and plan to devote themselves to the public good in their professional and personal lives. Given their successes and contributions, there is no questions that these graduates will go on to do even greater things.

Few of the graduates will say that it has been easy to get to this point – they have been challenged and tested along the way. It takes exceptional motivation, persistence, and achievement to graduate in good standing in the Meijer Honors College.

Graduates, it is with great pleasure and pride that we congratulate and commend you upon your graduation. We are privileged to have played a role in your education, delighted by your triumphs, and eager to hear about your future successes. Please stay in touch and let us know where you go and what you do.

With our esteem and best wishes for your future,

Mark Schaub, Interim Dean  
Brooks College of Interdisciplinary Studies

Roger Gilles  
Interim Director, Meijer Honors College

Meg Marshall  
Honors Academic & Enrichment Advisor

Coeli Fitzpatrick  
Chair of the Honors Faculty

Kelly McDonell  
Honors Academic & Enrichment Advisor

Robyn Toth  
Meijer Honors College Assistant

# *Meijer Honors College Graduates of 2019*

Tiana L. Aden  
Julia M. Ahrns  
Jacquelyn C. Akey  
Nikki M. Alcini  
Brianna M. Aldrink  
Madeline P. Allen  
Cassie H. Anderson  
Thomas W. Anglim  
Abigail L. Avery  
Jonathon M. Ayers  
Hafsa K. Azim  
Frances A. Badur  
Sophia M. Bagnall  
Mark H. Baker  
Madison L. Barnes  
Angelina M. Bartolotta  
Paige M. Baustert  
Kyle N. Baustert  
Evan M. Baxter  
Mason A. Bergsma  
Alexandra N. Bernas  
Kimberly A. Berry  
Taylor T. Bessinger  
Jessica L. Bianchi  
Charles E. Billingsley  
Amanuel S. Birhane  
Amanda M. Bolak  
Allison A. Bolen  
Erin C. Bookout  
Grant A. Borregard  
Kayleigh J. Bos  
Kimberly N. Bottenberg  
Erika F. Bowring  
Jackson T. Brennecke  
Danielle K. Briley  
James M. Briscoe  
Kathryn M. Brooks  
Alexander C. Brower  
Grace M. Brylinski  
Jacob W. Budnik  
Jonah R. Bukowsky  
Riley N. Burgess  
Hunter D. Burin  
Rachel M. Bushey  
Elise M. Cameron  
Michaela M. Castleman  
Noah C. Catton  
Emily E. Cavarretta  
Alivia J. Cerny  
Ophelia S. Cheng  
Brenden J. Childs  
Ryan T. Christianson  
Brett J. Clark  
Julia E. Clay  
Renee N. Cloeter  
Madison K. Collins  
Dylan T. Coolidge  
Kara K. Cotter  
Jessica C. Cubitt  
Michael D. Cuevas  
Jonathon S. Dalecke  
Alexandra Dartt  
Greg A. Deemer  
Jessica M. DeGriek  
Jacob R. Deming  
Andrew M. Deradoorian  
Hannah V. Devecht  
Katelyn Y. Dieleman  
Sierra M. Dillivan  
Mary C. Dreslinski  
Dillon A. Drossart  
Emily A. Dulzo  
Andrew M. Dzierwa  
Avery A. Eriksen-Russo  
Dheanna K. Evans  
Michael P. Everix  
Kiley E. Ferer  
Emily C. Ferrera  
Jamie L. Fleury  
Caroline Floyd  
Alexander M. Fountain  
Leticia A. Franco-Steele  
Samantha J. Frankhouse  
Melina M. Frantzeskakis  
Andrew P. Freiburger  
Andrew N. Freiman  
Jonathan J. Galea  
Anna Gall  
Laura M. Galligan  
Mackenzie L. Garavaglia  
Amanda e. Gasior  
Carter P. Gernaat  
Truman C. Gilde  
Ashley E. Godin  
Virginia Goffredi  
Sarah K. Goupil  
Hanna J. Grabowski  
Jenna M. Grannan  
Rebecca L. Green  
Jillian C. Green  
Tressa A. Groelsma  
Emily A. Gross  
Cassidy J. Haase  
Sophia M. Hall  
Emily K. Hamilton  
Rachel P. Hamilton  
Ashleigh K. Harrah  
Amanda J. Haverdink  
Lily R. Heald  
Olivia J. Heath  
Elisabeth J. Heikoop  
Jessica R. Herold  
Emily E. Heyburn  
Alison R. Hige  
Heidi D. Hodges  
Mary K. Hoeve  
Megan E. Hofman  
Jesse S. Hooker (Ernst)  
Caleb D. Huizenga  
Colin H. Jack  
Marion L. Jamet  
Christopher A. Jansson  
Haley M. Jennings  
Michael A. Jones  
Amber F. Jourdan  
Marisa K. Kahnt  
Rebecca V. Karl  
Elizabeth R. Kebler  
Hannah C. Klein  
Sylvia V. Knight  
Jenna R. Koelsch  
Ashley M. Kooistra  
Taylor Kooy  
Katrina H. Kore  
Lindsey M. Kramer  
Emma J. Krueger  
Kara P. Krupp  
Megan E. Kruskie  
Kathryn A. Latack  
Clayton B. Latham  
Han B. Le  
Gabrielle T. Lewis  
Jordyn N. Lewis  
Natalie L. Loewengruber  
Elizabeth M. Lozon  
Elizabeth R. MacDonald  
Elizabeth R. MacDonald  
Makenna Mackie  
Jack T. MacKillop  
Elle C. Madsen  
Ariel A. Magyar  
Aldina Mahmutovic  
Kayla A. Malackowski

# *Meijer Honors College Graduates of 2019*

Tyler T. Mansfield  
Mercedes A. Martinez  
Linnea A. Martinez  
Grace F. Maust  
Brianna N. Mayo  
Michael I. McCabe  
Jacob S. McCloughan  
Elisabeth S. McCroary  
Elizabeth E. McKernan  
Darwin J. McMurray  
Hannah M. Mead  
Sean E. Meagher  
Amonte D. Millender  
Kristen N. Miller  
Anna C. Miller  
Madeline L. Miller  
Khadija Y. Mohamed  
Kailee L. Moran  
Jennifer R. Morrish  
Sydney T. Mosser  
Holly N. Mrozinski  
Aaron D. Muscaro  
Alexis L. Nagle  
Abigail L. Near  
Madison E. Nichols  
Poshita Nigam  
Elizabeth A. Nisper  
Joseph R. Novaco  
Ashley N. Ohsiek  
Jaclyn Oldenburg  
Rebecca L. Oppman  
Mariah L. Otlewski  
Naomi F. Parker  
Jessica M. Parzynski  
Kaylin R. Peyerk  
Matthew C. Phad  
Uyen Pham  
Ryan L. Phillips  
Kylie L. Pickard  
Rachel R. Pini  
Austyn T. Platte  
Mitchell L. Plichta  
Kayla M. Pomper  
Anna V. Prince  
Robert S. Proctor  
Christopher D. Pryslak  
Alexander J. Putkovich  
Maddie J. Rainey  
Steven R. Reame  
Katelyn E. Reed  
Lindsey E. Remski

Anna J. Riccius  
Elliot C. Rieth  
Isabella River  
Lauren A. Robb  
Nicholas P. Rohde  
Regina K. Rolando  
Luke R. Rozema  
Monica M. Rufe  
Conner D. Rypma  
Emily G. Saenz  
Sydney M. Saier  
Jenna M. Saleh  
David J. Salerno  
Christine Sankey  
Cali R. Savage  
Alyssa L. Schafer  
Paige K. Schedin  
Alison P. Scheffler  
Kristin G. Schepke  
Laura L. Schippers  
Joshua A. Schneider  
Melanie C. Schnellbach  
Amanda Schulte  
Kara M. Schultz  
Casandra A. Schuster  
Ryan J. Schwaar  
Morgan J. Scollard  
Hannah M. Scott  
Alexander C. Scott  
Sean M. Serafini  
Jennifer L. Shaffer  
Sydney Shanley  
Allen J. Sietsema  
Taylor S. Slais  
Makaela R. Smith  
Marijke A. Sommer  
Ashley N. Spagnuolo  
Marisa A. Stankov  
Ellyn L. Stasiak  
Mallory D. Stevenson  
Hannah M. Stoliker  
Haley L. Sullivan  
Emily K. Sund  
Jonathan W. Swain  
Taylor N. Szost  
Tyler J. Szymkowski  
Ted H. Tabor  
Erika L. Taukert  
Kelly L. Tekiela  
Madison J. Telder  
Sara E. Terwillegar

Cole J. Thompson  
Jacob J. Timmerman  
Hannah A. Todd  
Katherine A. Toenniges  
Joseph M. Trojniak  
Madasyn S. Tyldesley  
Nicholas R. Vande Kerkhoff  
Haydn E. VanDenBerg  
Eric R. VanVoorst  
Adam J. Varner  
Pamela J. Vredevoogd  
Luke D. Warner  
Alexander J. Warner  
Reuben P. Wattenhofer  
Bailey O. Webb  
Ian D. Wesolowski  
Caleb C. Wetherholt  
Logan A. Wieber  
Annette M. Williams  
Kathryn C. Williams  
Rachael V. Williams  
Thomas J. Williamson  
Megan A. Wills  
Thomas I. Wisniewski  
Olivia N. Witsaman  
Amanda R. Witsaman  
Toni M. Wolfe  
Maureen V. Wood  
Jacob D. Woodland  
Brenna C. Wyffels  
Jessica R. Wyn  
Darius J. Yongblood  
Austin D. Young  
Emily J. Yoxheimer  
Kyle R. Zaremba  
Kaylin N. Zaroukian  
Emily G. Zerrenner  
Kaylin M. Zocharski  
Katarina J. Zomer  
Christian A. Zurchauer  
Abigail L. Zysk



# Julia Ahrns

**Major:** *Allied Health Sciences with a minor in Biology*

## Senior Project

*Introductory Videos to the Foundational Interdisciplinary Sequences*

Worked with Patrick MacDonald to create a series of videos for each of the Foundational Interdisciplinary Sequences, which allowed students to better understand what a sequence is and have the opportunity to ‘meet’ their faculty before choosing their sequence. Through interviews with professors and students, the videos provided an overview of what each class was about, what the main projects and assignments were, and the dynamic of the course overall.

## Research and Presentations

Presented at the 2018 National Collegiate Honors Committee Conference with the Meijer Honors College regarding the curriculum shift from the general education program and how to start from a blank slate.

## Leadership Activities

Resident Assistant for three years, Orientation Assistant, Teaching Assistant for Alliance and Conflict, Student Assistant for Meijer Honors College, Secretary and later Vice President for Dance Marathon at GVSU, Cook Leadership Fellow.

## Activities and Awards

Award for Outstanding Leadership and Service, Grand Valley Award for Excellence, Grand Valley Faculty Scholarship

## Internships and Practicum Experiences

I had a yearlong internship with the Division of Inclusion and Equity at Grand Valley State University. While working there, I focused on acting as a liaison between student organizations and the Vice President to improve advocacy. I also worked on the special projects team to help create initiatives across campus.

## Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley

I had the privilege of helping start Dance Marathon at GVSU and being a part of the executive board for 3.5 years. Through its growth at GVSU, Dance Marathon has raised over \$100,000 for Helen DeVos Children’s Hospital. #FTK

## Plans after Graduation

I will be getting my Master’s in Higher Education Administration at North Carolina State University. My graduate assistantship will be in the Poole College of Management’s Diversity Office and I will have an additional position in their Office of Institutional Analysis and Research.



# Jacquelyn Akey

**Major:** *Allied Health Sciences*

## **Senior Project**

*The Medical Missions Sisters*

A research paper regarding the founding of the Medical Missions Sisters, the struggles that the founder, Anna, faced as a female Christian physician in the 20th century, and the impact that the Medical Mission Sisters made.

## **Leadership Activities**

Resident Assistant for Grand Valley, First Year Leadership Experience, board member for ANCHOR Honors Community Council

## **Activities and Awards**

I Am Grand Valley Award x 2  
Exemplary Leadership Award  
Lead Like a Laker Award

## **Internships and Practicum Experiences**

Co-Op Student at Spectrum Health Information Systems

## **Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley**

Finding a career path that I love.

## **Plans after Graduation**

Pursuing a Direct-Entry Masters of Science in Nursing Program.



# Madeline Allen

**Major:** *Biology with a minor in Psychology*

## **Senior Project**

*Genetic Counseling Informational Pamphlet*

I made a pamphlet geared towards GVSU students looking to peruse a career in genetic counseling. With this pamphlet, I hoped to spread awareness about the field of genetic counseling.

## **Research and Presentations**

Localization of histamine in the accessory gland and its influence on male-induced female behaviors in *Drosophila*-presented at SSD 2019

## **Leadership Activities**

Co-president of the Genetic Counseling Organization (for 2017-2018 and 2018-2019).

## **Activities and Awards**

Volunteer at Gilda's Club

Volunteer as a crisis counselor for the Listening Ear

CLS Aide at IKUS Life Enrichment Services

## **Internships and Practicum Experiences**

Internship at the Refugee Development Center

## **Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley**

Becoming a well-rounded student through my extra curricular activities and educational achievements. Also, graduating!!

## **Plans after Graduation**

Attending graduate school to get a Masters in Genetic Counseling





# Tommy Anglim

**Major:** *Hospitality and Tourism Management*

## Senior Project

*Lakers' Last Chance to Give*

Working with Michigan Cares for Tourism and the Grand Rapids Department of Parks and Recreation, Hospitality and Tourism Management students and professionals will go to Riverside park to do some much needed cleanup. This will have positive ecological effects as well as provide good public relations for the shrinking major.

## Leadership Activities

Honors Mentor Council President

Anchor Honors Community Council Public Relations Chair

A Cappella Groove President

Parks, Adventure, Recreation Club Logistics Coordinator

## Activities and Awards

I Am Grand Valley Student Leadership Award 2017

I Am Grand Valley Student Leadership Award 2019

Pure Michigan Governor's Conference Scholarship Recipient

mParks Conference attendee 2017

## Study Abroad Experience

Cannes International Film Festival, Cannes, France

## Internships and Practicum Experiences

Recreation and Hospitality Intern at the Waterscape Resort in Fort Walton Beach Florida

Currently a Front Office Agent at the JW Marriott of Grand Rapids

## Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley

My greatest accomplishment while at Grand Valley was learning to push myself and others to achieve by leading with passion, joy, and humor.

## Plans after Graduation

I will continue my work at the JW Marriott where the staff focus on growing as a professional as well as an individual.



# Abigail Avery

**Major:** *Classics with a minor in Writing*

## **Senior Project**

*Queering Sophocles: An Adaptation of Antigone*

Felicity is a one-act play inspired by Sophocles' *Antigone* which I wrote over the course of the semester. It tells the story of a girl who struggles against her father to have her trans brother recognized as a male after his death by putting his chosen name on his gravestone.

## **Leadership Activities**

Vice-President of the Classics Society, member of the National Society of Leadership and Success

## **Activities and Awards**

Epyllion Award for Intermediate Language Study, AWP Intro Journal Awards Nominee for Grand Valley, winner of the 2019 Eta Sigma Phi Literary Translation Contest

## **Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley**

My poem was chosen to represent Grand Valley's writing program in the AWP Intro Journal Awards. I also have a poem and story published in *Fishladder*.

## **Plans after Graduation**

I plan to pursue a Masters in Library and Information Science with the intent of becoming a young adult librarian.



# Frances Badur

**Major:** *Social Work with a minor in Psychology*

## **Senior Project**

*Implications of Transracial Adoption*

A brief overview of the implications of transracial adoption on the cultural and ethnic identity of the adoptees.

## **Leadership Activities**

Vice President - Bachelor of Social Work Student Organization

## **Activities and Awards**

Phi Alpha Honor Society

## **Study Abroad Experience**

Ireland - Social Work

## **Internships and Practicum Experiences**

Social Work Intern - Muskegon County Public Defender

## **Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley**

My greatest accomplishment was pushing myself academically to graduate in three years.

## **Plans after Graduation**

I plan on attending graduate school in North Carolina to get my Masters in Social Work.



# Sophia Bagnall

**Major:** *International Relations with minors in Arabic & Middle East Studies*

## **Senior Project**

*East Timor and Haiti: The Challenges of Outside Forces in Increasing State Capacity*

I ask whether multi-state intervention is more effective than single state intervention. I draw from two case studies, the United Nations intervention in East Timor and the United States intervention in Haiti. The United Nations effort has proven to be a relative success in stark contrast to the result in Haiti.

## **Research and Presentations**

Research on Iraq, Oman, Arabic proverbs, and the Middle East at large.

## **Leadership Activities**

Arabic Table Coordinator, Officer of Promotions for the Arab Culture Club, Head Delegate at the National Model Arab League, Member of the National Society for Collegiate Scholars

## **Activities and Awards**

At the Model Arab League I received 2 awards for distinguished delegate and 1 outstanding delegate award. I was also recognized as an Outstanding Student in Arabic from the Arabic department at GVSU.

## **Study Abroad Experience**

I spent two full semesters at the University of Nizwa in Oman. In addition I did the summer Oman and Dubai study abroad program.

## **Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley**

My greatest accomplishment at Grand Valley was earning the \$20,000 Padnos Scholarship.

## **Plans after Graduation**

My plans after graduation are to continue to learn and develop my knowledge of international politics and the Arab world.



# Mark Baker

**Majors:** *Computer Science & Exercise Science*

## Senior Project

*Creating a Smart Fitness App with a Genetic Algorithm*

I began development on a fitness app that acts as a personal trainer for the user. It prescribes complete and customized workout plans catered directly to the users needs. The algorithm that generates the workout plans is a genetic algorithm, working in similar ways as evolution.

## Research and Presentations

I have worked on one other research study resulting in two papers: Restricted-Carbohydrate Diet and Exercise Increase Brain-Derived Neurotrophic Factor and Cognitive Function; A Randomized Crossover Trial and Carbohydrate-Restricted Diet and HIIT Exercise Improves Cardio-Metabolic and

Inflammatory Profiles in Metabolic Syndrome; A Randomized Crossover Trial

## Leadership Activities

I worked as the lead undergraduate student on the study listed above. I also worked as a tutor and teachers assistant for several years.

## Activities and Awards

Excellence in a Discipline Award (Exercise Science) - 2018.

## Study Abroad Experience

I studied abroad in the Dominican Republic the summer after my freshman year where I studied kinesiology and Latin american history.

## Internships and Practicum Experiences

I am currently interning at Seamless IOT and plan to continue on with them after I graduate.

## Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley

My greatest accomplishment is a tie between graduating with a double major - or the research study I worked on.

## Plans after Graduation

I plan to work for Seamless IOT



# Angelina Bartolotta

**Major:** *Hospitality Tourism Management*

## **Senior Project**

*The One Degree | Above and Beyond Guest Satisfaction*

My project was providing a Grand Key service to some extra important guests at the JW Marriott. It incorporated my love for baking and allowed me to apply all of the knowledge of the hospitality food and beverage industry that I have gained throughout my education at Grand Valley

## **Research and Presentations**

Created the foundation, training, and integrated marketing campaign of an anti-sexual harassment campaign for ending harassment in the Hospitality Industry.

Developed a full Marketing plan for a local Grand Rapids

Business.

Presented multiple presentations on deaf discrimination and cultural isolation as well as their community and promotion of communication improvements.

## **Activities and Awards**

GVSU Seing Dance Club

## **Internships and Practicum Experiences**

Created personal internship in the Bake Shop at the JW Marriott and was offered a full-time position once the internship was finished.

## **Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley**

Building a community of friends and advisors that have helped me in numerous ways throughout the last 4 years.

## **Plans after Graduation**

I plan to work really hard and save up enough money to move to New York City and work as either a pastry chef or restaurant/catering manager.



# Paige Baustert

**Major:** *Allied Health Sciences*

## **Senior Project**

*Qualitative needs assessment of health care in Ghana, Africa*

This qualitative research study was conducted amongst health care providers and patients in Ghana, Africa. Both providers and patients were asked to review the adequacy of health care that they provide and receive.

## **Research and Presentations**

National Conference on Undergraduate Research in Edmond, Oklahoma

Student Scholars Day at Grand Valley State University

## **Leadership Activities**

Mentor with D.A. Blodgett Mentoring Services

## **Activities and Awards**

Academic Excellence Award in Allied Health Science

## **Study Abroad Experience**

Ghana Honors Service-Learning Program

## **Internships and Practicum Experiences**

HIV Prevention, Intervention and Connection to Care with Kent County Health Department

## **Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley**

Having my research accepted and presented at the national conference on undergraduate research was by far my greatest accomplishment while at GVSU!

## **Plans after Graduation**

I will be attending Clarkson University's Physician Assistant program beginning in January 2020



# Evan Baxter

**Major:** *Mechanical Engineering*

## **Senior Project**

*AutoCam Medical Automated Medical Drill Bit Straightener*

Designing and building automated machine with a team of engineers that will be used in production of medical equipment.

## **Leadership Activities**

Team captain of senior project group and various projects.

## **Activities and Awards**

Excellence in a Discipline award for Mechanical Engineering

## **Internships and Practicum Experiences**

Two years of Co-op experience at Royal Technologies

## **Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley**

Succeeding in my program and being accepted into my Master's program.

## **Plans after Graduation**

Attending The University of Michigan to pursue my Master's in Mechanical Engineering.





# Mason Bergsma

**Major:** *Biology*

## **Senior Project**

*Synthesis of Anthranilic Acid Derivatives as Potential Anti-Microbial Agents*

The goal of this senior research project was to synthesize anthranilic acid derivatives and investigate their biological properties.

## **Activities and Awards**

Volunteered with Kids in Motion

Volunteered with the American Red Cross

Volunteered with Spectrum Health Emergency Department

## **Plans after Graduation**

I will be completing my Master's degree in Cell and Molecular Biology from GVSU with plans to work as a lab scientist in the biotechnology industry.



# Alexandra Bernas

**Major:** *Radiation Therapy*

## **Senior Project**

*Evolution of Radiation Therapy*

This project aimed to educate people about the continuing developments in radiation therapy and show the progression of how this department evolved overtime. The growth of this field in the past century has been monumental in the innovation of new treatment techniques and the overall care of patients.

## **Research and Presentations**

Collateral Consequences: Living in the Shadow of a Conviction. This research explored the Criminal Justice System and the immense challenges faced by citizens as they

attempt to reintegrate into their communities after being incarcerated.

## **Leadership Activities**

2 year captain of the Laker Dance Team

## **Activities and Awards**

Dean's List

## **Internships and Practicum Experiences**

Gained clinical experience working as a Radiation Therapist in the following institutions over the past two years.

Sparrow Hospital- Lansing, MI

Johnson Family Cancer Center- Muskegon, MI

West Michigan Cancer Center- Kalamazoo, MI

## **Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley**

I have won three national championship titles with the Laker Dance Team at NDA Nationals and DTU Nationals.

## **Plans after Graduation**

I am scheduled to take my ARRT Board certification exam in the spring to become a registered Radiation Therapist.



# Charles Billingsley

**Majors:** *Computer Science & Film and Video*

## **Senior Project**

*Creation of a 3D Animation Machine*

I merged the modern technologies of 3D printing, micro-controllers, and electric motors with the now antique technology of the zoetrope, to create a three-dimensional self spinning zoetrope experience that brings excitement back into the technology that was so integral in the formation of animation as we know it today.

## **Research and Presentations**

Researched, wrote an essay, and presented at Student Scholars Day on the evolution of Disney's animation style and the technology that led them to begin creating live-action/animated

hybrid films.

## **Leadership Activities**

Co-founder and president of the GVSU Animator's Guild

## **Activities and Awards**

Best Animation award from the Grand Valley Film Academy

## **Internships and Practicum Experiences**

Software Development Intern at Auto-Owner's Insurance for 2 years

Technical Director Intern at DreamWorks Animation in Glendale California this past summer

## **Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley**

My greatest accomplishment has been juggling two degrees and the honor's college requirements while working in the industry and eventually making it into one of the most prestigious animation studios in the world.

## **Plans after Graduation**

Upon graduation I will be moving to Glendale California to work as a Technical Director on an upcoming film at DreamWorks Animation. I will also be planning a wedding with my amazing fiancée, Amanda Haverdink.



# Amanuel Birhane

**Major:** *Biomedical Sciences*

## **Senior Project**

*Impact of Artificial Intelligence on Society*

Although the future cannot be predicted with certainty, it is evident that artificial intelligence will change the course of our lives in the near future by its vast implications.

## **Research and Presentations**

- 1, How omega-3-fatty acids improve cardiovascular health
- 2, Blockade of Interleukin-1 Receptor Attenuates Ischemic Stroke Damage in a Model of Sickle Cell Disease

## **Leadership Activities**

Member of Cook Leadership Academy

## **Activities and Awards**

FCVC summer fellow at U of M.

Volunteered at Bethany Christian Service.

Best mathematician of the year 2016

Graduated high school summa cum laude.

Best ESL student of the year 2015 with 4.0 GPA.

## **Study Abroad Experience**

Originally from Eritrea, Africa. Can speak 4 different language but fluent in only 3 of them.

## **Internships and Practicum Experiences**

Tutored basic science courses such as general biology and chemistry at GVSU for a year.

## **Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley**

Being a member of CLA and being able to finish my study in 3 years.

## **Plans after Graduation**

Run a successful business.



# Amanda Bolak

**Major:** *Biomedical Sciences*

## Senior Project

*Herbal Medicine: A Comparative Essay of Herbal Medicine in Ghana and the United States*

My senior project was an essay that compared the use and stigma of herbal medicine in Ghana and the United States.

## Research and Presentations

I have done reproductive endocrinology research with Dr. Christopher Pearl regarding the effect diabetes and obesity have on the fertility of male mice.

## Leadership Activities

I have been a Girls on the Run Coach for three years, an Honors College Mentor during the summer of 2018, and a mentor for MSU College of Human Medicine's Pipeline Program in both 2018 and 2019.

## Activities and Awards

Apart from volunteering, I was an intramural referee for GVSU recreation, and I've been a Certified Nurse Aide at Brookcrest Nursing Home. Also, I have received the Biomedical Science Graduate of Distinction Award.

## Study Abroad Experience

Through the Honors College, I studied abroad in Ghana, Africa in the summer of 2017. During my time in Ghana, I interned at a local hospital and a non-profit, International Sustainability of Health, Education, and Water.

## Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley

My greatest accomplishment while at GVSU would be maintaining a great GPA while getting to experience everything that I did without losing sight of my goals.

## Plans after Graduation

I will be attending Central Michigan University's College of Medicine in the Fall of 2020 as an early assurance recipient. After medical school, I plan to become an OB/GYN that serves the rural areas of Northern Michigan.



# Erin Bookout

**Major:** *Biomedical Sciences*

## Senior Project

*A Novel Synthesis Mechanism for Sulfonamide Derivatives as Potential Anticonvulsants*

The focus of my senior honors project was to synthesize select sulfonamide compounds that mimic the structure of a known potential anticonvulsant drug, Zonisamide. A series of sulfonamide derivatives have been successfully produced using the proposed mechanism of analogous nucleophilic acyl substitution.

## Research and Presentations

Organic chemistry research with Dr. Ngassa through GVSU's chemistry department

## Leadership Activities

Phi Sigma Pi National Honor Fraternity member for 3 years and served as an executive board member for 1 year and Organic chemistry tutor

## Activities and Awards

I have been working as a research assistant in an organic chemistry lab under Dr. Ngassa for 3 years now and have recently become a published author in the "Acta Crystallographica Section E: Crystallographic Communications" journal

## Internships and Practicum Experiences

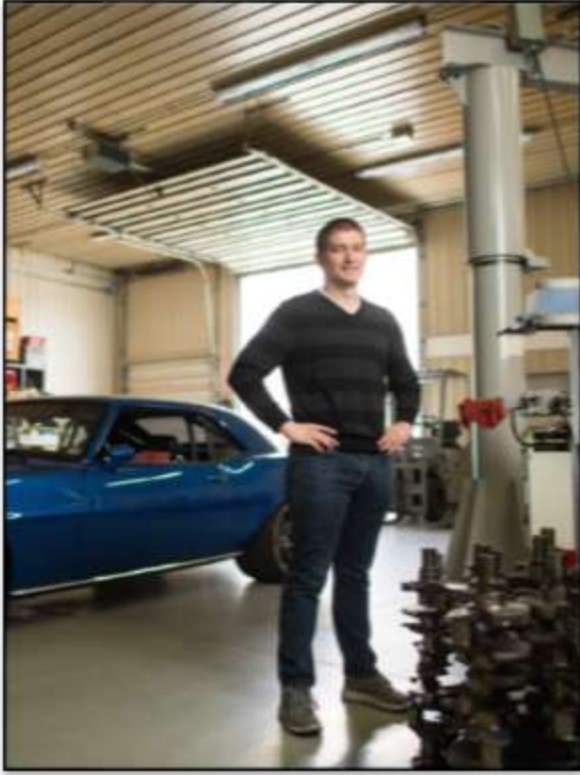
Medical assistant at an orthopedic office  
Emergency room volunteer at Beaumont hospital

## Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley

My greatest accomplishment at GVSU has been getting the opportunity to work closely with faculty and staff, including Dr. Ngassa with whom I conduct organic chemistry research with. Through this, I have been able to develop knowledge and confidence in and out of the lab.

## Plans after Graduation

I will be pursuing a master of science in medicine through Western Michigan University's Physician Assistant program beginning this fall.



# Grant Borregard

**Major:** *Mechanical Engineering with minors in Mathematics & Environmental Studies*

## **Senior Project**

*Altitude Test Apparatus for Small Engines*

The purpose of our project is to develop a testing apparatus for 2 to 10 hp engines that will simulate the atmospheric conditions from ambient to 20,000 feet. Specifically, the intake humidity, temperature, and pressure will be controlled, while only the pressure will be controlled on the exhaust.

## **Leadership Activities**

Captain of the Varsity Swim and Dive team (2017-18 Season).

## **Activities and Awards**

2018: GVSU Degree Completion Scholarship

2018: Joan Boand Athletic Endowment Scholarship

2016-18: GLIAC All-Academic Excellence (3 Times)

2016-17: GVSU Swimming and Diving Most Improved

2015-17: CSCAA Scholar All American Honorable Mention (3 Times)

## **Internships and Practicum Experiences**

2017-Present: Co-Op Student at Baker Engineering in Nunica, MI.

2017-Present: Equipment Maintenance Technician for Efficient Lawn Maintenance.

2016: Summer Intern at Haworth (Walls Department) in Holland, MI.

## **Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley**

Having to the opportunity to compete at the varsity level on the Swim and Dive team for all 4 years.

## **Plans after Graduation**

I will be continuing to work on our Senior Project over the summer while continuing to work part-time at Baker Engineering and Efficient Lawn Maintenance. I move to Chicago in August to live with my Fiance who I will be marrying in September!



# Kayleigh Bos

**Major:** *Education & Mathematics with a minor in Physics - Teaching*

## **Senior Project**

*Utilizing Desmos Technology in Teaching Mathematics*

I put together a database of Desmos activities along with a description as to what they are. This database is something that I can use going forward when I start teaching, to be better able to use Desmos in the classroom.

## **Activities and Awards**

Academic Excellence Award in Secondary Education  
Department Senior Award in Mathematics

## **Internships and Practicum Experiences**

Teacher assisting at West Ottawa High School.  
Student Teaching at Riley Street Middle School.

## **Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley**

Passing my Physics courses in order to get a Physics minor.

## **Plans after Graduation**

I am going to move to Redlands California in order to teach high school math and physics.





# Jackson Brennecke

**Major:** *Product Design & Manufacturing Engineering*

## **Senior Project**

*Master's Degree*

Combined BSE/MSE Program

## **Research and Presentations**

Self balancing autonomous robot research

## **Leadership Activities**

Product Design and Manufacturing Club Officer

## **Activities and Awards**

Tau Beta Pi Engineering Honor Society

Dean's List

## **Internships and Practicum Experiences**

Engineering Co-Op; 1500+ hours of work as a full-time engineer at Oliver Healthcare Packaging

## **Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley**

Being accepted to and participating in NASA's Micro-G NExT competition in Houston

## **Plans after Graduation**

Complete Master's Degree in Electrical and Computer Engineering



# Malia Brooks

**Major:** *Exercise Science*

## **Senior Project**

*Health & Fitness of College-Aged Enrollees in the UFIT Program*

This project analyzed the data from GVSU Campus Recreation's UFIT Program. UFIT is a free program to Grand Valley students providing them the opportunity to meet with Fitness Specialists to discuss their current health and fitness. The secondary data analysis included longitudinal information from physical fitness tests.

## **Leadership Activities**

Campus Ministry Lifegroup Leader  
Campus Ministry Program Team  
GVSU Swim Club Workout Coordinator

## **Activities and Awards**

Recreation Leadership Scholarship - 2018  
GVSU Athletic and Recreation Facilities Rec Star - April 2017  
GVSU Campus Ministry - 2015-2019  
Laker Marching Band - 2015-2017  
GVSU Club Swim Team - 2015-2017

## **Internships and Practicum Experiences**

UP Health Systems Marquette - Cardiac Rehabilitation  
GVSU Campus Recreation - Group Exercise Program Assistant / Marketing

## **Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley**

My greatest accomplishment is being able to work in several departments within the recreation center at GVSU. I formed many amazing and memorable friendships with my co-workers and Laker community!

## **Plans after Graduation**

I will be taking a gap year then hopefully pursuing a Master's degree in either exercise physiology or public health.



# Grace Brylinski

**Major:** *Music*

## Senior Project

*How are language and music connected?*

*An examination of existing literature on the subject*

*This was an interdisciplinary project in collaboration with Maureen Wood. This project examined previous research on the relationship between music and language in the brain.*

Through the study, a likely connection was observed but the exact nature of it is unknown.

## Research and Presentations

Junior Piano Recital featuring performances of solo pieces by Scarlatti and Beethoven, a Beethoven trio, and the piano concerto, Gershwin's "Rhapsody in Blue." Senior Piano Recital featuring performances of solo piano works by

Beethoven and Ginastera, a piano duet by Bizet, and a sonata for piano and violin by Brahms.

## Leadership Activities

Treasurer of GVSU's Collegiate Chapter of the Music Teacher's National Association, 2017-2019

Vice-President of Operations for Campus for Consent, 2017

Honors College Mentor, 2017

## Activities and Awards

First Honorable Mention in GVSU's Concerto Competition, 2018

Second Place in the Music Department Essay Competition, 2018

Alexander Calder Honors Scholarship Nominee, 2018

## Internships and Practicum Experiences

Certificate of Piano Pedagogy

## Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley

Excelling in both my honors and music classes and experiencing incredible growth as a musician. I have had many fantastic performance and collaborative opportunities that have prepared me to be accepted to several graduate programs in my chosen field.

**Plans after Graduation** I will be pursuing a Master of Music degree in Instrumental Collaborative Piano at Carnegie Mellon University beginning this fall.



# Jonah Bukowsky

**Major:** *Computer Science*

## **Senior Project**

*Class Scheduling using a Genetic Machine Learning Algorithm*

I explored the effectiveness of using a genetic algorithm (GA) to create class schedules for the GVSU CIS department. A GA borrows concepts from natural evolution to solve computational problems. This project demonstrates GAs can be powerful enough to solve complex scheduling problems relieving users of this challenging task.

## **Activities and Awards**

Men's Club Volleyball 2016-2017

## **Internships and Practicum Experiences**

Software Developer Intern at Blue Medora

## **Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley**

Staying focused on my education, even taking graduate courses on Machine Learning and High Performance Computing as electives. Doing so led to a great internship experience at Blue Medora, a great senior honors capstone, and an amazing job opportunity after graduation.

## **Plans after Graduation**

Software Development Engineer at Amazon in Seattle, Washington



# Riley Burgess

**Majors:** *Behavioral Neuroscience & Spanish*

## **Senior Project**

*Improving Prenatal Education in Hispanic Women in Grand Rapids*

We worked with the breastfeeding curriculum at HELP Pregnancy Crisis Aid & focused on Hispanic women in the community and how culture influences prenatal care. We presented our information to women and their children at the clinic & gave pamphlets to the women to continue their education at home.

## **Leadership Activities**

Sigma Delta Pi (Spanish Honors Society), Alpha Sigma Alpha, Order of Omega (Greek Honors Society), Study Abroad Alumni Association, Bethany Christian Services Refugee Mentor

## **Activities and Awards**

Alpha Sigma Alpha Woman of the Year 2019  
Alpha Sigma Alpha President 2017-2018  
I am Grand Valley 2017, 2018, 2019

## **Study Abroad Experience**

I spent a month in Nicaragua in 2016 with Dr. Lane & his innovation project. I also spent a semester in Granada, Spain in 2017.

## **Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley**

I believe my greatest accomplishment at GVSU is the relationships I've formed. My involvement in Greek Life and academics, as well as my international experience has introduced me to some of the most incredible people & I am so grateful for that.

## **Plans after Graduation**

I will be attending Loyola University Chicago's accelerated nursing program in August. My dream is to become a geriatric nurse practitioner.



# Rachel Bushey

**Major:** *Biomedical Sciences with a minor in Biology*

## **Senior Project**

*The Effect of Degenerative Eye Disease on Social Relationships*

A survey combined with semi-structured interviews of patients with degenerative eye diseases (DEDs) revealed that DEDs are well managed for the majority of patients. Patients who have advanced vision loss are at risk for feeling strain on social relationships with friends and family.

## **Leadership Activities**

Laker Marching Band Leadership Team  
Pre-Optometry Club, President

## **Activities and Awards**

Merit scholarships, Deans List.  
Marching band, Pre-Optometry club, university band, intramural soccer, tutoring.

## **Internships and Practicum Experiences**

Intern for two semesters at Caledonia Vision Center.

## **Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley**

The greatest thing I've accomplished at Grand Valley is improving the way I communicate with and listen to others in a professional setting.

## **Plans after Graduation**

I will proceed to optometry school at Michigan College of Optometry.



# Elise Cameron

**Major:** *Studio Art*

## **Senior Project**

*Crit Me Website ([www.critme.club](http://www.critme.club))*

Crit Me is a forum and blog style website that is for students, by students. This website gives graphic design and art students around the world the opportunity to collaborate, learn about design, and get their work critiqued by peers.

## **Research and Presentations**

Did research into design trends and styles throughout the decades of the 20th century.

## **Leadership Activities**

President of AIGA Graphic Design Club

## **Study Abroad Experience**

I attended Kingston University in London, England the summer of 2017.

## **Internships and Practicum Experiences**

I interned at The Image Shoppe and 21 Handshake, two marketing agencies.

## **Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley**

My greatest accomplishment was increasing participation and membership in the AIGA Graphic Design club after being elected president. Through this role I was also able to help organize multiple successful events that allowed students to interact with professionals in the field.

## **Plans after Graduation**

After graduation I plan to continue working at 21 Handshake, a digital marketing agency I started at as an intern. I also plan to be very active in the West Michigan chapter of the National AIGA organization.



# Michaela Castleman

**Majors:** *Biochemistry & Biomedical Sciences*

## Senior Project

*Structural analysis of BCA and BshB from Bacillus licheniformis and Bacillus thuringiensis*

This project focuses on obtaining an X-ray crystallographic structure of bacillithiol-conjugate amidase from *B. thuringiensis* and *B. licheniformis*. The analysis of these enzymes gives insight into their functions, which may assist the development of inhibitors to combat fosfomycin resistance through repression of bacillithiol production.

## Research and Presentations

Structural and functional analysis of BshB: Enzyme involved in antibiotic resistance

## Leadership Activities

Head of Fundraising for GVSU Equestrian Team  
Promotions Officer for GVSU Chemistry Club

## Activities and Awards

Dean's List  
Ron Ward Scholarship  
Chemistry Tutor  
Structured Learning Assistance Facilitator

## Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley

Finding my best friend in organic chemistry class!

## Plans after Graduation

I will be attending Marian University College of Osteopathic Medicine starting in August.





# Emily Cavarretta

**Major:** *Speech-Language Pathology with a minor in Spanish*

## Senior Project

*22q Deletion Syndrome Awareness*

The outcome was a brochure of research and interviews for public awareness. Included in the brochure: "What is 22q," "What Everyone Should Know," "Who works with individuals with 22q," "Advice to Parents from Parents," and "Tips for Teachers." Lastly, I wrote a reflection as a sibling of someone with 22q.

## Leadership Activities

National Student Speech Language Hearing Association (NSSLHA) Chapter President

Campus Links Mentor  
Campus Ministry Serve Team  
NSSLHA Chapter Treasurer  
Campus Ministry Lifegroup Leader  
Honors College Mentor

## Activities and Awards

I received the GV Award for Excellence, GV Faculty Scholarship, and was on the Dean's List every semester.

## Study Abroad Experience

Studying abroad in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic was an incredible experience! My Spanish skills improved and I learned about Dominican culture. My eyes were opened to how big the world really is!

## Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley

My greatest accomplishment at GVSU is the lifelong friendships I have made.

## Plans after Graduation

After graduation, I will be attending Saint Mary's College for their dual degree program: Masters of Autism Studies & Masters of Science in Speech-Language Pathology.



# Alivia Cerny

**Major:** *Hospitality Tourism Management with a minor in General Business*

## Senior Project

*The Impacts of Tourism on Costa Rica*

A short film that depicts the positive and negative impacts that tourism has had on the country of Costa Rica.

## Research and Presentations

The Negative Impacts of Tourism Independent Study

## Leadership Activities

Grand Valley Student Ambassador  
Tri Sigma Risk Manager  
Front Office Supervisor Amway Grand Plaza

## Activities and Awards

Grand Valley Student Ambassador  
Tri Sigma Sorority  
Vertical Earth Rock Climbing Club

## Study Abroad Experience

Costa Rica

## Internships and Practicum Experiences

Front Desk Supervisor: The Murray Hotel Mackinac Island, MI  
Front Office Supervisor: Amway Grand Plaza Grand Rapids, MI

## Plans after Graduation

Attending graduate school for a masters in marketing.



# Opheria Cheng

**Major:** *Allied Health Sciences*

## **Senior Project**

*Speech Language Pathology and Audiology Availability in Belize*

In the following report the researcher will lay out the current state-of-affairs in the Belizean healthcare sector, particularly that of the nation's capacity to deliver Audiological/Speech Language Pathological care. In the effort to build a case for necessary improvement.

## **Leadership Activities**

NSSLHA executive-board- Secretary  
Delta Zeta Sorority- Ritual Chair

## **Activities and Awards**

I am Grand Valley

## **Study Abroad Experience**

Belize- Therapy Abroad Summer 2018

## **Plans after Graduation**

Continuing my education through Western Michigan University's Audiology Doctoral Program.



# Brenden Childs

**Major:** *Advertising & Public Relations with a minor in Information Systems*

## Senior Project

***Pigeon Hill Brewing: An Integrated Marketing Campaign Proposal***

To coincide with Pigeon Hill's production facilities expansion, the IMC proposal lays out a new marketing strategy to promote Pigeon Hill's core lineup of beers and increase top of mind awareness of the brand. The end goal is to hopefully see an increased market share for Pigeon Hill's beer.

## Research and Presentations

National Student Advertising Competition

## Activities and Awards

Theta Chi Fraternity

## Internships and Practicum Experiences

Zondervan Christian Publisher

The Judson Group

Austin Academy

The Grand Rapids Sport and Social Club

## Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley

Making it into the honors college and graduating with honors.

## Plans after Graduation

I will be moving to Nashville to work in digital marketing for St. Thomas Midtown hospital. I plan to continue honing my skills until I can one day open my own digital marketing firm.



# Brett Clark

**Majors:** *Physics & Mathematics*

## Senior Project

*Full STEM Ahead: Integrating the Needs of Science Students into the Writing Center*

We performed research on incorporating the needs of STEM students into the Writing Center. We conducted interviews of STEM professors. We then presented a training to consultants at the GV Writing Center as well as presented some of our findings at the Michigan Writing Center Association conference in October, 2018.

## Research and Presentations

Acoustic Levitation Using 3 Dimensional Standing Waves: Theory and Demonstration (GV Physics Senior Research

Project), Background Control in the Lux-Zeplin Dark Matter Experiment (BHSU REU Research Project), Crystal Growth using Self-Selecting Vapor Growth to Measure the Characteristics of Novel Semi-Conductors (GV Junior Year Physics Research)

## Leadership Activities

Lead Consultant at the Fred Meijer Center for Writers and Michigan Authors

President of the Grand Valley Chapter of the Society of Physics Students and Grand Valley Physics Club

## Activities and Awards

Department of Mathematics Senior Award, Pi Mu Epsilon Mathematics Honors Society Inductee, Sigma Pi Sigma Physics Honors Society Inductee, Several mathematics competitions including the Lower Michigan Mathematics Competition and the Putnam, "I am Grand Valley!" Leadership Award two consecutive years

## Internships and Practicum Experiences

Research Experience for Undergraduate Students at Black Hills State University and the Sanford Underground Research Facility in Black Hills, South Dakota, on the Lux-Zeplin Dark Matter Experiment

## Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley

Becoming a Laker for a Lifetime

## Plans after Graduation

I plan to pursue a PhD in physics after taking a gap year.



# Julia Clay

**Major:** *Nursing*

## **Senior Project**

*Influencing Approaches to Undergraduate Peer Mentoring among Pre-licensure Nursing Students through Multiple Perspectives*

This project examined the Transition Mentorship Program which is run through the GVSU Student Nurse's Association. We gathered the perspectives of faculty, staff, and students to determine possible reasons for low participation in the program and make recommendations for increasing program use by incoming nursing students.

## **Leadership Activities**

Membership Director, Student Nurses' Association Winter 2019

## **Activities and Awards**

Excellence-in-a-Discipline Award - Frederik Meijer Honors College, 2019

I am Grand Valley Award 2017

Phi Kappa Phi Freshman Honoree

## **Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley**

My greatest accomplishment at Grand Valley was learning what it means to be a good friend, a good citizen, and a good nurse. I owe it all to my friends, family and faculty.

## **Plans after Graduation**

I will be working as a Registered Nurse in Tennessee!



# Renee Cloeter

**Major:** *Exercise Science*

## **Senior Project**

*Careers in Exercise Science*

The format of this project is a website. It is a means to inform students and prospective students of the post-graduate options that the Exercise Science major provides. This includes careers, as well as, graduate school options. The website also includes information about writing cover letters, resumes and interviewing.

## **Research and Presentations**

Thermoregulation of Let Clothing Restriction during Submaximal Aerobic Exercise, Cardiac Rehabilitation Marketing Presentation, Cardiac Rehabilitation Informative Pamphlet, Pathophysiology and Treatment of Atherosclerosis, Effects of Rest on Long Term Memory Retention.

## **Leadership Activities**

Weight Loss Surgery Debate: I was voted as the leader of my group by my fellow group members.

## **Activities and Awards**

Top 6 of 150 eligible students for the Most Outstanding Student in a Major Award

## **Internships and Practicum Experiences**

Conductive Learning Center: this experience allowed me to interact and assist students with cerebral palsy, spina bifida and other motor disabilities to improve on their motor and verbal skills.

Beaumont Hospital Cardiac Rehabilitation: monitor cardiac patient vitals and ECG rhythms as well as perform stress tests.

## **Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley**

I maintained a 4.0 GPA throughout all four years at Grand Valley.

Received praise from many professors for my hard work, papers and projects. Of which several requested to use my projects and papers as templates/examples for future classes.

## **Plans after Graduation**

I recently was offered and accepted a highly competitive Exercise Physiologist Internship position at Saint Joseph Mercy Hospital in Ypsilanti. Following that I plan to become a Certified Exercise Physiologist and work in the Cardiac Rehabilitation environment helping cardiac patients regain their health and well-being.



# Madison Collins

**Major:** *Medical Laboratory Science*

## **Senior Project**

*The People Behind the Scenes: Medical Laboratory Science and the Importance of Lab Testing*

I summarized my experience as a student in the MLS program and researched the importance of laboratory testing to create an informational brochure. I wanted to bring more awareness to our unknown profession and the amazing work that we contribute to health care.

## **Activities and Awards**

Member of the National Society of Collegiate Scholars

## **Internships and Practicum Experiences**

18-week long clinical rotation at Spectrum Health-affiliated hospitals

## **Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley**

My greatest achievement at Grand Valley would be presenting my honors project brochure to microbiology courses at GVSU to recruit students and promote the MLS program. I was recruited to the program, so it was a really great full circle moment for me to go back and recruit students myself.

## **Plans after Graduation**

I have accepted a position as a Medical Technologist at Spectrum Health here in downtown Grand Rapids. I am so excited to make Grand Rapids my permanent home.





# Dylan Coolidge

**Major:** *Mechanical Engineering with a minor in Biomedical Engineering*

## **Senior Project**

*2-stroke engine simulator*

We are sponsored by Baker Engineering to design and build a test apparatus that will simulate altitude for 2-stroke engines.

## **Leadership Activities**

Vice President of Club Baseball 2018

## **Internships and Practicum Experiences**

2 internships at Spartan Motors and a co-op rotation. 2 co-op rotations at Gentex.

## **Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley**

Maintaining a solid GPA while staying active with baseball.

## **Plans after Graduation**

Navy Officer Candidate. I will be working on submarines for a few years.



# Kara Cotter

**Majors:** *Communication Science & Disorders*

## **Senior Project**

*The Effects of Gamification on Speech Therapy*

This study evaluated the effects of gamification on speech therapy. Gamification is the insertion of game elements, such as points and levels, into a nongame context.

## **Research and Presentations**

Future State Project

## **Leadership Activities**

Freshman Year Leadership Experience- Participant  
Freshman Year Leadership Experience- Mentor  
Grand Valley Running Club- Fundraising Coordinator  
Grand Valley Running Club- Vice President  
Grand Valley Running Club- Grand Valley Turkey Trot

## **Activities and Awards**

I am Grand Valley- 2016, 2017, 2018

## **Internships and Practicum Experiences**

Adam's Camp

## **Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley**

Planning the Grand Valley Turkey Trot. I broke the previous records for both amount of money donated to Kids Food Basket and number of runners in the race.

## **Plans after Graduation**

I will be attending graduate school for speech-language pathology.



# Jessica Cubitt

**Major:** *Marketing*

## **Senior Project**

*Bad Axe First United Methodist Church Marketing Project*

I conducted surveys and interviews to provide the church with marketing recommendations to engage a younger target market.

## **Leadership Activities**

Lifegroup leader for Campus Ministries

## **Activities and Awards**

3rd place, Freshmen honors paper competition

Declaring Independence: The Evolution of Revolution

## **Internships and Practicum Experiences**

Marketing Intern at Rhoades McKee Law Firm (Summer 2018)

Events Intern at The Cheney Place (Summer 2018)

The Disney College Program (Spring 2018)

Two summers as a Manufacturing Lean Intern at Gemini Group (Summers 2016 and 2017)

## **Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley**

My greatest accomplishment was getting accepted and participating in the Disney College Program.

## **Plans after Graduation**

I have accepted a Professional Internship with The Walt Disney Company and will be moving to Orlando in June to work in Marketing Strategy.



# Jonathon Dalecke

**Major:** *History with a minor in Latin American Studies*

## Senior Project

*Comparing Chilean Journals in the Pinochet Dictatorship*

I am researching the Chilean Pinochet regime, which lasted from 1973-1990. I am examining two journals, the 1977 *Academia Cristiano* and the 1987 *Analisis*. They have extremely different tones and topics, and I am writing a paper on why that is.

## Research and Presentations

Essay on memory of Chilean dictatorship.

Essay about overview of Latin American politics.

## Activities and Awards

Nominated for Dean's List 2019.

## Study Abroad Experience

Semester in Chile March - August 2018. Attended Universidad de Bio Bio in Chillan and lived with a host, the Alvez family.

## Internships and Practicum Experiences

Elementary English tutor in Chillan, Chile, for 2 months.

## Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley

25 page research paper on Chilean journals during the dictatorship.

## Plans after Graduation

I plan to take a gap year before applying for history graduate schools. I plan on finding a job as a history teacher or research assistant.



# Alexandra Dartt

**Major:** *International Business & Marketing with a minor in Spanish*

## Senior Project

*GVSU LakerThon Brand Analysis*

This paper attempts to explore corporate and nonprofit brand strategies. It also examines the Children's Miracle Network Hospitals rebrand of 2015 alongside the GVSU LakerThon rebrand of 2018. Then, based on the research, it offers some suggestions to further achieve the goals of GV LakerThon in the future.

## Research and Presentations

Future State Project Student Researcher

## Leadership Activities

Miracle Network Dance Marathon Vice President & Founding Member (4 years), American Marketing Association Director of Content Marketing & Member (2 years), Phi Chi Theta Member (2 years)

## Activities and Awards

Deans List (2015 - present)

## Study Abroad Experience

Attended Universidad de Deusto in Bilbao, Spain during the winter semester of 2018.

## Internships and Practicum Experiences

Marketing internship with InVerve Marketing Agency and currently a New Business Innovation Intern at Steelcase, Inc.

## Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley

Being nominated for the Glen A. Niemeyer Award.

## Plans after Graduation

I will be working at Steelcase through the summer and plan to move to Phoenix after that to work at a startup.



# Jessica DeGrieck

**Major:** *Biomedical Sciences*

## **Senior Project**

*The Development of Leukemia Treatment and Research Throughout the Twentieth Century*

My senior project is about how people's understanding of leukemia has improved since the beginning of the twentieth century and how that has factored into better survival rates and quality of life.

## **Research and Presentations**

I have also researched the development of adapted cancer treatment regimens for low and middle human development index countries.

## **Leadership Activities**

I have been president of Circle K International for two years. I was also a Transitions Leader for the Fall 2018 semester.

## **Activities and Awards**

I have been a member of Circle K International for all 4 years. I have also been nominated for the I Am Grand Valley Award 3 times.

## **Internships and Practicum Experiences**

I have worked as a CNA for over a year.

## **Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley**

My greatest accomplishment while at Grand Valley is becoming president of Circle K and helping to set the foundation to ensure that the club can continue to flourish.

## **Plans after Graduation**

I plan to take a gap year to get more work experience, and then I would like to go to either PA School or Nursing School.



# Jacob Deming

**Majors:** *Biomedical Sciences & Biology*

## Senior Project

***solaRescue: Providing Life and Light for Malawi***

solaRescue works with a remote hospital in Malawi that experiences daily blackouts to provide solar medical devices and solar power. As student director, I created a website that generated \$15,000 in 4 months, traveled to Malawi to deliver devices and install solar, and managed a \$10,000 monthly Google AdWords grant.

## Research and Presentations

Midwest Public Affairs Conference 2018: A Multidisciplinary Project Establishes an Online Presence to Fund the Development of Solar Powered Medical Devices for African Hospitals

## Leadership Activities

solaRescue Student Director (2017-2019)  
InterVarsity Christian Fellowship Leader (2017-2019)  
Pine Rest Psychiatric Technician Preceptor (2016-2019)

## Activities and Awards

Teaching Through Technology Member  
Intramural Sports: Basketball, Softball, Volleyball, and Soccer  
Psychiatric Technician at Pine Rest: 3 time Employee of the Quarter

## Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley

Raising \$15,000 for Embangweni Mission Hospital and the 2 weeks I spent in Malawi delivering solar medical devices and installing solar panels. This trip gave power to a clinic that previously had no electricity, fixed a solar backup in a maternity ward, and provided power to many other buildings.

## Plans after Graduation

University of Kentucky College of Dentistry



# Hannah DeVecht

**Majors:** *English & Education with minors in Writing and History- Teaching*

## Senior Project

*Flower Poems (first installment of a future project)*

This project is a collection of poems in reaction to the Larry Nassar case. Each poem is titled after a flower and puts forth the adaptive and resilient nature of that flower, breaking the stereotypical depiction of women as pretty and petite in favor of strong and resilient.

## Research and Presentations

Literature as a Means for Social Change: How JK Rowling Taught us Empathy, The Importance of Multicultural Literature in the ELA Classroom

## Leadership Activities

Teacher Assisting, Student Teaching, Volunteering at a school, Study abroad

## Activities and Awards

Study abroad  
Honors college  
College of Education

## Study Abroad Experience

UK Literature Study Abroad (Ormskirk)

## Internships and Practicum Experiences

Teaching Assisting and Student Teaching field experience

## Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley

Studying abroad and student teaching

## Plans after Graduation

After graduation I plan to travel, teach, write, and enjoy life to the best of my ability.





# Mary Dreslinski

**Major:** *Hospitality Tourism Management with a minor in General Business*

## **Senior Project**

*Ask Anything*

An open Q&A panel comprised of Human Resource representatives from downtown Grand Rapids hospitality businesses in lodging, tourism, adventure tourism and other hospitality industry professions to discuss common, but not talked about, subjects such as sexual assault, marijuana use in the workplace, interview tips & social media influence on recruitment.

## **Leadership Activities**

Co-founded women in professions support group - EmpowerGR

## **Activities and Awards**

During my time at Grand Valley, I received 3 "I Am Grand Valley" Awards, and have been noted on the Dean's List for all semesters. I also was involved on campus through MPI and the Future Alumni Association.

## **Internships and Practicum Experiences**

Through my 3 internships at Unbridled Solutions, I was able to travel to 4 different states and work events with varying budgets and attendee numbers.

## **Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley**

My greatest achievement while at Grand Valley would have to be the amount of projects I created through curriculum that I was able to use in real world experiences.

## **Plans after Graduation**

My plans after graduation are to work as an In-House Corporate Event Planner and live in a warm climate.



# Dillon Drossart

**Major:** *Business Economics with a minor in Arabic*

## **Senior Project**

*Access to the Needed*

To create a Mental Health Non-Profit in the Greater Grand Rapids Metropolitan Area that would enable more people to have easier access to better quality mental health care.

## **Leadership Activities**

Chair of the Mental Health Awareness Committee for Student Senate.

2 Year RA in Ott Living Center.

## **Activities and Awards**

Student Senator of the Year 2018-2019

## **Study Abroad Experience**

Studied Abroad in Oman and the United Arab Emirates for Arabic and Business.

## **Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley**

Creating and chairing the Mental Health Awareness Committee at Grand Valley State University for the Student Senate.

## **Plans after Graduation**

Attend Law School.



# Emily Dulzo

**Major:** *Nursing*

## **Senior Project**

*Training Nursing Students to Use Naloxone*

The aim is to address the opioid crisis in Grand Rapids by working with the Grand Rapids Red Project. The project's focus is to create two opioid education and response training events for nursing students.

## **Leadership Activities**

FYLE

Vice President of Rho Gammas for the National Panhellenic Council

Committee member of the Global Initiatives committee of Student Nurses Association

Ritual chairperson of Sigma Kappa Sorority

## **Activities and Awards**

Sigma Kappa Sorority member

Student Nurses Association member

## **Internships and Practicum Experiences**

Acute care of the Elderly unit at Spectrum Blodgett hospital

## **Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley**

I believe my greatest accomplishment while attending Grand Valley was working in an Emergency Department while a student.

## **Plans after Graduation**

After graduation I plan to work in an Emergency Department as a Registered Nurse.



# Andrew Dzierwa

**Major:** *Business Economics*

## **Senior Project**

*Through These Doors: A study of creating community in high school hockey*

Through These Doors shows how I was able to create an annual academic scholarship program for my high school hockey team, and create community through alumni involvement.

## **Research and Presentations**

Redesigning the Frederik Meijer Honors College Curriculum via Design Thinking for Real World Needs

## **Activities and Awards**

Design Thinking Fellow via GVSU's Design Thinking Academy

## **Internships and Practicum Experiences**

Three consecutive internships with Hagerty Insurance Agency in Traverse City, MI; ultimately leading to a full-time position.

## **Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley**

Learning about my greatest strengths: communication, writing, and creativity.

## **Plans after Graduation**

Joining Hagerty Insurance Agency in Traverse City, MI in a full-time role.



# Avery Eriksen-Russo

**Major:** *Psychology with a minor in Human Rights*

## Senior Project

*The Effect of Music Identity on Intergroup Bias*

I did a research project on the influence of in-group bias that focused on musicianship as a potential identity to cut across differences in political affiliation between people.

## Research and Presentations

I worked with different professors in the psychology department on their research in the areas of attribution theory and social perceptions.

## Leadership Activities

I am the Vice President of a GVSU student organization, Euphoria A Cappella. This award-winning group has been able to perform at many amazing events and competitions across the country as well as for our very own President Haas.

## Activities and Awards

Euphoria A Cappella

## Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley

My greatest accomplishment at Grand Valley was finally allowing myself to pursue my passions which led me to amazing people and amazing experiences.

## Plans after Graduation

I plan to continue with my passion for learning by exploring new professional outlets in the field of psychology and advancing my skills in graduate school.



# Dheanna Evans

**Major:** *Nursing*

## **Senior Project**

*Nursing Management of Pain and Comfort in Oncology Patients*

I performed research and wrote a twenty-page paper on the nursing role in managing pain and comfort in patients with cancer. This included a history of management strategies, an explanation of the types of pain cancer can cause, and factors that affect how nurses manage their patients pain.

## **Research and Presentations**

On February 21st I presented a capstone project with a group of my fellow nursing students. The focus of this project was on pulling together a health screening fair for the South Side of Grand Rapids where a lot of disparities exist when it comes to attainable healthcare.

## **Internships and Practicum Experiences**

Throughout the nursing program I have had a variety of clinical experiences in the adult and pediatric medical fields. I finished off the semester at the St. Mary's Post-Anesthesia Care Unit for my immersion clinical where I shadowed a nurse for six weeks.

## **Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley**

My greatest accomplishment while at Grand Valley was making it through the vigorous nursing program.

## **Plans after Graduation**

After graduation I will study and take the NCLEX examination to obtain my licensure and then I will work as a registered nurse at Butterworth on one of their oncology units.



# Michael Everix

**Major:** *International Relations with a minor in International Business*

## **Senior Project**

*China in Ghana: Helping or Hurting?*

It is a critical analysis of the Chinese presence in Ghana and how the Ghanaian people have reacted to it.

## **Internships and Practicum Experiences**

Student Researcher for Future State Project

## **Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley**

Graduating with Honors

## **Plans after Graduation**

Pursue a career in the automotive industry



# Kiley Ferer

**Major:** *Biomedical Sciences*

## Senior Project

*Examining the Awareness of Physician and Health Professions on The Bredesen Protocol" | MPI Cognition as a potential cure and treatment for Alzheimer's Disease.*

This project was examining the literature and research on The Bredesen Protocol" | MPI Cognition, which is the first program to prevent and reverse the symptoms of Alzheimer's disease. Surveys were sent out to health professionals to look at the effectiveness of the protocol for Alzheimer's patients.

## Leadership Activities

I have been in leadership roles in many organizations on campus. In Campus Ministry, I have been apart of the Well Care Team, and Serve Global team I was also on the committee for two years on Lakerthon Dance Marathon, which raises money for Helen DeVos.

## Activities and Awards

Dean's list for all 4 years of my undergraduate career and Lakerthon received student life awards.

## Study Abroad Experience

The day after graduation, I will be flying for Belize with fellow members of Pre-PA club to go on a medical mission trip and to help treat and diagnose patients in rural Belize with International Student Learning.

## Internships and Practicum Experiences

During my time as an undergraduate at Grand Valley State University, I have worked as a certified nursing assistant at a memory care facility and as a psychiatric technician. In these positions I help patients with their activities of daily living, and give the patients their medication.

## Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley

My greatest accomplishment at Grand Valley was completing my senior project. This was a project I got to pick a topic I was passionate about and I improved on many skills that will help me in graduate school.

## Plans after Graduation

My plan after graduation is to take a gap year to do more research and to work and get more experience in the healthcare field. I will also be applying to PA schools so that I can achieve my dream career of becoming a Physician Assistant.





# Emily Ferrera

**Major:** *Writing with a minor in Photography*

## Senior Project

*Skin Deep: a collection of tattoo photography and poetry*

"Skin Deep" is a collection of black and white photographs of tattoos that have been paired with poetic interpretations of the art. This project uses photography and creative writing together to interpret body modifications and create a better understanding of the self.

## Research and Presentations

Disability Services and Training in Writing Center Practice  
Femininity and the Body: A Study in Collaborative Poetry

## Activities and Awards

Laker Marching Band (2015-2017)

Dean's List (2015-2019)

Poetry Publication in the Grand Valley Writing Club(2015)

Poetry Publication in Fishladder: A student journal of art and writing (2018)

AWP Intro Award for Poetry (2018)

## Internships and Practicum Experiences

Marketing and Communications Intern for the Girl Scouts of Michigan Shore to Shore (Summer 2018)

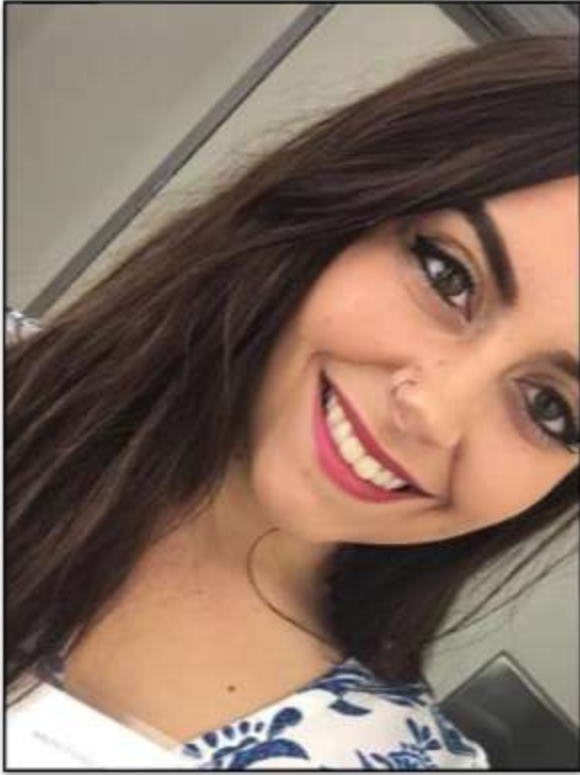
Writing Consultant at the Fred Meijer Center for Writing and Michigan Authors (2017-2019)

## Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley

The AWP Intro Award for Poetry is Emily's greatest accomplishment while at Grand Valley. She has submitted work every year, facing many rejections, until her senior year submission. She is excited to represent Grand Valley at the national level for her poetic work.

## Plans after Graduation

Emily plans to use her writing knowledge to curate web content for local businesses in Grand Rapids. She wishes to work in social media/ web writing and use her storytelling ability in order to create more accessible documents for people of all backgrounds.



# Jamie Fleury

**Majors:** *Legal Studies & Multimedia Journalism*

## Senior Project

*Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner Resources at Institutions of Higher Education in Michigan*

I conducted an independent analysis of all 30 institutions of higher education in Michigan to see whether any of them were following best practices/procedures in sexual assault response. I ultimately argue in favor of more universities/colleges adopting Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner programs.

## Research and Presentations

Freelance research on reverse mortgages for/with USA Today and my journalism professor, Jeff Kelly Lowenstein

## Leadership Activities

Peter C. Cook Leadership Academy Fellow  
Law Society Vice President

## Activities and Awards

Lambda Epsilon Chi - National Honors Society (Legal Studies)  
Leadership University  
"I am Grand Valley" Award Recipient  
Legal Assistance Center - Volunteer  
PALS Student Mentor

## Internships and Practicum Experiences

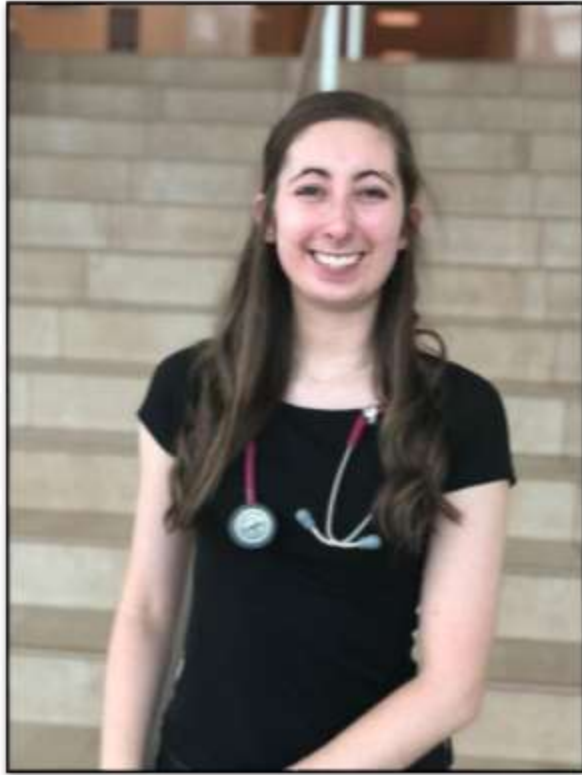
Legal Intern - Kreis, Enderle, Hudgins & Borsos, P.C.  
Freelancer with USA Today (Journalism Internship)  
Intercultural Competency Practicum/Certificate

## Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley

Freelancing with USA Today; maintaining a 3.92 GPA

## Plans after Graduation

I plan to work in the legal field in Grand Rapids for 1-2 years until I make definitive plans regarding graduate school.



# Caroline Floyd

**Major:** *Nursing*

## Senior Project

### *Self-Care for Student Nurses*

I researched the importance of self-care, examples of self-care practices, and barriers to self-care in nursing students. I compiled my research, presented to Student Nurses Association (SNA), and provided opportunities for students to practice self-care activities. I analyzed the feedback and provided SNA with resources for future self-care presentations.

## Leadership Activities

I served as the co-president of American Sign Language and Culture Club for two and a half years, and I served as the secretary for Student Nurses Association for one year.

## Activities and Awards

Phi Kappa Phi Freshman Honoree, inducted into Phi Kappa Phi honor society March 2017, member of American Sign Language and Culture Club for 4 years, member of Pre-Nursing Association for 2 years, member of Student Nurses' Association for 2 years, member of Colleges Against Cancer for 1 year, member of Children's Miracle Network Dance Marathon at Grand Valley State University Planning Committee for 2 years, inducted into Sigma (nursing honor society) December 2018, attended National Student Nurses' Association Annual Planning Convention April 2018

## Study Abroad Experience

I studied abroad at the University of Cape Coast in Ghana, Africa with the Kirkhof College of Nursing.

## Internships and Practicum Experiences

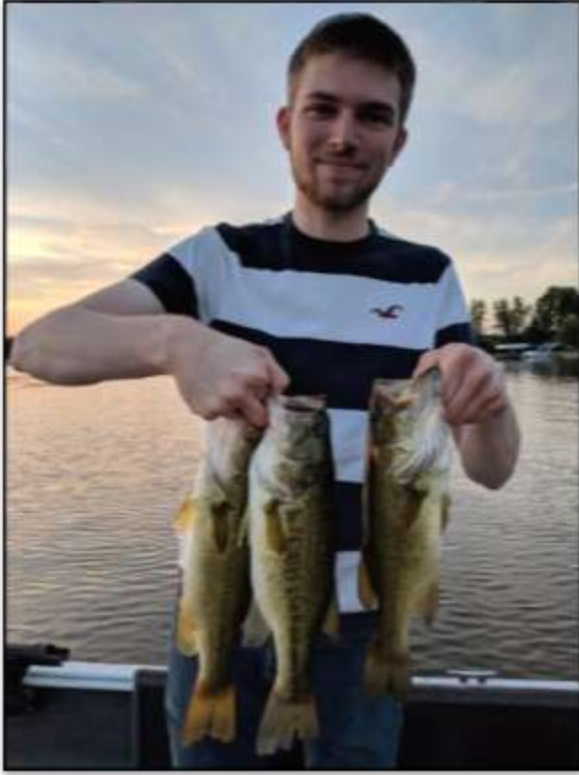
I had my senior clinical immersion at Butterworth Community Hospital on 6 South, the Progressive Care/ Burn Unit.

## Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley

My greatest accomplishment at Grand Valley was being given a sign name while studying abroad in Ghana. In deaf culture, sign names can only be given by someone who is deaf, so it was a huge honor to communicate and be given a sign name by a deaf individual.

## Plans after Graduation

After graduation, I hope to work in a pediatric cardiac intensive care unit. I am applying to children's hospitals with nurse residency programs that offer this position to new graduate nurses. My goal is to one day become a clinical nurse educator for a new graduate nurse residency program.



# Alexander Fountain

**Major:** *Computer Science*

## **Senior Project**

*First Presbyterian Church of East Jordan Website*

Development and publishing of a new website for the First Presbyterian Church of East Jordan. This included a content management system.

## **Leadership Activities**

Campus Ministries Worship Team

## **Internships and Practicum Experiences**

Web Developer at SAF - Holland

## **Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley**

Graduating with a degree, job, and fiance in four years.

## **Plans after Graduation**

Working at SAF - Holland as a web developer till my wedding on August 24th.



# Samantha Frankhouse

**Majors:** *International Business & Marketing with a minor in Spanish*

## Senior Project

*Finding My Future: Defining the Landscape, Discovering the Path*

Finding My Future, a local startup, wants to give students "the tools they need to define a future they'll love." However, also on a quest to be educated and informed in decision-making, FMF is in need of market research and customer discovery to understand and appropriately design for their audiences.

## Research and Presentations

Trailblazers: Innovation Portfolio, Design Thinking

## Leadership Activities

President of Phi Chi Theta (January to December 2016)

## Activities and Awards

Outstanding Student in a Major Award for International Business  
Phi Kappa Phi Freshman Honoree

## Study Abroad Experience

University of Deusto in Bilbao, Spain (January to May 2017)

## Internships and Practicum Experiences

Product Marketing Student Associate for the Furniture Group at Steelcase (June 2017 to Present)

## Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley

Having the ability to pursue all of the interests I have academically - including three majors for two degrees - while developing professionally and traveling internationally.

## Plans after Graduation

Continuing my professional career at Steelcase as a Product Marketing Specialist for the Furniture Group and spending time with my new Boston Terrier puppy.



# Melina Frantzeskakis

**Majors:** *Cell & Molecular Biology & Writing*

## **Senior Project**

*Cultural Exploration of Cuisine*

I made 15 different soups from 15 different cultures/geographical regions around the world and uploaded posts to my food-blog with background information of the cultures/areas and their history.

## **Research and Presentations**

Parkinson's Disease Research Lab - Merritt Delano-Taylor  
2017-2019 GVSU

UM-SMART REU Gastric Stem Cell Proliferation Lab - Linda Samuleson 2018 summer U of M

Sugar Glider Research Lab - Bruce Ostrow 2016-2017

Presented: APSA (in Iowa state university, annual conference in Chicago, Vanderbilt). WMRUGS, U of M MSTP Retreat, Student Scholars Day.

## **Leadership Activities**

Cook Leadership Academy named fellow 2017-2019, Pre-MD/PhD club President (2017-2019) Public Relations (2016-2017)

## **Activities and Awards**

Kindshi Research Fellowship 2017 to 2018, Phi Kappa Phi Honors 2016, Grand Finish Grant Recipient Dean's List Fall 2015 to Present

## **Internships and Practicum Experiences**

UM-SMART REU

## **Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley**

Obtaining a position in the UM-SMART program at the University of Michigan and getting to disseminate my research in both this lab and my lab at GVSU in a variety of states in the US.

## **Plans after Graduation**

Current Semi-finalist for a Fulbright ETA in South Korea as a gap year.

Plans to obtain an MD/PhD dual degree after gap year.



# Andrew Freiburger

**Majors:** *Chemistry with a minor in Biology*

## Senior Project

*Delignification and characterization of willow biomass via the Kraft process*

The alkaline Kraft process was explored as a means of delignifying shrub willow biomass that is plotted at GVSU's Sustainable Agriculture Project. Delignification is a pretreatment method that liberates carbohydrates and enables the subsequent valorization of biomass towards platform molecules that are imperative in a circular bioeconomy.

## Research and Presentations

2018 and 2019 ACS Green Chemistry and Engineering conferences, 2019 Michigan Forest Bioeconomy Conference,

REU research at Washington State University  
2018 Center for Undergraduate Research REU Symposium

## Leadership Activities

Former-President of the Brewing Club

## Activities and Awards

GVSU Sustainability Champion Award, Tai Chi Praying Mantis Kung Fu

## Study Abroad Experience

REU research at Washington State University through the Center for Bioplastics and Biocomposites. I investigated ethyl cellulose oxygen scavenging films as a sustainable and benign method of preserving vegetable oil.

## Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley

My greatest accomplishments at GVSU have been the cultivation of self-confidence and life balance, which have granted me composure despite the prevalence of new and unknown situations as I forge my life after graduation.

## Plans after Graduation

Researching the potential economic derivatives from industrial hemp and its efficacy as a cash crop substitute for Tobacco at North Carolina State University.



# Andrew Freiman

**Major:** *Cell & Molecular Biology with a minor in Computer Science*

## Senior Project

*Analysis of global gene expression in *P. patens**

With my research mentor Dr. Margaret Dietrich of the Cell & Molecular Biology department, we investigated the gene networks responsible for abnormal tip growth patterns observed in a random insertional mutant strain of the moss species *Physcomitrella patens*.

## Research and Presentations

GVSU Research: West Michigan Regional Undergraduate Science Research Conference in Grand Rapids, MI (Nov 2016,2017,2018).

Wayne State University Center for Molecular Medicine and Genetics Summer Research Program: American Physician Scientists Association 2016 Northeast Regional Conference in Buffalo, NY

(Oct 2016), Genomics at Wayne Symposium in Detroit, MI (Oct 2016)

## Leadership Activities

Omicron Delta Kappa National Leadership Honor Society: Vice President 2017-18, President 2018-19, GVSU

Beekeepers: Treasurer 2018-19, Colleges Against Cancer: Education & Advocacy Chair 2015-2017, Pre-MD/Ph.D.

Club: Historian 2016-17, Co-President

## Activities and Awards

Thomas M. Seykora Award for Outstanding Contribution - GVSU Winter 2019, P. Douglas Kindschi Undergraduate Research Fellowship - Grand Valley State University - Fall 2017

## Internships and Practicum Experiences

Leadership Development Intern for the Office of Student Life 2016-17, Wayne State University Center for Molecular Medicine and Genetics Summer Undergraduate Research Program 2016-2017

## Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley

My greatest accomplishment during my undergraduate career has been being a contributor on two research publications in the scientific journal *Cell* and the *Genome Research Journal*.

## Plans after Graduation

I have accepted a post-graduate research position in viral respiratory infections at the Center for Biologics Evaluation and Research of the FDA in Silver Spring, Maryland. I will work there for a few years and plan to pursue my Ph.D. in genetics in the future.





# Jonathan Galea

**Major:** *Biomedical Sciences with a minor in Middle East Studies*

## Senior Project

*Assessing growth of *Staphylococcus lugdunensis* biofilms under varying zinc concentrations*

The goal of my project is to establish an approximate concentration of a zinc chelator known as TPEN at which biofilm growth of *S. lugdunensis* is inhibited. A chelator sequesters atoms/molecules from the bacterium (TPEN binds heavy metals). Zinc chelation represents a potential therapeutic approach to combating biofilm formation.

## Research and Presentations

Screening for genes involved in copper toxicity of

*Staphylococcus lugdunensis* - lab of Dr. Haley, Ph.D

## Leadership Activities

General officer, Peace MEans

One-on-one and group tutoring for BMS coursework

## Activities and Awards

Dean's list

Student scholar

## Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley

Developing aseptic technique in laboratory and assisting Dr. Kathryn Haley with research.

## Plans after Graduation

Work as a research or lab technician for one year and apply to BMS doctoral programs for the fall of 2020.



# Anna Gall

**Majors:** *English & Education with an Elementary Certification*

## Senior Project

*Implementing Movement in the Classroom: Overcoming the Barriers*

This project sought to explore the common barriers to using movement in the classroom, and then focused on specific movement activities aimed at overcoming these barriers. This project was intended to be used as a resource for teachers who are hesitant about using movement in the classroom.

## Research and Presentations

The Promising Link Between Reading Instruction and Movement in the Classroom (capstone paper and presentation)

## Study Abroad Experience

Comparative Literacy Practices in Schools: U.S. and Netherlands in Maastricht, Netherlands

## Internships and Practicum Experiences

Student Teaching at Alpine Elementary

## Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley

My greatest accomplishments, while at Grand Valley, were completing a five year program in four years and feeling ready to enter my field.

## Plans after Graduation

My plan after graduation is to pursue a career in elementary education.



# Laura Galligan

**Major:** *Nursing*

## **Senior Project**

*Implications of Fibromyalgia in the Juvenile and Young-Adult Population*

An overview of current research relating to fibromyalgia in this population; including causes, the psychological effect, and treatment. This project was completed through the writing of a research paper, a paper on how the topic relates to nursing practice, and a poster presentation at Student Scholars Day.

## **Research and Presentations**

Community Health Nursing Capstone Presentation on Community Engagement in the SWAN Community

## **Leadership Activities**

Walk to End Alzheimer's Team Captain

## **Activities and Awards**

Student Nurses Association

## **Internships and Practicum Experiences**

Completed nursing clinical experiences in community health, long-term care, adult medical/surgical, pediatrics, obstetrics, and leadership at Blodgett Hospital, Butterworth Hospital, Helen Devos Children's Hospital, Porter Hills, and Holland Hospital as well as various community organizations.

## **Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley**

My greatest accomplishment while at Grand Valley was presenting on my Senior Honors Project. Fibromyalgia is a topic I am very passionate about, and this was an opportunity to share my knowledge with my peers and faculty.

## **Plans after Graduation**

Plans to work as a registered nurse at Holland Hospital on the Spine and Orthopedics floor.



# Mackenzie Garavaglia

**Major:** *Nursing*

## **Senior Project**

*Implementation and Evaluation of Prenatal Education in English and Spanish Speaking Women in the Grand Rapids Area*

Our Senior Project consisted of working with the HELP Pregnancy and Crisis Resource Center in order to create an educational program for new or current moms on the importance and value of breastfeeding/prenatal care. We also incorporated a cultural component being able to work with both English and Spanish-speaking women.

## **Research and Presentations**

Nursing Capstone Project: Worked through the Kent County Health Department to research and implement pregnancy prevention and sex education at HQ, a young adult and adolescent homeless shelter.

## **Leadership Activities**

President of the Pre-Nursing Association, Philanthropy Chairman of Phi Mu Fraternity, Member of Student Nurses Association

## **Activities and Awards**

Group Exercise Instructor for Campus Recreation, Kickboxing Instructor

## **Internships and Practicum Experiences**

Clinical rotations throughout the KCON Nursing Program.

Patient Care Assistant at Mercy Health Saint Mary's

## **Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley**

Having the incredible opportunity to enhance my education and recognize my role as a future nurse as well as reinforcing my passion to help others. I have grown as a professional and individual and have established life long friendships and memories along the way.

## **Plans after Graduation**

The hope is to stay in the Grand Rapids area and work as an RN in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit. Eventually, I would like to return to school for my Doctorate of Nursing Practice.



# Amanda Gasior

**Majors:** *Criminal Justice & Classics*

## **Senior Project**

*Pygmalion Murder Mystery*

This project is a short story of approximately 60 pages. It is a modern adaptation of the pygmalion myth, reimagined as a modern murder story.

## **Leadership Activities**

Anchor Honors Council President

## **Internships and Practicum Experiences**

Internship at General Dynamics Land Systems

## **Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley**

Completing two majors and earning my degree in only 3 years

## **Plans after Graduation**

I have accepted a job at General Dynamics Land Systems and plan on attending law school part-time.



# Carter Gernaat

**Major:** *Accounting & Finance*

## **Senior Project**

*A Comparison of GVSU's AP/IB/CLEP Policies with Other Universities*

The goal of this presentation is to create a resource that is useful for both students and administrators in determining what applicable acceptance scores are and potentially modifying the requirements.

## **Activities and Awards**

GVSU Dean's List

GVSU Presidential Scholarship

GVSU Accounting Alumni Scholarship

GVSU Giles Scholarship Recipient

## **Internships and Practicum Experiences**

I have interned at the FDIC this past summer.

## **Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley**

My greatest accomplishment at GVSU has been graduating in 3 years with a dual major. This has required a great deal of sacrifice and planning to make this possible.

## **Plans after Graduation**

After graduation, I will be starting the Masters in Accounting program at GVSU.



# Truman Gilde

**Major:** *Biomedical Sciences*

## **Senior Project**

*Variation of Sugar Concentration in Sugar Maple Trees (Acer Saccharum)*

Tree diameter and surrounding tree density were compared with the sugar concentration of selected sugar maple trees in Northern Michigan, to see if there were trends relating to either variable.

## **Leadership Activities**

Life Group Leader for Campus Ministry 2017-2018  
E-board member for GVSU Pre-SOMA 2018-2019

## **Activities and Awards**

Mission Trip to San Diego 2016  
Mission Trip to Cuba 2017

## **Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley**

My greatest accomplishment here is each step from the first to the last. Intelligent peers taught me humility. Caring Professors taught me to pursue knowledge. Difficult classes taught me to make friends, and friends taught me to enjoy life. Lastly, my parents taught me to finish what I started.

## **Plans after Graduation**

The plan now is to work at building a strong resume for Medical School, pay off debt, and maybe sail around some lakes and write a bit.



# Ashley Godin

**Major:** *French with a minor in Arabic*

## Senior Project

*L'Écriture inclusive : le débat sur l'égalité du genre en français / Inclusive Writing: The Debate on Gender Equality in French.*

French is a gendered language without a neutral gender. The masculine gender takes over this neutral role; this has inevitably created an imbalance between the masculine and feminine genders in French. This project explores the conversation around inclusive writing, which aims to increase equality between genders in the French language.

## Research and Presentations

Panelist, Student & Faculty RTTP Vets Share their Experiences, Great Lakes History Conference

## Leadership Activities

President, Les Francophiles (GVSU French Club)- 2018-2019

## Activities and Awards

Excellence in a Discipline Award- French,  
Gilman Scholarship Recipient, Fall 2017

## Study Abroad Experience

Morocco, Fall 2017

## Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley

Volunteering at various organizations to teach English. In Morocco, Ashley volunteered at a Women's Development and Education organization, and taught a classroom of diverse students beginning level English. This was a challenging but extremely rewarding experience.

## Plans after Graduation

Ashley has been accepted into TAPIF (Teaching Assistant Program in France). She will travel to France in September to student teach English at the primary school level. After returning to the US, she plans on beginning a Masters program in linguistics.





# Virginia Goffredi

**Major:** *Finance & International Business with a minor in Spanish*

## Senior Project

*Mentes bilingües (multilingual brains)*

A combination of personal research and studies with scientific publications on bilingual brains. The project covers the benefits and drawbacks of people who speak more than one language from a medical, personal, and career-related standpoint. The paper is entirely in Spanish, the language I chose for my minor.

## Research and Presentations

Group research project on global expansion of Redi-Rock, a Michigan based company our class partnered with. Group research project on Foreign Direct Investment in Poland. Individual industry, company, positioning, and investment analysis of H&M. A compilation of four 15 pages analysis.

## Leadership Activities

Rotaract (Rotary International) Financial Office Chair, Student Ambassador, and Omicron Delta Kappa member (awards students with strong academic results that showed leadership in more than one discipline on campus)

## Activities and Awards

International Merit Award Scholarship, Beta Gamma Sigma International Honor Society (top 10% undergrad), Investment Portfolio Organization (Student club that manages an \$80,000 portfolio), Meeting Professional International, and "I am Grand Valley" Leadership Award

## Study Abroad Experience

I'm an Italian student studying in the US and I've had an internship in London, UK, while at GVSU. In the past I was able to study abroad in Spain and Scotland.

## Internships and Practicum Experiences

Volkswagen Auto, Italy. (Accounting internship). Statura Group. (International tax planning firm), London, UK. Wealth Manager assistant at Banca Generali, Italy.

## Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley

Finalist at ACG Cup West Michigan, a competition among different universities on different finance or management cases analysis.

## Plans after Graduation

I plan on working towards an international career, in which I'll be able to travel and use my foreign language skills. Specifically, I would like to pursue a career in finance, possibly private equity or family office.



# Sarah Goupil

**Majors:** *Accounting & International Business with a minor in Spanish*

## Senior Project

***Marketing for Millennials: The Importance of Inbound Marketing***

There are three main sections to this paper; what is inbound marketing, and what makes it better than outbound marketing?; the three subsets of inbound marketing, including digital, social media, and content marketing; and how inbound marketing can be applied to blogs and why search engine optimization (SEO) is important.

## Activities and Awards

Grand Valley Dance Troupe  
VITA Tax Preparer

## Study Abroad Experience

University of Deusto - Bilbao, Spain  
American University of Rome - Rome, Italy

## Internships and Practicum Experiences

Tax Intern - UHY LLP

## Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley

The two study abroad programs I completed while attending Grand Valley!

## Plans after Graduation

I plan to travel around the United States and around the world! Also, I plan on starting a travel blog, sitting for the CPA exam, and working to reduce the amount of single-use plastics in Grand Rapids and in Michigan.



# Hanna Grabowski

**Major:** *Spanish with a minor in Biology*

## **Senior Project**

*Learning Spanish as an Optometrist: Why Incorporating Cultural Competency Into Your Business is Indispensable*

The project consists of a pamphlet, containing instructional information and vocabulary pertaining to eye exams in Spanish, as well as insight into Hispanic/Latino culture. I hope to show the significance that cultural cognizance can have on the doctor/patient relationship.

## **Leadership Activities**

Officer of Pre-Optometry Club

On the board of the Grand Valley chapter of Camp Kesem in its inaugural year

Member of the CLAS Advisory Board

## **Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley**

My greatest accomplishment is realizing what I am truly passionate about and honing the skills necessary for my passions along the way.

## **Plans after Graduation**

I matriculate at the Ohio State College of Optometry this fall. I hope to finish my studies there and become a practicing optometrist!



# Jenna Grannan

**Majors:** *Marketing & Entrepreneurship*

## **Senior Project**

***Beer City Dog Biscuits: Advertising and Marketing Strategy Implementation***

Developing a marketing strategy plan to implement within Beer City Dog Biscuits to increase awareness and sales.

## **Research and Presentations**

Design Thinking - Put together a Brown Bag event at the Johnson Center and taught the design thinking process to nonprofits within the area.

## **Leadership Activities**

Collegiate Entrepreneurs Organization - Chief Marketing Officer. Design Thinking Fellow

## **Activities and Awards**

GVSU Idea Pitch - 3rd place  
Draper Pitch Competition - Semi-Finalist  
MWest Pitch Competition

## **Study Abroad Experience**

Universidad Carlos III de Madrid - Madrid, Spain Winter Semester 2018  
European Innovation Academy - Turin, Italy

## **Internships and Practicum Experiences**

Seamless IoT - Business Intern  
Grand Rapids Opportunities for Women - Marketing Intern  
Tailor Made Bridal - Business Consultant

## **Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley**

My greatest accomplishment while at Grand Valley was having the opportunity to compete within the GVSU Idea Pitch and take home 3rd place.

## **Plans after Graduation**

I plan to continue working at Seamless IoT.



# Rebecca Green

**Major:** *Communication Science & Disorders*

## **Senior Project**

*International Aspects of Communication Sciences and Disorders*

Explores international aspects of communication sciences and disorders, specifically comparing the similarities and differences that exist between the education of professionals, as well as the delivery of services, in the fields of speech-language pathology and audiology in the United States versus that of the United Kingdom.

## **Activities and Awards**

Member of GVSU's chapter of the National Student Speech-Language Hearing Association

## **Study Abroad Experience**

Michigan State University Communication Sciences and Disorders Department United Kingdom Study Abroad Program

## **Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley**

Being accepted into study abroad program.

## **Plans after Graduation**

After graduation, I plan to continue working as the social recreation program coordinator for Heritage Homes, Inc., serving individuals with developmental disabilities.



# Jillian Green

**Majors:** *Cell & Molecular Biology & Biomedical Sciences*

## **Senior Project**

*One Mile To Go: Training for and blogging about a 10K road race*

I decided to learn about diverse topics in running, create and carry out a training program, and blog about it. The blog also discusses my personal experiences while training for a 10k race as well as tips for running.

## **Research and Presentations**

Investigating Social Evolution at the Microbial Level

## **Leadership Activities**

Member of the Cook Leadership Academy

## **Activities and Awards**

I Am Grand Valley 2016, 2017, 2018

## **Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley**

Participating in research in the Biomedical Science department.

## **Plans after Graduation**

Master of Science in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology at Wayne State University.



# Emily Gross

**Majors:** *Diagnostic Medical Sonography - General*

## Senior Project

*Non-Invasively Diagnosing Endometriosis: Sonography as a First-Step Detection Method*

Endometriosis is a gynecologic disease that affects 200 million women worldwide, occurring when normal endometrial cells are found deposited in ectopic locations (Endometriosis Foundation, 2018; Greaves, 2018). Because this can mask as other common conditions, it takes on average of ten years from symptom onset to receive a diagnosis (Seckin MD Endometriosis Center, 2018; Endometriosis Foundation of America, 2018). This time can allow the unchecked disease to proliferate, causing long-term complications like infertility (Endometriosis Center of America, 2018). While magnetic resonance imaging and laparoscopic procedures provide detailed information for physicians, they can both be expensive rule-out options; therefore, because ultrasound is an affordable, non-invasive, and accurate alternative, this modality can be an effective first-step screening tool for endometriosis.

## Research and Presentations

*Marie Antoinette: At Blame for the Revolution or Victim of Circumstance?* presented at the 2015 Student Scholar's Day and *The Effect of Color Tints vs Grayscale on Ultrasound Measurement of Isoechoic Lesions* presented at the 2018 National SDMS Conference in Orlando, FL

## Leadership Activities

Small group leader for University Christian Outreach, Summer Camp Counselor at Pine Hills Christian Girls Camp

## Activities and Awards

Grand Valley Dance Troupe, University Christian Outreach, Intramural Volleyball, Writing Consultant at the Fred Meijer Center for Writing and Michigan Authors

## Internships and Practicum Experiences

8 month clinical rotation at Spectrum Health Gerber Memorial Hospital, 4 month clinical rotation at Spectrum Health Butterworth Hospital, 4 month clinical rotation at Metro Health Hospital

## Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley

Passing four board exams and becoming a fully registered sonographer before I have even graduated!

## Plans after Graduation

Getting married in June then starting work at the IHA Urgent Care in Ann Arbor as a full-time sonographer!



# Cassidy Haase

**Major:** *Speech-Language Pathology*

## Senior Project

### *Stuttering Info*

"Stuttering Info" is a website that aims to educate and provide resources to people who stutter, their families/friends, educators, and speech-language pathologists. It features several research articles as well as personal experiences from people who struggle with the fluency disorder.

## Research and Presentations

University of Michigan, Ann Arbor School of Kinesiology Physical Activity and Health Lab: "The Effect of Physical Activity on Sleep Quality". Grand Valley State University: "Acoustic Production Accuracy of Liquid Phonemes in Various Word Positions in Japanese ESL Learners"

## Leadership Activities

National Student Speech Language Hearing Association (NSSLHA) (GVSU Chapter) - Event Coordinator

## Activities and Awards

ELS Language Centers - English conversation partner/tutor, GVSU Senior Citizens Club - Volunteer for senior living homes, GVSU Taekwondo Club

## Study Abroad Experience

Seoul, South Korea - Yonsei University (08)

## Internships and Practicum Experiences

Speech-language pathologist shadowing at Mary Free Bed Rehabilitation Hospital and Doris Klaussen Developmental Center

## Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley

I have always possessed a strong desire to help people succeed. I believe my greatest accomplishments lie in the moments when I am helping others, which is why I genuinely enjoy volunteering for the ELS Language Centers and helping these students gain proficiency in the English language.

## Plans after Graduation

In the fall of 2019 after graduation, I will be entering a graduate program to receive my master's degree in speech-language pathology to achieve my dream of becoming a speech-language pathologist.





# Sophia Hall

**Major:** *Political Science with a minor in Arabic*

## Senior Project

*Honors Student Ambassador Prototype*

I became the first Honors Student Ambassador and piloted the program at my own high school. I then documented high school student reactions and made suggestions for future improvements. I also created a "kit" that would allow other GV Honors students to become ambassadors.

## Leadership Activities

President of the Christian Coalition

President and founder of the Women's Club Basketball team

Student Senate

Air Force ROTC cadet

## Activities and Awards

Outstanding Student in Arabic, College Republicans, Student Senate, Women's Club Basketball, Intramural Basketball, Volleyball, and Frisbee, Arabic and Political Science Tutor, Hostess at Logan's Roudhouse, Tutor at Mathnasium

## Study Abroad Experience

Oman and Dubai faculty-led 6 week Arabic and International Business Trip

## Internships and Practicum Experiences

Klint Kesto campaign - volunteer coordinator/office manager

Legal Intern - Crockett Law Offices

## Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley

Starting the Women's Club Basketball team

## Plans after Graduation

I plan to stay in the Grand Rapids area and work at Image Tours INC. If those plans fall through, I will join the Peace Corps. I am also going to Europe for a month in August so that I can further experience the world.



# Amanda Haverdink

**Major:** *Music & Education*

## Senior Project

*Across the Ages of Music and Emotions: What It Is To Be Human*

As a culminating experience for both the Honors College and Music Department, Amanda performed a voice recital one hour in length. This process involved extensive composer/lyricist research, language translations, and rehearsal as well as organization of themes and performance. This performance included pieces ranging from classical to musical theater.

## Leadership Activities

Amanda has had the opportunity to participate in an all-female acapella group called Midnight Snack, serving as assistant music director. When not at Grand Valley, she works at Interlochen Center for the Arts as Stage Services Manager, coordinating a team of 25 to maintain an efficient performance schedule.

## Activities and Awards

Amanda has been active in the music department, participating in Select Womens Ensemble, Madrigal Choir, University Arts Chorale, and Cantate Ensemble. She has been a member of American Choral Directors Association and has taken part in several musical productions at GV. Amanda's senior project was nominated for Outstanding Creative Achievement.

## Internships and Practicum Experiences

As a student of music education, Amanda has had the opportunity to study with teachers in the field, completing her Teacher Assisting internship at Allendale Elementary and her Student Teaching internship at Northview Crossroads and Highlands Middle Schools as well as Hudsonville High School.

## Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley

As cheesy as it sounds, Amanda credits her greatest accomplishment to growing as an individual. The many years of college can be trying, but she has pursued excellence in everything she does, has overcome hardships, and has developed wonderful friendships.

## Plans after Graduation

Life after graduation will be busy! Amanda is recently engaged (!), and plans to move to California with her fiancé (!! ) before getting married in 2020 (!!!). She is looking forward to a fresh start in the sunshine where she can use her hard-earned degree.



# Lily Heald

**Major:** *Nursing*

## **Senior Project**

*Interprofessional Education at Cherry Health Heart of the City Health Center.*

Created an Interprofessional Education tool for Cherry Health to use system-wide. The intent was to encourage interprofessional communication, collaboration, teamwork and mutual respect among health care professionals.

## **Leadership Activities**

Intern for Campus Ministry

## **Activities and Awards**

Inducted in to the Sigma Theta Tau International Honors Society for Nursing in December 2018

## **Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley**

Interacting with, and learning from, community members in the Grand Rapids area through my clinical experience.

## **Plans after Graduation**

Work in a local hospital as a Registered Nurse.



# Olivia Heath

**Major:** *Social Work with a minor in Psychology*

## **Senior Project**

*Giving the Unheard a Microphone*

Through a photography project and presentation, I was able to show the experience of being a sibling with a disability in a family of typically-developing members.

## **Leadership Activities**

Delight Women's Ministry Leader

## **Activities and Awards**

Dean's List

## **Internships and Practicum Experiences**

Resident Supports Coordinator Intern at Genesis Non Profit Housing

## **Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley**

My greatest accomplishment at Grand Valley is completing my degree in three years and making lasting friendships.

## **Plans after Graduation**

I am looking forward to getting married this summer and hopefully starting a job working with individuals with intellectual disabilities in the near future.



# Elisabeth Heikoop

**Major:** *Nursing*

## **Senior Project**

*Careers in Nursing*

While in nursing school, many nursing students remain unsure of which nursing specialty they want to pursue. To address this, I created two videos of interviews with nurses from various specialties. In the interviews, local nurses discussed their nursing specialties and shared their experiences as a nurse in that position.

## **Leadership Activities**

Co-Chair of Leadership and Breakthrough to Nursing Committee in Fall 2017

## **Activities and Awards**

SNA Volunteer Recognition Award

## **Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley**

Involvement in planning the Southside Community Health Fair

## **Plans after Graduation**

Become an Oncology Nurse in Grand Rapids



# Jessica Herold

**Major:** *Statistics with minors in Mathematics & Criminal Justice*

## **Senior Project**

*Undergraduate Visual Analysis of the Uniform Crime Report Database*

The Uniform Crime Report is a comprehensive report based on statistics voluntarily reported to the FBI by law enforcement agencies. This project will focus on using statistical analysis software presently available to GVSU students to analyze and visualize the Uniform Crime Report by using the statistical software program JMP.

## **Research and Presentations**

The Statistical Analysis of Phone Records for Law Enforcement

## **Leadership Activities**

President of American Sign Language and Culture Club

## **Activities and Awards**

Nominee for I Am Grand Valley Leadership Award

CrossFit Athlete for GVSU Strength Club

Eboard Member of American Sign Language and Culture Club

## **Internships and Practicum Experiences**

Legal Assistant Intern at Stenger & Stenger PC

## **Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley**

My greatest accomplishment was working with the Office of the Inspector General to develop a program that helps investigators analyze phone records quickly and efficiently.

## **Plans after Graduation**

I am taking a gap year to pursue enlisting in the Army Reserves before studying to get a Master's Degree in Data Science.



# Alison Hige

**Major:** *Nursing*

## **Senior Project**

*Food Insecurity Among College Students*

I wrote a resolution on Increasing Awareness of Food Insecurity Among College Students, and I presented it at the National Student Nurses' Association's annual convention to thousands of nursing students from around the country. I also created a poster to present at Student Scholars Day and the Sigma Research event.

## **Leadership Activities**

Treasurer for the GVSU Student Nurses' Association

## **Internships and Practicum Experiences**

160 hours of clinical immersion (in my last semester) on a cardiac and renal transplant unit

## **Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley**

My greatest accomplishment while at Grand Valley was surviving nursing school, and the impact I have made through my time with the Student Nurses' Association. I am proud of the work I have done to help establish and advertise the second Replenish location on the health campus.

## **Plans after Graduation**

After graduating and passing the NCLEX, I plan to work as a Labor and Delivery nurse at the Detroit Medical Center. After gaining experience, my goal is to apply for graduate school to become a Certified Nurse Midwife.



# Heidi Hodges

**Major:** *Communication Studies with a minor in Advertising & Public Relations*

## **Senior Project**

*Public Relations and The Music Industry in The Modern Age*

*An Analysis of Promotional Techniques Between Musical Genres*

A case study review of multiple artists in the genres of pop, rap, and country with focus on their public relations tactics with emphasis on social media and digital promotion.

## **Leadership Activities**

Treasurer of Organization of Professional Writers

## **Activities and Awards**

2x Superior Award  
I Am Grand Valley

## **Study Abroad Experience**

Communications Study Abroad - UK Summer 2017

## **Internships and Practicum Experiences**

Public Relations Intern - BOJ

## **Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley**

Earning my degree!

## **Plans after Graduation**

Apply to dental school





# Mary Kate Hoeve

**Major:** *Allied Health Sciences*

## **Senior Project**

*Let's Talk About Dementia: The effects of dementia on communicative functions*

A seminar training program designed to provide information to medical staff working alongside individuals with dementia. It specifically highlights the communicative functions of both the patient and their communication partner. Additionally, this seminar includes a brief overview of swallowing disorders associated with dementia.

## **Research and Presentations**

Introspective Analysis of Fricatives in Preschoolers: A comparison of sexes

## **Leadership Activities**

Program Administrator at GVSU's Children's Enrichment Center

## **Activities and Awards**

A member of NSSLHA at GVSU

Golden Apple Award at GVSU's Children's Enrichment Center

## **Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley**

I believe my greatest accomplishment as a student at Grand Valley is the completion of my senior project. I was able to present to SLP graduate students, SLP undergraduate students, and 3 different skilled/assisted nursing facilities in West Michigan.

## **Plans after Graduation**

I plan on attending Grand Valley in Fall 2019 to pursue a Master of Science in Speech-language Pathology.



# Megan Hofman

**Major:** *Exercise Science with a minor in Psychology*

## **Senior Project**

*The Intersection of Exercise and Mental Well-Being in College Students*

A review of literature was conducted to analyze the impact exercise can have on one's mental well-being.

## **Research and Presentations**

Effects of the Valsalva Maneuver on Cardiovascular Outcomes and Resistance Training Performance

## **Leadership Activities**

Alternative Breaks Site Leader  
Peer Educator for the University Counseling Center

## **Activities and Awards**

Alternative Breaks

## **Internships and Practicum Experiences**

Will be an intern at the Special Olympics of Grand Rapids this spring

## **Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley**

My greatest accomplishment while at Grand Valley has been participating in Alternative Breaks all four years here, and to be a site leader my senior year. I've learned the importance of community, striving to be an active citizen within that community, and staying active in positive change.

## **Plans after Graduation**

I plan to take a year to gain experience and to make a well informed decision on Graduate Programs for Occupational Therapy.



# Lauren Hogikyan

**Major:** *Special Education*

## **Senior Project**

*Three Oaks Public School Academy Library Project*

For my senior project, I raised money and collected books to enhance an elementary school's library in the city of Muskegon. At the conclusion of my project, Three Oaks Public School Academy had over 1,000 additional books and students were now able to take books home with them.

## **Leadership Activities**

Student President of the Michigan Council for Exceptional Children  
GVSU Chapter President of the Council for Exceptional Children  
Cook Leadership Academy Fellow

## **Activities and Awards**

2019 Grand Valley State University Convocation Academic Excellence Award Special Education  
2019 MCEC Dr. Charles Van Riper Outstanding College Student

## **Study Abroad Experience**

I studied abroad for one month in the city of Maastricht in the Netherlands. I was teaching English at an international school in this role.

## **Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley**

My greatest accomplishment while at Grand Valley was holding a leadership role within a university organization (GVSU CEC).

## **Plans after Graduation**

I will have a classroom of my own here in West Michigan!



# Jesse Hooker

**Major:** *Political Science with a minor in Philosophy*

## Senior Project

*Presidential power and its expanding influence: Suggestions on how to strengthen checks and balances*

The project delves into how executive aggrandizement has historically occurred. It then details why a strong executive is dangerous for the guardrails of democracy. The project finishes with five suggestions on how to realign the power imbalance of the federal government.

## Leadership Activities

Fellow of the Cook Leadership Academy.  
Vice-President of Ethics Bowl.

## Activities and Awards

Member of Club Golf.  
Member of Campus Ministry.

## Study Abroad Experience

I spent a summer in D.C. working for a small lobbying firm called The Chwat Group. While there, I attended congressional hearings, interacted with lawmakers, and assisted in the creation of bills.

## Internships and Practicum Experiences

Intern for former Secretary of State Terri Lynn Land.  
Intern for Congressman Bill Huizenga (R-MI).

## Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley

While in D.C. I was able to assist in the creation of a bill and introduction of that bill into the U.S. Senate. This bill positively impacted the lives of Veteran Small Business Owners.

## Plans after Graduation

I will be attending the University of Wisconsin-Madison Law School in the fall. While there I hope to focus my studies on International and Constitutional Law.



# Caleb Huizenga

**Major:** *Chemistry with a minor in Spanish*

## Senior Project

*A Summary of Ultrafast Lasers and Their Applications*

My senior project is a literature study of how ultrafast (femtosecond and attosecond) lasers work as well as their applications to past and current research.

## Research and Presentations

GVSU: Two summers of computational research with Dr. Richard Lord (2016-2017)

Indiana University: REU with Dr. Caroline Jarrold doing anion photoelectron spectroscopy (2018)

Posters:

2016 - Poster on tetrazene research, MU3C Conference in U-Wisconsin Madison

2018 - Poster at Indiana University on REU research

Presentations:

2017: Talk on tetrazene research, MU3C at U-Illinois Urbana-Champaign

## Leadership Activities

E-board of GVSU Chemistry Club (Fall 2016-present, has served as membership officer, vice-president, and president), Small Group Leader/Coach with InterVarsity Christian Fellowship (Fall 2017 -present), Mentor for middle-schoolers with the Lodge Ministry in West Ottawa, MI (2012-present), Peer Assisted Study Session Facilitator for General Chemistry (Fall 2016 - present)

## Activities and Awards

GVSU General Chemistry Award 2016, GVSU Outstanding Service Award in Chemistry 2019, GVSU American Institute of Chemists Award 2019, Beckman Scholars Program Finalist 2018

## Study Abroad Experience

Dominican Republic (May-June 2017)

## Internships and Practicum Experiences

Research Experience for Undergraduates (REU) at Indiana University (Summer of 2018)

## Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley

My greatest accomplishment while at Grand Valley is learning how to put my knowledge and skills that I've acquired to use to serve others around me better.

## Plans after Graduation

I plan to attend Indiana University to pursue a PhD in physical chemistry.



# Michael Jones

**Major:** *Biomedical Sciences*

## Senior Project

*Post-Dinner Satiety with the Paleolithic Diet Compared to Usual Diet in patients with metabolic syndrome*

Men and women with metabolic syndrome consumed a paleolithic diet for a 8 week period. Hunger ratings were measured throughout the trial and were compared to baseline measurements. The Paleolithic diet proved to have a higher satiety rating to the patients normal diets.

## Research and Presentations

1) Carbohydrate-restricted Diet and HIIT exercise improves Cardio-metabolic and inflammatory profiles in metabolic syndrome 2) Analysis of the role of exercise in the treatment of

Alzheimer's Disease

## Leadership Activities

President of Nutrition Club

Secretary of Triathlon Club

Biomedical Science Research Assistant

## Activities and Awards

1) GVSU Concert and University Band

2) GVSU Swim Club

3) National Society of Leadership and Success

4) Pre-physical Therapy Club

## Internships and Practicum Experiences

Internship at Northern Physical Therapy

## Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley

Being considered as an author for the research I conducted on dietary intervention with metabolic syndrome patients, and having that research put up for publication.

## Plans after Graduation

Enrolled at Western Michigan University for their Doctor of Physical Therapy program.



# Amber Jourdan

**Major:** *Biomedical Sciences with a minor in Spanish*

## Senior Project

*Functionality of the Kidneys*

The project outlined the normal function of the kidneys, the function of diseased kidneys, and the function of kidneys plagued with kidney stones. A visual representation of these kidneys was created, as well.

## Leadership Activities

Assistant Softball Coach for Calvin Christian Middle School (freshman and sophomore year)

Assistant Softball Coach for Calvin Christian High School (junior and senior year)

Committee Member for National Chemistry Week's event of making the World's

## Activities and Awards

"I am GV" Leadership Award

## Study Abroad Experience

I studied abroad in Chile from May to July in 2017. I stayed with a family in Chillán and attended class at a university there. On the weekends, I traveled to other cities including Concepción, Pucón, Valparaíso, Viña del Mar, and San Pedro de Atacama.

## Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley

My greatest accomplishment while at GV is getting an on-campus job in the Chemistry Stockroom. I have amazing coworkers and I've gotten to know the Chemistry Department Faculty incredibly well. It's been such an incredible work environment and I'm so thankful I applied to work there.

## Plans after Graduation

I plan on taking the MCAT and applying to medical school. I'm also getting married to my high school sweetheart in October!



# Marisa Kahnt

**Major:** *Liberal Studies with a minor in Psychology*

## Senior Project

*Reflecting on Ranking: The Effect of Self-perception From Greek-Based Sites*

Within the Greek community there are websites that further dismantle Greek unity. GreekRank, Total Sorority Move (TSM), and Total Fraternity Move (TFM), promote stereotyping and competition within the Greek community. We hope to create awareness and provide education to members of the Greek community about the impacts the sites have.

## Research and Presentations

Published through ScholarWorks: GVSU Honors College: A More Distinctive Experience, 2017 & "Participatory Project Report: Hearts for Heartside," 2018

## Leadership Activities

Dean of Students Office, Student Manager; Admissions, Orientation Assistant; Student Life, Leadership Development Intern; Phi Mu Fraternity, Rho Eta, Chapter President; Cook Leadership Academy, Fellow; Phi Mu Foundation, Collegiate Leadership Council; Phi Phi Mu Fraternity, Collegiate Advisory Council; Panhellenic, Rho Gamma; Undergraduate Interfraternity Institute, Student Coordinator; Transitions Leader; Alternative Breaks

## Activities and Awards

Association of Fraternal Leadership & Values conference; Fraternal Government Relations Coalition Congressional Visit; Big Reunion to Re-energize and Reconnect Panelist  
Brooks College of Interdisciplinary Studies; Dean's List; "I am Grand Valley" Leaders

## Internships and Practicum Experiences

Student Life, Leadership Development Intern: coordinated and facilitated StrengthsFinder, First Year Leadership Experience, and Greek Intermediate Institute programming

## Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley

Serving as the Chapter President of Phi Mu was my most challenging and rewarding experience in undergrad. My greatest accomplishment isn't what I have done, but rather the foundation that I hope to have set for future generations. The love for mentorship that I have developed is my greatest accomplishment.

## Plans after Graduation

I will be traveling across the country as a Chapter Consultant for Phi Mu Fraternity. After, I plan on pursuing my masters in Student Affairs and Higher Education; I am hoping to specialize my work within Fraternity and Sorority Life or Student Conduct.





# Rebecca Karl

**Major:** *Biomedical Sciences with a minor in Spanish*

## **Senior Project**

*The Proliferation of Porcine Retinal Ganglion Cells using PNU 282987*

We extracted the retinal ganglion cells (RGCs) from porcine eyes to work towards a potential therapy for glaucoma. PNU was used as the nicotinic acetylcholine receptor activator due to its neuroprotective properties. We observed the proliferation of RGCs with varying levels of PNU compared to the untreated control plates.

## **Leadership Activities**

Treasurer of the Pre-Optometry Club

Event Coordinator of Hunger and Homelessness

Senior Global Ambassador of International Studies Abroad on GVSU's campus

## **Activities and Awards**

Biochemistry Tutor

## **Study Abroad Experience**

Seville, Spain summer of 2016

## **Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley**

My greatest accomplishment at Grand Valley has been getting accepted to optometry school.

## **Plans after Graduation**

I plan to attend the Michigan College of Optometry at Ferris in the fall.



# Elizabeth Kebler

**Major:** *Advertising & Public Relations*

## **Senior Project**

*D.C. Darling Blog*

This blog discusses my life as an intern in our nation's capital and the opportunities and events that were presented to me while I was there for four months this summer. I was able to tie my experiences into what was happening around me politically and socially.

## **Research and Presentations**

Page Case Study on the U.S. Marine Corps "Where I'm From" campaign

## **Leadership Activities**

Executive Director for the Grand Valley College Republicans, Board member for PRSSA Committee for Alumni Relations, Treasurer for the Michigan Federation of College Republicans

## **Activities and Awards**

Superior award in the School of Communications  
"I am Grand Valley" award

## **Internships and Practicum Experiences**

Legislative Intern - U.S. House of Representatives for Congressman Bill Huizenga (Washington, D.C.)  
Communications Intern - Senate Majority Communications Office - Lansing, Michigan

## **Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley**

My greatest accomplishment was being selected as the 2019 Cherry Blossom Princess for the State of Michigan. This allowed me to spend time meeting with our nation's leaders while discussing policy issues and cultural insights in Washington, D.C.

## **Plans after Graduation**

I will be moving to Washington, D.C. and working on Capitol Hill in a full time position. I have been accepted to Georgetown University where I will be receiving my master's in public relations and corporate communications.



# Sylvia Knight

**Major:** *Exercise Science with a minor in Spanish*

## Senior Project

*Exercise Snacks*

I am trying to provide a way to destress students and give them options for study breaks using the space available in the library during finals week. Posters around the library give people an idea of quick 2-5 minute exercises they can do in that space to destress.

## Research and Presentations

The Discovery of Insulin and the 1920s research paper  
How the History of the United States in Nicaragua has  
Affected their Healthcare System Today research paper and  
independent study abroad

## Leadership Activities

Campus Ministry Life Group Leader  
Honors mentor  
Running Club Training Coordinator  
Campus Ministry Life Group Intern  
Running Club President

## Activities and Awards

Honors Freshmen Paper 3rd place winner and I am Grand Valley Award Recipient

## Study Abroad Experience

Studied for 3 months in Nicaragua

## Internships and Practicum Experiences

Internship in the Biomechanics and Motor Performance Laboratory on the Health Science Campus of Grand Valley State University

## Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley

I worked closely with Dr. Lane, Dr. Chamberlain, and Professor Linford (Spanish faculty) to build my own study abroad experience in Nicaragua after traveling there for a month with Dr. Lane and taking his Social Product Innovation sequence. Studying and living there independently was a massive accomplishment for me.

## Plans after Graduation

I will be continuing my graduate education at Grand Valley State University as a student of Physical Therapy.



# Jenna Koelsch

**Majors:** *Biomedical Sciences & Medical Laboratory Science*

## **Senior Project**

*Medical Laboratory Science: Academic Predictors for Success*

The objective of this project was to determine academic predictors of success in GVSU's Medical Laboratory Science program to gain insight on the most effective educational requirements for MLS. Using preadmission data from student transcripts, the relationship between grades from prerequisite coursework and success in GVSU's MLS program was calculated.

## **Research and Presentations**

Modification of transcription factor Noto3 promotes dopamine neuron genesis.

Effects of prenatal supplement DHA on neurogenesis in developing embryo.

## **Activities and Awards**

Excellence in a Discipline Award: Medical Laboratory Science

Undergraduate Research Scholar

## **Internships and Practicum Experiences**

Medical Laboratory Science Intern: Spectrum Health Regional Laboratory

## **Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley**

Landing a career at Spectrum Health Regional Laboratory!

## **Plans after Graduation**

Currently, I am working as a Medical Technologist in the Spectrum Health Regional Laboratory's Microbiology department.

I plan to apply to graduate school to receive my Master of Science degree.



# Taylor Kooy

**Major:** *Statistics with minors in Data Science & Mathematics*

## Senior Project

*Thornapple Valley Church Survey*

I worked with the church staff and GVSU faculty to design a survey for the church. Following the implantation of the survey, I analyzed the results for the benefit of the church's knowledge of the congregation's opinions and thoughts regarding the church.

## Research and Presentations

Grand Valley's Honors College: A More Distinctive Experience (research and presentation)

Statistical Analysis of Phone Records for Law Enforcement

(Student Scholar's Day presentation)

## Activities and Awards

Grand Valley Dean's List (4 semesters)

Published Author

Phi Kappa Phi Honors Society

Fall 2017 Statistics Scholarship

Outstanding Statistics Major Scholarship

Grand Finish Grant Recipient

National Society of Leadership and Success

I am Grand Valley Student Leadership Award

National Statistics Honors Society

Statistics Book Scholarship Recipient

## Internships and Practicum Experiences

Data Team Intern at Eidex (Internship)

Statistical Analysis of Phone Records for Law Enforcement (Practicum Experience)

## Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley

Excellence-in-Statistics award

## Plans after Graduation

Following graduation, I will be attending North Carolina State University's Master's of Analytics Program (Class of 2020)



# Lindsey Kramer

**Major:** *Nursing*

## **Senior Project**

*The Many Paths of Nursing*

My senior project is a double-paged spread featured in KCON's annual magazine, *Aspire*. I interviewed KCON alumni about their current roles within nursing, why they chose the profession, what sparks joy, and asked for advice for nursing students.

## **Leadership Activities**

I was on the Community Health Project Committee in the Student Nurses' Association for 3 semesters.

## **Activities and Awards**

Student Nurses' Association  
Intramural Volleyball

## **Study Abroad Experience**

In Summer 2016, I studied abroad in Chile for 2 1/2 months with a group of 15 GVSU students.

## **Internships and Practicum Experiences**

During nursing school, I had clinicals at Porter Hills, Spectrum Health Butterworth and Blodgett, and Helen DeVos Children's Hospital. This allowed me to care for patients of all ages and with a variety of medical diagnoses.

## **Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley**

I consider my greatest accomplishment to be finding my passion for nursing while at Grand Valley. Being a part of KCON has been the best decision of my college experience, and I'm honored to have met so many friends and faculty in the program.

## **Plans after Graduation**

After graduation, I plan on staying in Grand Rapids to study for the NCLEX and continue to work as a Patient Care Assistant at Mercy Health St. Mary's. I ultimately hope to work on my current unit as a Registered Nurse.



# Emma Krueger

**Majors:** *Biochemistry & Cell & Molecular Biology*

## **Senior Project**

*3D Modeling in Research and Pedagogy*

My honors project was to create and print 3D models of a variety of bio-molecules used in introductory and advanced biochemistry classes, such as basic sugars or more complex enzymes, in order to help see how 3D models can affect and promote student's learning strategies.

## **Research and Presentations**

I have been involved in biochemistry research the past two years at Grand Valley with Dr. Dave Leonard. I have worked on mutations in penicillin binding proteins involved in antibiotic resistance, as well as protein-observed FNMR on a variety of beta-lactamase enzymes involved in antibiotic resistance.

## **Leadership Activities**

I am the president of Grand Valley State University's Chemistry Club.

## **Activities and Awards**

I am GV student award  
Deans List (7 semesters)

## **Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley**

Getting involved in research and being able to complete and present important research in the biochemistry field has been one of the greatest accomplishments I have had at Grand Valley. I believe these experiences truly prepared me and helped me get the job I have accepted after graduation.

## **Plans after Graduation**

I have accepted a position at Van Andel Research Institute as a research technician after graduation. Eventually, I hope to be accepted into Van Andel's graduate program to pursue my PHD.



# Kara Krupp

**Major:** *Biology with a minor in Applied Statistics*

## Senior Project

***The raccoon roundworm (Baylisascaris procyonis): A growing human threat.***

A literature review on symptoms/clinical features, diagnosis, and treatment of humans infected with Baylisascaris procyonis. Also discusses the importance of the public being made more aware of raccoon roundworms to help avoid infection & therefore preventing some of the more severe or even deadly results from contraction.

## Research and Presentations

Tree swallow research with Professor Lombardo

Raccoon roundworm research with Professor Jacquot

## Leadership Activities

Pre-Professional Council (PPC) Representative for the Pre-Optometry Club

## Activities and Awards

Pre-Optometry Club

Pre-Professional Council (PPC)

Table Tennis Club

Phi Kappa Phi member

ANCHOR Community Council

## Study Abroad Experience

GVSU Honors Ghana Service Learning Trip in 2016

Pre-Optometry International Service Learning (ISL) mission trip to Mexico in 2018

## Internships and Practicum Experiences

Interned at the Caledonia Vision Center

## Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley

Networking and connecting with so many amazing people.

## Plans after Graduation

To attend the Michigan College of Optometry at Ferris State University.





# Megan Kruskie

**Majors:** *Biomedical Sciences and Spanish*

## **Senior Project**

*Understanding Late Antique and Early Islamic Spain: Roman, Visigothic, and Moorish Influences on the Iberian Peninsula.*

During my study abroad semester in Spain 2017, I investigated former Roman provincial capitals Córdoba, Tarragona, and Mérida through site visits and literary sources from late antique and early Islamic periods. I examined how the Visigoths and Moors successively exploited Roman infrastructure and ideologies in order secure positions of power.

## **Leadership Activities**

Anatomy Lab TA and Tutor

Choreographer for Grand Valley Dance Troupe

## **Activities and Awards**

GV Award for Excellence

GV Faculty Scholarship

Sigma Delta Pi Spanish Honors Society

7 semesters with Grand Valley Dance Troupe

Volunteer at the Grand Rapids Red Project

Alumni Ambassador for CEA Study Abroad

## **Study Abroad Experience**

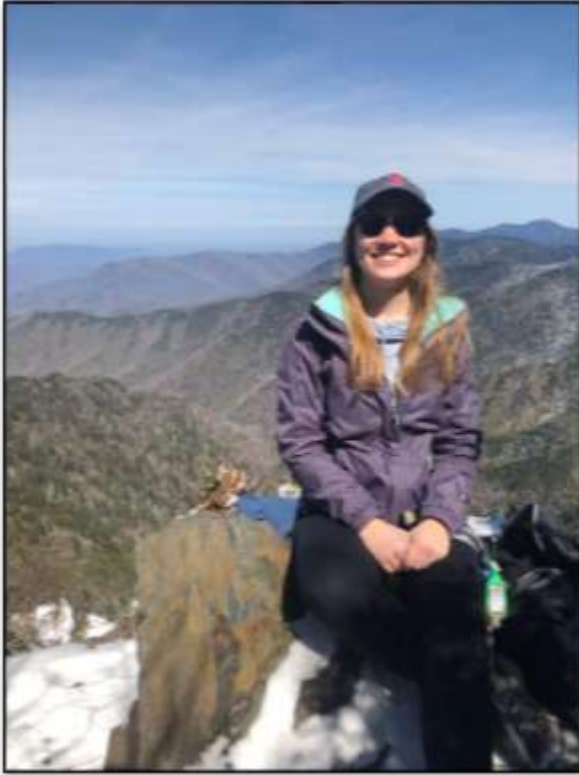
Granada, Spain (Fall 2017)

## **Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley**

Making the Dean's List all 7 semesters I attended Grand Valley

## **Plans after Graduation**

I plan on taking a gap year to gain experience before applying to medical school.



# Katie Latack

**Major:** *Biomedical Sciences with a minor in Applied Statistics*

## **Senior Project**

*Lynch Syndrome*

Genetic causes and inheritance of Lynch syndrome.

## **Activities and Awards**

Kids in motion

Mu Sigma Rho.

## **Internships and Practicum Experiences**

QST Consultations

## **Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley**

Finishing up undergrad while starting graduate classes at the same time.

## **Plans after Graduation**

Get my master's degree in Biostatistics at Grand Valley.



# Clayton Latham

**Majors:** *Biomedical Sciences & Classics*

## **Senior Project**

*The Roman Physician: A Reconstruction of Bedside Manner in Imperial Rome*

I composed a short story in Latin that depicts a Roman physician of the first century treating a patient for acute gout. The work attempts to not only accurately represent bedside manner of doctors at the time, but to reflect upon the historical roots for patient doctor interaction today.

## **Research and Presentations**

SSD 2017: From Ancient Honey to Modern Medicine

## **Leadership Activities**

I am involved on campus as the President of Pre-Students of Osteopathic Medicine Association (Pre-SOMA), which is a club for aspiring Osteopathic Doctors (D.O.).

## **Activities and Awards**

Student Advisor to the Dean of The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, Biomedical Science department  
Graduate of Distinction, Mary Free Bed Student Volunteer of the year 2017

## **Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley**

My greatest accomplishment thus far has been making great connections with tons of good people while building a competitive medical school application.

## **Plans after Graduation**

I plan to take a gap year and work/volunteer in the Grand Rapids community while saving for med school. I currently have two jobs at two of the best places to work, Mary Free Bed and Rylee's Ace hardware.



# Jordyn Lewis

**Major:** *Nursing*

## **Senior Project**

*Women, Children, and Health Practices in Ghana*

Through data collection and seven weeks of observation in Ghana, the healthcare systems of central Ghana was investigated. Focusing on women's and pediatric health, comparisons were made between the community based healthcare system in Ghana to the private and public systems in the United States.

## **Leadership Activities**

Student Nurses Association Delegate

Sigma Theta Tau Nursing Honors Society Member

Transitions Leader

## **Activities and Awards**

Phi Kappa Phi Honoree

## **Study Abroad Experience**

Opportunity to travel to Cape Coast, Ghana to attend the University of Ghana with Frederick Meijer Honors College students and faculty in the summer of 2016. Traveled to Winneba, Ghana to observe in hospitals and community based health care to care for pregnant women and children.

## **Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley**

Finding my people who have loved and supported me throughout my four years at Grand Valley State University.

## **Plans after Graduation**

Hopes to pursue a Registered Nurse position in the pediatric or maternal health specialty.



# Gabrielle Lewis

**Majors:** *Women, Gender & Sexuality Study & Political Science*

## **Senior Project**

*Hysterical, Dramatic, Difficult: Women's Experiences of Gender Pain Bias*

This research offers an intersectional analysis of the history and significance of gendered pain bias. The paper demonstrates how the Western medical system is based on a white male body and how this effects the treatment and understanding of women's pain.

## **Research and Presentations**

Sex Work as a Human Right: Global Responses to the Decriminalization Movement

## **Leadership Activities**

Financial Chair of To Write Love on Her Arms, Feminist Ambassador for the Center for Women and Gender Equity, Teacher Assistant for Foundations in Feminism, Shift Leader at Bigby Coffee

## **Activities and Awards**

Delegate for the Commission on the Status of Women at the United Nations

CLAS Nominee for the Glenn A. Neimeyer Award

National Scholarship Recipient for the National Conference for College Women Student Leaders in Washington, D.C.

I Am Grand Valley Award

## **Study Abroad Experience**

Florence, Italy - Winter 2018 Semester, Lorenzo de' Medici Institute

## **Internships and Practicum Experiences**

Grand Rapids Community Outreach Intern, Planned Parenthood Advocates of Michigan

Administrative Intern, SowHope

## **Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley**

My greatest accomplishment at Grand Valley has been increasing my confidence as a feminist leader and attending a conference at the United Nations.

## **Plans after Graduation**

After graduation I plan to work in the international development field with a focus on sexual and reproductive health and rights.



# Natalie Loewengruber

**Major:** *Psychology with a minor in Biology*

## **Senior Project**

*The Convergence of Libraries, Voter Education, and Civic Literacy*

This is a summary of my work during the summer and fall 2018 collaborating with various GV campus partners to develop an interactive and dynamic workshop. The aim was to equip young voters with the tools and information necessary to become an educated voter leading up to the midterm elections.

## **Research and Presentations**

Undergraduate Research Assistant- Psychology Department

## **Leadership Activities**

Lead Research Consultant 2017-2019- Grand Valley University Libraries

Vice President of Finance 2016-2019- Miracle Network Dance Marathon at Grand Valley

Frederik Meijer Honors College Mentor Council Secretary 2017-2018

Frederik Meijer Honors College Freshman Mentor 2016

West Michigan Refugee Education Center Lead Teacher 2017-2018

## **Activities and Awards**

Pre-Occupational Therapy Club 2016-2019

Phi Kappa Phi Member

## **Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley**

My greatest accomplishment at Grand Valley is super recent. After completing the first ever Student Commencement Speaker application process at Grand Valley, I was selected as 1 of 3 student speakers. This is the perfect culmination of my undergraduate experience and I feel very honored!

## **Plans after Graduation**

Beginning in Fall 2019, I will be attending Grand Valley's Master of Science in Occupational Therapy program.



# Elizabeth MacDonald

**Major:** *Statistics with minors in Biology & Data Science*

## Senior Project

*Study Abroad Trends and Demographics at GVSU during the 2017-18 Academic Year*

This project investigates the trends of study abroad at GVSU during the 2017-18 academic school year. The overall objective is to help the PIC better understand: who exactly was studying abroad and how can they more effectively promote study abroad to GVSU students in the future.

## Leadership Activities

John D. Wardrop Named Fellow, Cook Leadership Academy 2017-2019

## Activities and Awards

Phi Kappa Phi

Mu Sigma Rho: National Statistics Honors Society

I Am Grand Valley Award 2018

Statistics Major Scholarship 2018

## Study Abroad Experience

Chiang Mai University, Chiang Mai, Thailand (Summer 2018)

## Plans after Graduation

I will be attending the University of Michigan School of Public Health next year to obtain an MPH in Global Health Epidemiology.



# Patrick MacDonald

**Major:** *Accounting*

## **Senior Project**

*Introductory Videos to the Foundational Interdisciplinary Sequences*

Worked with Julia Ahrns to create a series of videos for each of the Foundational Interdisciplinary Sequences, which allowed students to better understand what a sequence is and have the opportunity to ‘meet’ their faculty before choosing their sequence. Through interviews with professors and students, the videos provided an overview of what each class was about, what the main projects and assignments were, and the dynamic of the course overall.

## **Research and Presentations**

Research and published an article called "Video Production to Enhance Multimedia Presentation Skills"

## **Leadership Activities**

Resident Assistant; Student Assistant for the Frederik Meijer Honors College, Orientation Assistant

## **Activities and Awards**

Beta Alpha Psi, Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA), ANCHOR Honors Council

## **Study Abroad Experience**

Haiti: Water, Environmental Issues, and Service Learning

Norway: University of Oslo

## **Internships and Practicum Experiences**

Tax internship BDO; Finance internship at Aga Marvel

## **Plans after Graduation**

MSA program at Grand Valley, and then starting as a Tax Associate at BDO





# Makenna Mackie

**Major:** *Supply Chain Management*

## **Senior Project**

***Blockchain Technology: The Future of Inventory Management***

Using in-depth interviewing methods, current inventory management practices will be discussed with managers and associates at an international clothing retailer. While there are several concerns about blockchain, the author will show how it can benefit this small section of supply chain through improved visibility, decreases in non-value-added time, and accuracy.

## **Leadership Activities**

Rho Gamma - NPC

Transitions Leader

Director of Event Planning - Alpha Sigma Tau

## **Internships and Practicum Experiences**

Student consulting for BluJay Solutions

West Michigan Project Management Institute Event

## **Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley**

My greatest accomplishment has been becoming a person I am proud of.

## **Plans after Graduation**

In May, I will be starting my job as a Logistics Coordinator for BluJay Solutions in Holland.



# Jack MacKillop

**Major:** *Product Design & Manufacturing Engineering*

## **Senior Project**

*Automating Quality Checks for Parts out of Stamping Presses*

Engineering senior design project consisting of designing and manufacturing a system to scan parts inline with stamping presses and reject those that do not meet the customer requirements.

## **Research and Presentations**

Fabrication of fiberglass and carbon fiber body panels on a Formula SAE race car

## **Leadership Activities**

Vice president of Product Design and Manufacturing Engineering Club

## **Activities and Awards**

Product Design and Manufacturing Engineering Club

Formula SAE Club

Collegiate Entrepreneurs' Organization

Presidential Scholarship

The Right Place / MMTC-West Manufacturers Council Scholarship

Dean's List

## **Internships and Practicum Experiences**

Three semesters of co-op in engineering at Gill Industries

## **Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley**

Involved in a collaborative project with a hospital in the area of obstetrics. The device we designed is now under review for patentability.

## **Plans after Graduation**

I plan to bring my engineering skills and knowledge to a company in greater Grand Rapids as a product designer.



# Elle Madsen

**Major:** *Legal Studies with a minor in Spanish*

## **Senior Project**

*Same-Sex Marriage Law in the United States*

Analyzed the influence of popular culture on same-sex marriage law.

## **Research and Presentations**

Studied urban planning in The Netherlands and the effects of environmental regulations and policies on culture.

## **Leadership Activities**

Founded GVSU Chapter of The Climate Reality Project, advocating for greater use of green energy on campus.

## **Activities and Awards**

Participated in the GVSU Equestrian Club and GVSU Chapter of the Climate Reality Project. Also participated in the Spanish puppet class performing puppet shows for Spanish speaking children. Also a member of the Lambda Epsilon Chi Honor Society.

## **Study Abroad Experience**

Studied abroad in The Netherlands during the Summer 2017 semester with the GVSU Geography Department.

## **Internships and Practicum Experiences**

Interned for The Climate Reality Project, and Wheeler Upham Law Firm

## **Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley**

Competed in the Appaloosa National Championships during the summer between freshmen and sophomore year and secured a national championship (independent from GVSU Equestrian).

## **Plans after Graduation**

Attending law school Fall 2019.



# Aldina Mahmutovic

**Major:** *Nursing*

## Senior Project

*Images of Nursing from West Michigan: A Photo Ethnography*

The purpose of my study was to understand the image of nursing perceived by West Michigan nurses. Via an online survey, participants submitted an original photo and narrative their image. Their submissions reflected an ideal image. This indicates a need for better communication of positive, accurate nursing images.

## Research and Presentations

Presented senior project at Midwest Nursing Research Society's 2019 research conference, GVSU's 2019 Student Scholars Day, and to the Student Nurses Association.

## Leadership Activities

Co-chair of Image and Breakthrough to Nursing committee, Student Nurses Association (2018-19).  
Delegate/cohort representative, Student Nurses Association (2017-19).

## Activities and Awards

Recipient of the GVSU Award of Excellence, Dean's List (3). Member of the Student Nurses Association, Sigma Kappa Epsilon at Large, and Midwest Nursing Research Society.

## Internships and Practicum Experiences

Student Nurse Externship at Metro Health Hospital's Emergency Department (May-August 2018: 120 hours).  
Clinical immersion at Spectrum Health Blodgett's Progressive Care Unit (Winter 2019: 160 hours).

## Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley

My greatest accomplishment is the overall growth I've experienced. Throughout my GVSU journey, I've met wonderful people and had countless experiences. All of them helped me grow academically, professionally, and personally. As my time at GVSU approaches its end, I am prepared to take on the new adventures awaiting me.

## Plans after Graduation

After graduation, I plan to sit for the state nursing boards. Upon receiving my nursing license, I plan to find a job in a local hospital, ideally in the emergency department. After about 5 years, I intend to apply to grad school to become a Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP).



# Kayla Malackowski

**Major:** *Behavioral Neuroscience with a minor Biology*

## Senior Project

*Leadership in Grand Valley's Club Sport Programs*

I interviewed members of the executive board of various club sports on campus asking about how their leadership position has impacted their time at Grand Valley and prepared them for the future. The video can be used as a promotional video for Campus Recreation.

## Leadership Activities

Alpha Sigma Alpha Housing Chairman  
Alpha Sigma Alpha Standards Chairman

Panhellenic Community Recruitment Guide

## Activities and Awards

Phi Kappa Phi

Campus Recreation Sports Program Supervisor

Helen Devos Children's Hospital Inpatient Volunteer

Emma Coleman Frost Leadership Development Institute

Alpha Sigma Alpha Panhellenic Haiti Trek Representative

## Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley

Graduating without having to take a 6-9 or a downtown class and still getting on the Waitlist for Yale's PA Program.

## Plans after Graduation

Attend Grand Valley's Master of Physician Assistant Program as the next step to help children with cancer.



# Tyler Mansfield

**Majors:** *Biomedical Sciences & Pre-Professional Preparation*

## **Senior Project**

*Improved Sex Education for Incoming Freshman*

Based on research conducted we discovered that there is a lack of understanding of safe sex practices in underclassman. We created a lesson plan to better convey important sexual education topics to incoming freshman and contribute to the decline of STDs and unwanted pregnancies.

## **Research and Presentations**

Assisted Professor Sheldon Kopperl in writing his book about the history of the Biomedical Sciences department at GVSU

## **Leadership Activities**

Men's Track and Field team representative for the Student Athlete Academic Committee  
Track and Field coach at Wayland Union High School

## **Activities and Awards**

Track and Field team  
Student Athlete Academic Committee  
Universities Allied for Essential Medicines Organization  
Pre-Med Club  
Microbiology Club  
National Society of Leadership and Success  
Beta Beta Beta Biological Honors Society  
Employee in the Microbiology Department Laboratory

## **Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley**

Being a part of the international organization UAEM and advocating for affordable medications and medical technologies for the general public. We are also pushing for the implementation of a Global Access Licensing Framework that would allow for easier access to any medications and research developed here at GVSU.

## **Plans after Graduation**

I plan to take a gap year and gain experience in the microbiology and medical fields before applying to medical school.



# Linnea Martin

**Major:** *Multimedia Journalism*

## Senior Project

*No Place to Call Home*

"No Place to Call Home" is a documentary anthology of different personal stories from people who are experiencing or have experienced homelessness. The film takes a deeper look at the reasons people may end up homeless and hopes to shed light on the homeless community in the Kalamazoo and Grand Rapids area.

## Research and Presentations

Over the course of my education, I've been able to produce multiple journalism TV broadcasts and videos between three and five minutes in length. From covering the local roller derby team to getting a closer look at a month-long protest in Kalamazoo, I've had the opportunity to hear and share all different kinds of stories.

## Leadership Activities

For two years, I was a Site Leader for Grand Valley Alternative Breaks. I led week-long volunteer trips across the country and facilitated community bonding activities. I'm also an Associate Producer for the TV Series "West Side Stories" that airs on WGVU.

## Activities and Awards

In 2019, my feature and the West Side Stories show earned First Place in Daily Newscast for the MAB Michigan Student Broadcast Awards.

## Internships and Practicum Experiences

Through an internship at WGVU, I've been able to become an Associate Producer for the West Side Stories TV Show where I direct, edit, and help put together the final production for airing.

## Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley

My greatest accomplishment would be my involvement in West Side Stories and the news stories I've produced for the show. It's absolutely incredible to see your own work on TV--and realize just how much you actually are capable of.

## Plans after Graduation

I will be traveling to Peru for a few months to stay with my family there and learn Spanish. Afterwards, I will spend some time in Grand Rapids.



# Mercedes Martinez

**Major:** *Finance with a minor in Spanish*

## **Senior Project**

*Financial Forecast and Marketing Plan for GVSU's LakerThon*

Literature review, financial analysis, and recommendation for future LakerThon events.

## **Leadership Activities**

Senior Captain of Varsity Swimming and Diving, Director of Foundation Relations for Miracle Network Dance Marathon at GVSU

## **Activities and Awards**

Varsity Swimming, LakerThon

## **Study Abroad Experience**

Dominican Republic

## **Internships and Practicum Experiences**

Internship at Spectrum Health and Helen DeVos Children's Hospital Foundations

## **Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley**

Competing at Swimming NCAA D2 Championships

## **Plans after Graduation**

Operations Accountant at New Holland Brewing Company





# Grace Maust

**Major:** *Cardiovascular Sonography*

## **Senior Project**

*Role of Music Therapy for Patients with Disorders of Consciousness*

The goal of my project was to explain disorders of consciousness (coma, vegetative state, etc.) in a way that was easily understandable. I combined this with current research on music's effects on brain function to offer evidence for why music therapy would benefit this patient population.

## **Research and Presentations**

Great Lakes Cardiovascular Imaging Society Conference  
Presenter

## **Leadership Activities**

University Christian Outreach Mission Community, GVSU Piano Department Committee Leader

## **Activities and Awards**

I'm grateful to have received recognition on the Dean's List every semester, the Excellence in a Discipline Award for Cardiovascular Sonography, and GVSU's Presidential and Award for Excellence scholarships. I am a member of Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society, Society of Diagnostic Medical Sonography, and the Cardiovascular Sonography Student Organization.

## **Study Abroad Experience**

None (though I did live in China for 11 years)

## **Internships and Practicum Experiences**

I rotated through five different healthcare systems including Bronson Methodist and Metro Health.

## **Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley**

Receiving an honorable mention in GVSU Music Department's Concerto Competition. I'm a healthcare major, so I never expected to make it that far!

## **Plans after Graduation**

I've already accepted a position as a Cardiac/Vascular Sonographer at Metro Health where I hope to continue learning long after graduation.



# Jacob McCloughan

**Major:** *Computer Science with a minor in Applied Statistics*

## **Senior Project**

*Comparing Database Technologies: Relational and Nonrelational Solutions*

A paper that provides a comparison of database technologies based on their data modeling and ease-of-use. MySQL, MongoDB, and Google Firebase are examined and contrasted.

## **Research and Presentations**

Student Scholars Day Presentation - Segregation in Educational Funding: From Past to Present

Student Scholars Day Presentation - Students' Perception of Embryonic Stem Cell Research

## **Activities and Awards**

Computer Science and Information Systems Study Abroad Scholarship

## **Study Abroad Experience**

Kingston University London

## **Internships and Practicum Experiences**

Software Development Internship at KPMG.

## **Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley**

My computer science capstone, where a team of fantastic colleagues and me developed a web application for the GVSU Biology Department.

## **Plans after Graduation**

Work as a software developer at KPMG. Eventually, I plan to go to graduate school.



# Elisabeth McCroary

**Major:** *Social Work with a minor in Psychology*

## Senior Project

*Mental Health in Ghana*

This project looked at cultural perceptions and stigma surrounding mental illness and barriers to mental health treatment in Ghana. This research was completed as part of a 6-week study abroad to Winneba, Ghana and is based on a literature review, observation, and interviews with Ghanaian mental health care professionals.

## Research and Presentations

Suicidality in the LGBTQ+ Youth Population

Music Therapy in Social Work

Implications of Gendercide in Areas of Asia

## Leadership Activities

Auxiliary Chair - Phi Alpha Honor Society executive board (September 2018-April 2019)

## Activities and Awards

Dean's List 5 semesters, Phi Alpha - social work honor society, Omicron Delta Kappa - leadership honor society, Psi Chi - psychology honor society, Alpha Omicron Pi sorority member (2015-2019)

## Study Abroad Experience

Winneba, Ghana - honors cultural exchange and service learning

Bilbao, Spain - University of Deusto Spanish-language exchange

El Salvador and Guatemala - social work service learning

## Internships and Practicum Experiences

Intern - Hope Network Robert Brown Crisis Center (August 2018-April 2019)

Volunteer - Family Promise of Grand Rapids (October 2017 - December 2018)

Intern - Abequa Home Health Care Agency, LLC in Des Plaines, IL (May - August 2016, May - June 2017)

## Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley

My greatest accomplishment while at GVSU was having the opportunity to study abroad for three summers. Through these study abroad experiences I was able to expand my learning outside of the classroom and increase my exposure to cultures different from my own.

## Plans after Graduation

Following my bachelor's of social work, I will continue my education at the master's level. I am currently weighing my options between the University of Michigan and University of Illinois at Chicago. I will enroll in the fall as an advanced-standing student with a concentration in mental health.



# Elizabeth McKernan

**Major:** *Allied Health Sciences*

## **Senior Project**

*Stuttering Info Website*

My partner and I developed a comprehensive website which contained information about stuttering. We personalized pages geared toward various populations: individuals who stutter, family and friends, educators, speech-language pathologists, and those interested in research.

## **Research and Presentations**

I was a student research assistant for Dr. Wil Rankinen. I did a semester research project in my speech science class with two classmates.

## **Leadership Activities**

Recruitment Counselor for Panhellenic Recruitment

## **Activities and Awards**

Member of the National Student Speech Language Hearing Association, the National Society of Collegiate Scholars, and Alpha Sigma Alpha sorority.

## **Internships and Practicum Experiences**

I had a summer internship working at an autism center as an ABA therapist.

## **Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley**

My greatest accomplishments at Grand Valley are making it on the Dean's List each semester and graduating magna cum laude.

## **Plans after Graduation**

I will be attending graduate school at University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign to continue my journey to becoming a speech-language pathologist.



# Darwin McMurray

**Major:** *Music*

## **Senior Project**

*An Exploration of Overtone Exercises*

This project revised and created exercises saxophonist could explore to help master tone, intonation, timbre, range, and flexibility.

## **Research and Presentations**

Presented and Commissioned new compositions premiered at the 2017 North American Saxophone Alliance Region V Conference

## **Leadership Activities**

GVSU Leadershape Institute

## **Activities and Awards**

Congressional Black Caucus Performing Arts Scholarship  
Finalist, White Lake Young Artist Solo Competition  
Honorable Mention, GVSU Concerto Competition

## **Internships and Practicum Experiences**

American Saxophone Academy - Rochester, New York  
Brevard Music Center Festival - Brevard, North Carolina  
Orford Musique Saxophone Academy - Montreal, Canada  
Arosa Music Festival Saxophone Academy - Arosa, Switzerland

## **Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley**

Growing as a learner, educator, musician, and friend.

## **Plans after Graduation**

Beginning Master of Music in Saxophone Performance at The University of Texas at Austin in Fall 2019.



# Hannah Mead

**Major:** *Exercise Science with a minor in Psychology*

## Senior Project

*Motivational Interviewing: Its Use in Physical Therapy*

Motivational Interviewing is a common motivational tool in the medical field today. Typical areas that use it are substance abuse, mental health, and medical adherence. The goal of this project was to research how motivational interviewing is being used in my future career of physical therapy, if at all.

## Research and Presentations

Preschoolers' Understanding of Identity with Tessa Jordan

Intrinsic Motivation of Collegiate and Club Rugby Athletes with David Laughlin

## Leadership Activities

GVSU Psi Chi E-Board

Honors Freshman Mentor

THRIVE E-Board

## Activities and Awards

Dean's List 2015-2019

GV Award for Excellence

GV Faculty Scholarship

## Study Abroad Experience

Kingston University in London, UK

## Internships and Practicum Experiences

Intern at Helen Devos Children's Hospital Healthy Weight Center

## Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley

Identifying my career and getting into my dream school-- Duke.

## Plans after Graduation

I will be attending Duke University starting the fall of 2019 to pursue my Doctorate of Physical Therapy (DPT).



# Sean Meagher

**Major:** *Exercise Science with a minor in Psychology*

## Senior Project

*A Systematic Review of Concussions: The End of the Beginning*

I utilized several databases to conduct research on the topic of concussions in sports, focusing heavily on the implications and repercussions for adolescents. The themes covered included a timeline of the history, the prevalence and incidence of injury, and a look ahead at where we are going.

## Research and Presentations

I performed research in my Laboratory Practicum in Exercise Science (MOV 420) with a group of two peers. It was titled: Acute Tart Cherry Juice Supplementation improves Heart Rate

and Blood Pressure after Exercise.

## Leadership Activities

Over the course of two semesters in 2018, I served as a mentor for local underprivileged kids through Kids In Motion. I made a significant impact on the lives of several children, whom I forged great companionships with.

## Activities and Awards

As mentioned before, I performed 50 hours of service for Kids In Motion.

## Internships and Practicum Experiences

Over the course of my senior year, I performed 100 hours of Fieldwork at Hulst Jepsen Physical Therapy, where I worked as an extension of the PT Techs. I also completed a 300-hour Internship and Snap Fitness 24/7, where I enhanced the health and wellness of members.

## Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley

My greatest accomplishment while at Grand Valley is by and large achieving the credentials required to gain admittance into the DPT Program at Wayne State University.

## Plans after Graduation

I intend to work, golf, and travel the state this summer. Beginning next Fall, I will start my Doctor of Physical Therapy Program at Wayne State University.



# Amonte Millender

**Major:** *Criminal Justice with a minor in Psychology*

## Senior Project

*Is there a racial disparity within the death penalty? If so, what?*

After doing extensive research, it is readily apparent that there is in fact a racial disparity that does exist within the death penalty. This is a delicate topic that most don't want to converse about, but causes many problems and has biases towards minorities within our criminal justice system.

## Research and Presentations

I have done extensive research within the field of human trafficking, as well as the income gap between the rich and the poor and how that gap is continuing to increase each and

everyday.

## Leadership Activities

I am a member of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity Incorporated.

## Activities and Awards

I have made the deans list three different times.

## Internships and Practicum Experiences

I completed an externship with the Kent County office of the Defender. I learned a lot while working in this law firm, and learned how important it is to get personally involved with your client in each case.

## Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley

My greatest accomplishment while at Grand Valley was the opportunity to join the greatest Fraternity in the world: Kappa Alpha Psi. This Fraternity has allowed me to expand my horizons, make connections and network, and build leadership skills and opportunities that I couldn't have accomplished without this.

## Plans after Graduation

I plan to attend Florida State University College of Law to pursue a Juris Doctor degree.





# Madeline Miller

**Majors:** *Mathematics & Statistics*

## **Senior Project**

*Collecting Data in Developing Countries*

I researched some of the reasons for our lack of data in developing countries. A lot of these issues were confirmed by my experiences while studying abroad in Ghana.

## **Research and Presentations**

I did research with a team regarding gentrification in Grand Rapids as well as the impacts of activity based learning in different math classes.

## **Leadership Activities**

Vice President of the Math and Stats Club

President of the Math and Stats Club

Scholarship Chairman of Alpha Sigma Alpha Sorority

Vice President of Alpha Sigma Alpha Sorority

## **Activities and Awards**

Alpha Sigma Alpha Sorority

Math and Stats Club

Mu Sigma Rho

Pi Mu Epsilon

Pi Kappa Phi

Transitions Leader

Rho Gamma

## **Study Abroad Experience**

Ghana Honors Cultural Exchange-- Summer 2017

## **Internships and Practicum Experiences**

Edward Jones-- branch office administrator

Auto-Owners Insurance-- IT intern

## **Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley**

All of the wonderful relationships that I've developed during my four years here.

## **Plans after Graduation**

Moving to Lansing to continue doing mainframe development for Auto-Owners Insurance.



# Kristen Miller

**Majors:** *Psychology & Criminal Justice with a minor in Spanish*

## Senior Project

*The impact of human trafficking, sex trafficking, and trauma on mental health*

This project included a literature review. It also included an observational study on children rehabilitated out of human trafficking in Ghana, Africa. Finally, a survey with Licensed Social Workers that deal with victims of human trafficking was conducted to discuss obstacles with treatment to make treatment more efficacious.

## Research and Presentations

I presented the history of trauma in parents at risk for parental termination at SSD and my senior project at WMU's Psi Chi Conference and the GR Intercollegiate Honors Conference. I presented at the Teach-In on Adverse Childhood Experiences and on Alzheimer's at the Art and Science of Aging Conference.

## Leadership Activities

I was Treasurer of Psychology Club, Co-founder and President of Xtension: Dance Outreach Organization, and Volunteer Coordinator for Psi Chi-the International Honor Society of Psychology.

## Activities and Awards

I received the "I am Grand Valley" award for two years. I received the Grand Finish Grant and the Psi Chi Model Chapter Award. I also received the Dean's List for the past four years.

## Study Abroad Experience

I studied abroad in Ghana, Africa for six weeks where I interned with Challenging Heights Shelter rehabilitating children out of human trafficking.

## Internships and Practicum Experiences

I interned at Pine Rest in the Psychological Consultation Center where I observed and assisted with the clinical assessments of those being assessed for ASD and ADHD.

## Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley

My greatest accomplishment would have to be being able to present the research I was involved in and being chosen for the Inside-Out Prison Program where we went to the Michigan Reformatory and sat in class with inmates to focus on correcting the Criminal Justice System.

## Plans after Graduation

I plan to attend University of Chicago masters program to continue research in Psychology.



# Anna Miller

**Majors:** *Information Systems Management & Human Resources Management*

## Senior Project

*Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) Systems Effect on Business Performance*

The central focus of my senior project is to display the importance of ERP systems in businesses and how Grand Valley's ERP program prepares students to support their future employers. It consists of a research paper and pamphlet.

## Leadership Activities

I was a part of Campus Ministry's Bridge team, a volunteer position responsible for coordinating engagement activities.

## Activities and Awards

I was involved in Campus Ministry for three years.

## Internships and Practicum Experiences

In the summer of 2018, I worked as an IT intern for Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan in downtown Detroit.

## Plans after Graduation

I plan to work as a business professional in Michigan, hopefully as part of a Human Resources department.



# Khadija Mohamed

**Major:** *Statistics with minors in Data Science & Mathematics*

## Senior Project

### *Energy Usage vs. Religion*

I examined the relationship between carbon footprint and religious affiliation. The end result revealed that religion and lifestyle do not share a strong correlation. Rather, religion has a footprint on everything we do. Religion influences culture. Access to energy plays the biggest role.

## Research and Presentations

- statistics project: I, in addition to 2 classmates, assisted Dr. Ellis, the director of SWS courses here at GVSU, on her research which aims to seek information from survey data in order to help students become better writers (findings were presented at SSD)

## Leadership Activities

DataFest 2019: This involved analyzing data sets given by an external source; I was the leader of the team I was in.

Volunteered at Beacon Hill Assisted Living Center

Volunteered at Kids Food Basket

Raised funds for the local Cystic Fibrosis Chapter

## Activities and Awards

DataFest 2018: My team was awarded Best Visualization

Mu Sigma Rho

Participated in HOSA (competed in medical terminology)-placed top ten in regionals

Getting College Ready Workshop-educated middle school students on why pursuing a c

## Internships and Practicum Experiences

Last summer (2018) I got an internship working at Smilie's Pediatric Dentistry as a data analyst/ technology assistant. I created 4 regression models used to predict hospital case lengths at South Pavillion and HDVCH. I currently work here.

## Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley

When I first came to Grand Valley, I wasn't 100% sure of what career I wanted to pursue. Four years later, I know what I want to do with my life and I'm excited to see what the future has in store.

## Plans after Graduation

After graduation, I plan on getting a master's degree in Data Science. I hope to consolidate my skills as a future data scientist.



# Kailee Moran

**Major:** *Therapeutic Recreation with a minor in Psychology*

## **Senior Project**

*Informational Handout for parents of children with Autism Spectrum Disorder, Cerebral Palsy and Down Syndrome in Tanzania (or other Developing Countries)*

Volunteering and observing common diagnoses in Tanzania, I observed gaps of knowledge within parents unable to come to children's treatment. I developed informational handouts about diagnosis/symptoms, behavioral strategies, materials & intervention ideas for parents of children with Autism Spectrum Disorder, Cerebral Palsy, and Down Syndrome in Tanzania & other countries.

## **Research and Presentations**

Work with Amy Matthews (psychology)- Behavioral Modification Interventions with Pre-K children with Autism

Spectrum Disorder. REC 410- Individual research project completed on the needs of Refugee Women in Resettlement and Role of Therapeutic Recreation

## **Leadership Activities**

Serve Local Team- Campus Ministry, Life Group Leader- Campus Ministry, Pre- Occupational Therapy Club, Therapeutic Recreation Student Association, Senior Citizens Club

## **Activities and Awards**

Earned CRLA- College Reading & Learning Association certificate & Mission Trips to Philadelphia and Jonesville, VA

## **Study Abroad Experience**

Completed Therapeutic Recreation fieldwork during Study Abroad in Moshi, Tanzania

## **Internships and Practicum Experiences**

Internship: Burcham Hills Retirement Community- Recreation Department

Therapeutic Recreation Fieldwork: Gabriella Rehabilitation Centre- Moshi, Tanzania

Therapeutic Recreation Internship Summer 2019: Willowbrook Rehabilitation Center- Brighton, MI

## **Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley**

Having the opportunity to spend a summer in Tanzania learning about their culture and be challenged while applying what I have learned within the classroom into real world practice.

## **Plans after Graduation**

I am attending Grand Valley to pursue a masters degree in Occupational Therapy. I hope to incorporate my passion for international populations into my career after graduation.



# Jennifer Morrish

**Major:** *Mathematics & Statistics with a minor in Psychology*

## Senior Project

*Mechanics of Queer Games*

When it comes to queer game studies, there is more to look at than representation. This project uses queer theory and game studies to explore the mechanics that are involved in queering games and the games studies field.

## Research and Presentations

L'dor v'dor: Oral Histories of the B'nai Israel Congregation of Muskegon, MI

## Leadership Activities

Heading the creation of an analytic department for a local Grand Rapids business.

## Activities and Awards

I participated in Make a Difference Day, each October, my first four years at GVSU. I would have my fifth year also, but instead I was working on the L'dor v'dor project at the B'nai Israel temple in Muskegon.

## Internships and Practicum Experiences

Data Analyst Internship with Alliance Beverage Distributing

## Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley

Making a home for myself in Grand Rapids, and making connections with people that will continue to exist no matter where I go.

## Plans after Graduation

I will be continuing my intern position creating Alliance Beverage Distributing's analytics department, but as a full time position after I graduate.



# Sydney Mosser

**Majors:** *Psychology & Classics with a minor in Applied Statistics*

## **Senior Project**

*Modern Mythology*

The project analyzed the development of comic books over time and equated that development to classical mythology.

## **Research and Presentations**

I have been a student research assistant for the GV Psychology Department for all four years of my undergraduate career.

## **Activities and Awards**

I have been awarded the I Am Grand Valley Award

## **Study Abroad Experience**

I studied abroad in Rome for a semester.

## **Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley**

Successfully completing two majors and a minor while holding two part-time jobs.

## **Plans after Graduation**

Graduate school.



# Aaron Muscaro

**Major:** *Biomedical Sciences with a minor in General Business*

## Senior Project

*An Examination of Partial Hip Replacements and the Prevalence of Intraoperative Fractures of the Femur*

Upon dissection of a cadveric hip, I found a partial hip replacement, or a replacement of the femoral head with a prosthetic metal ball. In addition, a metal-plate was found along the femur shaft indicating a fracture there. I plastinated my specimen for future students to learn about orthopedic repair.

## Leadership Activities

Two-year Cook Leadership Academy Fellow

Co-Founder and President of the GVSU Club Golf Team

Omicron Delta Kappa (ODK) National Leadership Honor Society Member

Two-year Campus Ministry Spring Break Mission's Trip Leader

GVSU Transition's Week Leader

Campus Ministry Lifegroup Leader

## Activities and Awards

Biomedical Sciences Department Graduate of Distinction Award

Selected in to the Cook Leadership Academy and ODK National Leadership Honor Society

Shot a club golf record even-par 72 in Fall 2018 NCCGA regional tournament to finish T7

Finished top-3 in a B2B sales competition with the Professional Sales Association

## Internships and Practicum Experiences

I worked a sales management internship at Enterprise Rent-A-Car. My achievements there included being awarded "Best Customer Service Award" amongst all interns in my region and finishing the summer as the area's top intern salesman. It was a great experience allowing me to expand my sales skills and knowledge.

## Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley

Founding and establishing the Club Golf Team is my greatest accomplishment. My freshman year, I had a dream and vision for golfers of all skills and backgrounds to experience collegiate golf. As a graduating senior, I am proud to see the program flourish for years to come.

## Plans after Graduation

After graduation, I have accepted a job in Melbourne, Florida to be an Orthopedic Consultant with Arthrex. I will be in the operating room assisting, teaching, and selling surgeons the latest medical device technology to help them treat their patients better.





# Alexis Nagle

**Major:** *Behavioral Neuroscience with a minor in Psychology*

## Senior Project

*Cross-Cultural Infant Nutrition and Brain Development*

Using interviews with doctors, nurses and mothers about infant brain development/nutrition in Ghana, I created a literature review about these practices in both Ghana and America. I used this information to create a booklet for Ghanaian parents about healthy feeding practices, specific to the resources available to them.

## Research and Presentations

I presented at the 5th Annual Teach-in: Power, Privilege and Difficult Dialogues

## Leadership Activities

Helped create and implement a curriculum in a preschool setting

## Activities and Awards

"I am Grand Valley" Award Recipient  
Participant in Intramural Sports

## Study Abroad Experience

Ghana: Honors Cultural Exchange and Service Learning

## Internships and Practicum Experiences

For two semesters I worked on Amy Matthew's Early Learning Opportunities project in Holland, Michigan. I provided applied behavioral analysis (ABA) for two year olds with Autism or other developmental delays.

## Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley

My greatest accomplishments while at Grand Valley relate to the time I spent abroad. I participated in the home visits of local children, observed multiple C-sections, natural births and other surgeries. Being selected to have these opportunities and participating in them fully is a huge personal accomplishment.

## Plans after Graduation

After graduation I plan to work as a family service provider for the families of young children with developmental delays or that are in difficult situations. I plan to pursue my Masters degree shortly after.



# Abigail Near

**Major:** *Speech-Language Pathology*

## **Senior Project**

*Comparing Perspectives Relevant to Speech and Language Pathology of Parents from Mexico, Asian and Pacific Islander Countries, and India*

This was a research and reflection paper regarding perspectives relevant to speech and language pathology of parents from Mexico, Asian and Pacific Islander Countries, and India. The purpose of this project was to gain cultural competency as a future speech-language pathologist.

## **Activities and Awards**

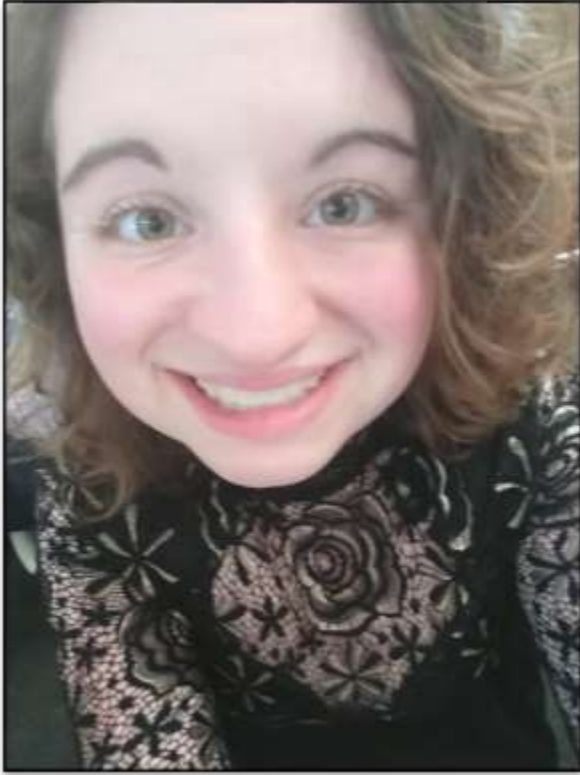
Member of NSSLHA, Dean's List

## **Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley**

While at Grand Valley, my greatest accomplishment was challenging myself academically in order to graduate in three years.

## **Plans after Graduation**

I plan on continuing my education at Grand Valley in order to earn my Master's in Speech-Language Pathology.



# Madison Nichols

**Major:** *Medical Laboratory Science with a minor in Biology*

## **Senior Project**

*The Germicidal Effects of Marketed Essential Oils on Etiological Agents of Disease:  
A Controlled Study*

A study of the affects of essential oils marketed as germicidal on common etiological agents of disease in humans.

## **Practicum Experiences**

Holland Hospital Clinical Internship in Medical Laboratory Sciences

## **Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand**

### **Valley**

Pushing myself outside of my comfort zone.

### **Plans after Graduation**

Work full time as a medical laboratory scientist at Holland Hospital in Holland, Michigan.



# Poshita Nigam

**Major:** *Spanish while completing pre-med requirements*

## Senior Project

*"Cultural Sensitivity and its Effect on the Relationship Between the Latin American and Latinx Patient and the Health Care Provider"*

An exploration of the relationship between the strong cultural values and traditions of the Latin American and Latinx communities and healthcare. Many Latin American and Latinx individuals have strong values influenced by both religious and indigenous beliefs that make them hesitant to reach out to a healthcare provider for fear of misunderstanding. Additionally, a large component of recovery lies in the patient's belief that they will heal, which can occasionally stem from a higher-belief system. Therefore, if there is a

higher-level of comprehension of Latin American and Latinx

Beliefs by the part of the healthcare provider, then they can provide better care to the patient.

## Research and Presentations

Microbiology Research

## Leadership Activities

E-board for Community Council, Big Brother, Big Sister, Former Executive Board Member of West Michigan Hindu Youth Association

## Activities and Awards

Pre-Med Club Member, Spanish Club Member, Honors Society

## Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley

Learning how to study to learn and not just for a certain grade

## Plans after Graduation

Graduate school to get my MPA



# Elizabeth Nisper

**Major:** *Psychology with a minor in French*

## Senior Project

*The Benefits and Accessibility of Integrative Exercise in Geriatric Populations*

Building on literary research conducted in my psychology capstone, I explored the mental and physical health benefits of integrative exercises, such as yoga and meditation, particularly in geriatric populations. I was also interested in the accessibility of these practices in West Michigan.

## Research and Presentations

Cognitive Skills Study with Professor Corker of the psychology department. Advanced Research Methods (PSY 400) replication study.

## Leadership Activities

Working as a chemistry tutor in the chemistry success center and volunteering as a mentor for Michigan State University College of Human Medicine's Pipeline Program

## Activities and Awards

Involvement in Pre-Med club and Universities Allied for Essential Medicines. Recipient of the General Chemistry Award from the GVSU Chemistry department. An inductee into Phi Kappa Phi and Psi Chi honor societies.

## Study Abroad Experience

French Language and Culture Summer 2017 Study Abroad in Paris and Bordeaux (Faculty-led program)

## Internships and Practicum Experiences

Working as a Certified Medical Scribe in Spectrum Health Emergency Departments

## Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley

Surviving both semesters of organic chemistry in the summer while training to be a scribe!

## Plans after Graduation

I plan to go to medical school after taking a gap year and specialize in either primary care or psychiatry.



# Joe Novaco

**Majors:** *Marketing & Natural Resources Management*

## **Senior Project**

*Social Media Marketing Plan: Uccello's Hospitality Group.*

A comprehensive marketing plan geared towards improving the social media marketing of Uccello's Hospitality Group. While this project is not being currently implemented at UHG, the suggestions provided may prove useful in enhancing future social media effectiveness.

## **Research and Presentations**

AMA Collegiate Case Competition sponsored by The Wall Street Journal.

## **Leadership Activities**

President of American Red Cross Club &  
Director of Programming for American Marketing Association GVSU.

## **Activities and Awards**

"I am Grand Valley" Student Leadership Award Nominee, Outstanding Intern of the Year 2018 Nominee.

## **Study Abroad Experience**

Kingston University in London, England (Summer 2017).

## **Internships and Practicum Experiences**

Interned at Uccello's Hospitality Group and was part-time Social Media Coordinator at Uccello's Hospitality Group.

## **Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley**

I consider my greatest accomplishment at Grand Valley to be the connections that I have made in my four years here.

## **Plans after Graduation**

After graduation, I plan to continue to grow my abilities and self in Grand Rapids.



# Ashley Ohsiek

**Major:** *Biomedical Sciences*

## **Senior Project**

*Evolution of breakthrough chimeric antigen receptor T-cell (CAR-T) therapy and current implications*

Chimeric antigen receptor T-cell therapy (CAR-T) is a new treatment of acute lymphoblastic leukemia and non-Hodgkin's B-cell lymphoma that put 83% of patients in clinical trials into remission. Through this research, I hope to spread awareness of how it works and may eventually expand to treating more types of cancers.

## **Leadership Activities**

Secretary for Beta Beta Beta National Biological Honor Society (2018-2019)  
Omicron Delta Kappa National Leadership Honor Society

## **Activities and Awards**

Beta Beta Beta National Biological Honor Society  
Dean's List (Fall 2015, Winter 2016, Fall 2017, Winter 2018, Fall 2018)  
Intercollegiate Volleyball (2015-2017)  
MEC All-Academic Team (2015)  
Omicron Delta Kappa National Leadership Honor Society

## **Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley**

My greatest accomplishment at GVSU has been my growth as a student and person through the various academic courses, clubs, sports, and volunteering that I have participated in. This growth at GVSU has prepared me well for my ultimate goal of practicing medicine as a Physician Assistant (PA).

## **Plans after Graduation**

I will begin pursuing my Master of Science degree in Physician Assistant Studies at Barry University (Miami Shores, FL) or University of Detroit Mercy (Detroit, MI) this fall.



# Rebecca Oppman

**Major:** *Studio Art*

## **Senior Project**

*VITA Mobile App*

Short for "vitalize," which means to give strength and energy to, VITA is a mobile app which provides users with everything they need to keep their healthy lifestyle strong, in a single location. My project strives to solve the prominent problem many face regarding their healthy habits: maintaining consistency.

## **Research and Presentations**

Student Scholars Day participant in 2017, 2018, and 2019

## **Activities and Awards**

Silver in Out-Of-Home Poster for Christmas Study Break Posters, 2018 (University of Notre Dame Alumni Association, Michiana Advertising Federation Awards)

## **Internships and Practicum Experiences**

Graphic Design Intern at Notre Dame Alumni Association from May 2017 to present (Nominated for Outstanding Intern of the Year 2019)

Graphic Design Intern at Studio Us from August 2018 to present

## **Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley**

My greatest accomplishment at Grand Valley was planning and participating in my Graphic Design Senior Show alongside 12 of my incredibly talented classmates.

## **Plans after Graduation**

After graduation, I am hoping to land a job as a graphic designer in a marketing or advertising agency. Eventually, I would like to be User Experience/Interface Designer, so I will be planning my career with that goal in mind.





# Mariah Otlewski

**Majors:** *Public and Nonprofit Administration & Writing*

## **Senior Project**

*Love in Northbury: A Collection of Short Stories*

This book is a collection of short stories written by myself. With my advisor, we edited each story and I compiled them to create a book.

## **Leadership Activities**

President of Pals Student Mentors

Member of Pals 2015-2019

## **Activities and Awards**

Deans List 2015-2019

Jurries Family Writing Scholarship

## **Internships and Practicum Experiences**

Marketing & Communications Intern @ Make-A-Wish Michigan

Communications & Engagement Intern @ The Dorothy A. Johnson Center for Philanthropy

## **Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley**

Impacting the lives of the Grand Rapids children in Pals, the organization I have been a part of since freshman year.

## **Plans after Graduation**

I plan on moving to the East side to pursue a career I will hopefully have at the time you are reading this.



# Naomi Parker

**Major:** *Biomedical Sciences with minors in Chemistry & Psychology*

## Senior Project

*Accessibility to Reconstructive Plastic Surgery in the United States*

This project investigated access to reconstructive plastic surgery in the United States, including how barriers to access change depending on the socioeconomic status and geographic location. Its goal was to help one understand how complicated reconstructive plastic surgery can be, and how barriers to accessing care can be overcome.

## Research and Presentations

Undergraduate research assistant under Dr. Powers who helped to study the ability of boronic acid transition state analog inhibitors (BASTIs) to inhibit the class D carbapenemase OXA-24. This helped provide insight into how BASTIs may be optimized as broad-spectrum beta-lactamase inhibitors that may contribute to the

elimination of bacterial resistance.

## Leadership Activities

President of GVSU Be The Match On Campus, an organization with a goal of growing the national bone marrow registry so that anyone who needs a bone marrow donor can be genetically matched to one.

## Activities and Awards

Participant in the annual spring Be The Match On Campus conference in Minnesota. Presented research at the Midwest Enzyme Chemistry Conference in Chicago.

## Study Abroad Experience

I travelled to Nicaragua in 2017 to be part of a program called the Applied Global Innovation Initiative (AGII). Here, we helped teach the Stanford design thinking process to professors and students of Universidad Nacional Autónoma de Nicaragua (UNAN) through an interactive week long workshop.

## Internships and Practicum Experiences

I have worked as an in home health care aid for an individual with a severe physical disability, and have volunteered at Hackley Hospital.

## Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley

My greatest accomplishment at Grand Valley has been expanding my views and beliefs of the world by interacting with people I would have never had the chance to otherwise, travelling to places I never thought I would go, and learning that there is never an end to learning.

## Plans after Graduation

I plan to gain practical experience in the medical field over the next year and apply to medical school in June of 2020. From there I plan to complete medical school by continue to work towards my dream of becoming a reconstructive plastic surgeon.



# Jessica Parzynski

**Major:** *Allied Health Sciences*

## **Senior Project**

*Altering College of Health Professions Undergraduate Curriculum: Incorporating American Sign Language*

I demonstrated the importance of including American Sign Language (ASL) into the GVSU College of Health Professions undergraduate curriculum. I surveyed students and interviewed an ASL professor to gain insight on past and current curricula while assessing the potential of incorporating a certificate, minor, or major requirement into future curricula.

## **Research and Presentations**

I researched and presented a poster project titled "Variation in Duration of Aspiration for Bilingual L1 Spanish and English

Speakers" with Katherine Smith and Delilah Coronado.

## **Leadership Activities**

I was the American Sign Language and Culture Club Co-President for 3 years and La Tertulia: GVSU's Spanish Club's Event Planner for 1 year, Vice President for 1 year, and Cultural Representative for 1 semester. I was also Children's Miracle Network Dance Marathon's Event Management Committee Director for 1 year.

## **Activities and Awards**

During my undergraduate career at GVSU, I was a member of American Sign Language and Culture Club, La Tertulia: Spanish Club, Children's Miracle Network Dance Marathon, National Student Speech Language Hearing Association, and Colleges Against Cancer. I was inducted into the Phi Kappa Phi Honors Society in March 2017.

## **Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley**

My greatest accomplishment while at Grand Valley has been learning to communicate using three languages. I have participated in language and cultural organizations that have facilitated my communication skills in American Sign Language and Spanish. Now, I can successfully hold a conversation in American Sign Language, English, and Spanish.

## **Plans after Graduation**

In the fall, I will be attending the University of Iowa to work towards my master's degree in speech-language pathology. I am very excited to become a Hawkeye and gain clinical skills to help me succeed as a future speech-language pathologist!



# Kaylin Peyerk

**Major:** *Accounting*

## **Senior Project**

*Forensic Accounting in the Curriculum*

This senior project discusses the possibility of incorporating forensic accounting into the curriculum as a degree program, certain classes, and at the undergraduate and graduate levels. It outlines scholarly articles, current GVSU accounting professor opinions, and my personal conclusion and recommendations based on my research.

## **Internships and Practicum Experiences**

Corporate accounting internship with The Homestead Freshwater Resort

Corporate accounting internship with Notions Marketing Corporation: Current

## **Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley**

Graduating with my bachelor's degree in accounting one year ahead of the graduating high school class.

## **Plans after Graduation**

I plan to accept the offer of full-time employment through Notions Marketing Corporation as a level one accountant. I also plan to continue to run my own business that I started in early 2018.



# Uyen Pham

**Major:** *Biochemistry with a minor in Mathematics*

## Senior Project

*Determination of X-ray Crystallographic Structures of OXA-24, a  $\beta$ -lactamase Antibiotic Resistance Enzyme, with Fragment-based Inhibitors for Novel Drug Discovery*

## Research and Presentations

I did research with Dr. Rachel Powers in Grand Valley Chemistry Department for 3 years. I also did a full-time summer research with Dr. Nicolas Mermoud at the University of Lausanne in Lausanne, Switzerland during summer 2018.

## Leadership Activities

I worked as a site leader for Alternative Breaks leading week-long service trips. I was also in the E-board of the Microbiology club in 2017-2018. I also worked as a PASS facilitator (like a TA) for CHM 116 for 2 semesters.

## Activities and Awards

Recipient of Excellence-in-a-Discipline Award in Biochemistry (2019)

CHF 4000 Summer Undergraduate Research 2018 from University of Lausanne, Switzerland

Recipient of I am Grand Valley Award (2017-2018)

\$4,000 Modified Student Summer Scholar research

## Study Abroad Experience

No study abroad experience but research experience at the University of Lausanne in Lausanne, Switzerland.

## Internships and Practicum Experiences

I worked as a tutor in the Chemistry Success Center and the Tutoring center at Grand Valley. I also worked as a PASS facilitator (TA) for 2 semesters of CHM 116.

## Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley

I had 7 poster presentations at scientific conferences in the US and Switzerland. One presentation was at Posters on the Hill 2018 where I presented my research to members of the Congress. I was also offered a grant by University of Lausanne to do research there in summer 2018.

## Plans after Graduation

I am attending graduate school to pursue a PhD at either Cornell University or Duke University. I was offered a 10,000 fellowship on top of my generous financial package at Duke. I am still making a decision but maybe Duke.



# Ryan Phillips

**Majors:** *Finance & Supply Chain Management*

## **Senior Project**

*Subscribing to the Future*

An overview of subscription models, the push towards them, and the companies that are driving the change

## **Research and Presentations**

Market Expansion Strategies, Corporate Innovation Projects, Startups, Technological Trends

## **Leadership Activities**

SSCMA, Collegiate Entrepreneurs Organization

## **Activities and Awards**

CEO National Conference, Elevate Toronto 2018, Startup Weekend GR

## **Study Abroad Experience**

John Cabot University, Rome, Italy

## **Internships and Practicum Experiences**

New Business Innovation, Steelcase Inc.

## **Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley**

The knowledge, philosophical, and spiritual growth that I have undergone to arrive at my current path.

## **Plans after Graduation**

I will be staying in the Grand Rapids area to further my career, and explore some side passions.



# Rachel Pini

**Major:** *Behavioral Neuroscience with minors in Spanish & Biology*

## Senior Project

*Grand Rapids to London: A Cross-Continental Juxtaposition of Behavioral Patterns*

My project examines cross-continental behavioral patterns in Grand Rapids, Michigan and London, England. By noting prominent behavioral differences and connecting these differences with their underlying neurological implications, we can understand the influences of culture on an individual's behavior. This project explores cultural psychology, relevant neurological functions, and communication research.

## Leadership Activities

Director of Camp Kesem's GVSU Chapter (a nationwide non-profit for children who are affected by a parent's cancer)

## Study Abroad Experience

London, England (Summer 2019)

## Plans after Graduation

I plan to pursue a graduate degree in the Child Welfare realm.



# Kayla Pomper

**Major:** *Special Education*

## **Senior Project**

*The History of Christianity and the Evolution of the Church*

My central focus for my honors senior project will be the history of Christianity and the evolution of the church with a particular focus on the doctrine of the Catholic Church on obtaining truth from scripture and tradition versus the protestant doctrine of sola scriptura.

## **Research and Presentations**

I did special education research for creating an in-school inclusion program during my Social Product Innovation class.

## **Leadership Activities**

I am a small group leader for a high school youth group.

## **Activities and Awards**

I was a part of Campus Ministries for two years and joined an intramural volleyball team for one year.

## **Internships and Practicum Experiences**

I have been placed at four different schools for teacher assisting and student teaching over the past two years with GVSU.

## **Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley**

My greatest accomplishment at Grand Valley was finding my confidence as a future teacher throughout my student teaching experiences.

## **Plans after Graduation**

I plan to become a Special Education teacher and start a family with my husband.





# Anna Prince

**Major:** *Biomedical Sciences with a minor in Aging and Adult Life*

## Senior Project

*Ageism in the United States*

A literature review of the prevalence and effects of ageism on older adults in the United States, including interviews with professionals from different disciplines about ageism in their respective fields.

## Research and Presentations

I participated in the 2018 Student Summer Scholars Program for my project "Localization of histamine in the accessory gland and its influence on male-induced female behaviors in *Drosophila*" with mentor Dr. Martin Burg. I presented my work at the 2018 GVSU Summer Scholars Showcase, and the 2019 Student Scholars Day.

## Activities and Awards

My freshman year, I volunteered with Senior Citizens Club and was awarded as a Freshman Honoree by the Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi. For my participation in the 2018 Student Summer Scholars Program, I was awarded the title of Schroeder Fellow.

## Study Abroad Experience

I traveled to Rabat, Morocco with UBELONG, an international volunteering organization over Winter Break at the end of 2017. While there, I worked in a small NGO school, helping teachers in their classrooms and interacting with the children.

## Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley

My greatest accomplishments while at Grand Valley are my research and involvement in the Student Summer Scholars Program, and my Senior Project.

## Plans after Graduation

I plan to apply to Physician Assistant programs this summer, and continue to work in Neuro Rehabilitation Home Care. After graduate school, I plan to work and specialize in geriatric care.



# Robert Proctor

**Major:** *Mechanical Engineering with a minor in Mathematics*

## **Senior Project**

*Portable Test Unit for Ventra*

Develop a Portable Test Unit for Automotive Lamps manufactured by Ventra

## **Activities and Awards**

Kirkoff Engineering Scholarship, Autocam Engineering Scholarship

## **Internships and Practicum Experiences**

Engineering Co-Op at Autocam NN Inc.

## **Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley**

Obtaining Co-Op and Full Time position at Autocam

## **Plans after Graduation**

Accepted Manufacturing and Quality Engineer Position at Autocam NN Inc.



# Christopher Pryslak

**Major:** *Engineering with a minor in Management*

## **Senior Project**

*Engineering Senior Project - Dreem Design Team*

My senior project was part of the College of Engineering and for a local corporate sponsor. The project was a mix of mechanical, electrical and software components. I had a focus on developing the main electrical designs and system control.

## **Leadership Activities**

GVSU Laker Racing Team - Lead Electrical Engineer

## **Activities and Awards**

GVSU Laker Racing Team

## **Internships and Practicum Experiences**

3 Semester Co-op Experience at Twisthink

## **Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley**

My greatest accomplishment at Grand Valley has been developing a strong support system with my classmates, professors, friends and family. They have made it possible for me to stay focused and reach this point in my college career.

## **Plans after Graduation**

After graduation I plan to stay in the Grand Rapids area as I have recently accepted a position as an electrical engineer at Twisthink in Holland.



# Alexander Putkovich

**Major:** *Allied Health Sciences with a minor in Psychology*

## **Senior Project**

*Transgender Culture and its Views on Health Care in the United States:*

*A Primary Care Physician's Guide toward Interactions in the Field*

My project answers the question, How can primary care physicians interact appropriately with members of the transgender community, by creating positive first impressions and positive subsequent interactions? I performed an extensive literature analysis to determine that historical comprehension of the transgender community is what guides a positive doctor-patient relationship.

## **Leadership Activities**

Executive Board Member of GVSU Beekeepers Club

## **Activities and Awards**

Intercultural Training Certificate

## **Internships and Practicum Experiences**

For the Intercultural Training Certificate, I volunteered on the Mobile Health Unit for the Grand Rapids Red Project, a non-profit organization dedicated to improving health, reducing risk, and preventing HIV. Some of my roles included education on sterile injection practices, safe sex, and administration of Naloxone in cases of overdose.

## **Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley**

Definitely completing the Intercultural Training Certificate. Though completion of my major and minor has prepared me well for my future profession as a Physician Assistant, I cannot stress the importance of this certificate in preparation for my profession. Taking courses that stressed the importance of intersectionality will forever benefit me.

## **Plans after Graduation**

Move to Indianapolis to gain further clinical experiences and apply to Physician Assistant Studies programs throughout the Midwest.



# Steven Reame

**Majors:** *Marketing & General Business*

## **Senior Project**

*Israel v. Palestine Conflict*

The conflict between the two parties began in the 1940's and yet is still so relevant in today's culture. I hope to bring knowledge to anyone about the importance of this conflict and present itself as another example as to why this needs to be fixed.

## **Leadership Activities**

Campus Ministry at Grand Valley State University: Program Team Leader

American Marketing Association: Member

## **Activities and Awards**

Design Thinking Fellow

## **Study Abroad Experience**

Israel in May of 2018

## **Internships and Practicum Experiences**

Benefit Twice Outlet Stores: Marketing Intern 11/2017-4/2018

Haworth: Design Thinking Intern 5/2018-8/2018

Russ' Restaurants: Marketing Intern 8/2018-12/2018

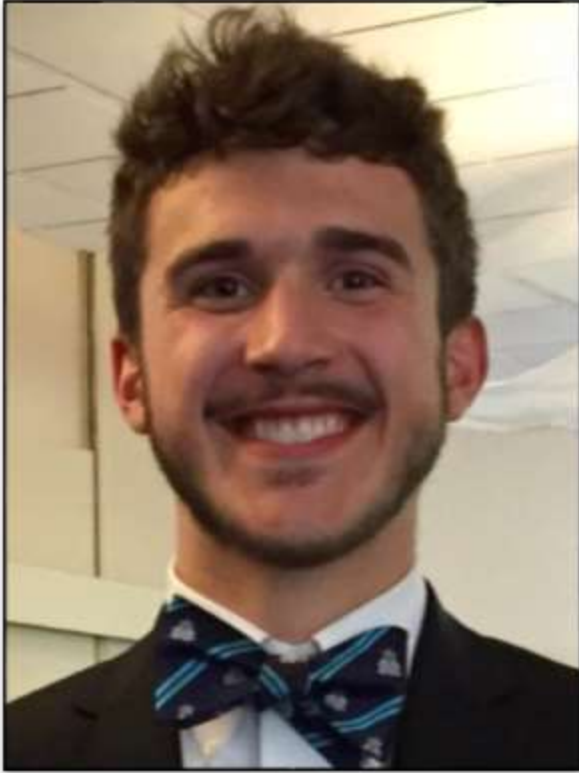
Lake Michigan Credit Union: Marketing Intern 1/2019

## **Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley**

Being a part of the first graduating class from the Design Thinking Academy

## **Plans after Graduation**

Nothing set in stone yet but most likely working in Grand Rapids



# Elliot Rieth

**Major:** *Advertising & Public Relations with a minor in General Business*

## Senior Project

*Grand Valley Rowing Communication Audit and Plan*

An audit of the current communication tactics being used by the Grand Valley Rowing team, as well as a plan to help increase the effectiveness of their communication to desired audiences in the future.

## Research and Presentations

Public Relations Campaign- Humane Society of West Michigan (2019)

Public Relations Campaign-Peace Corps (2017)

Public Relations Audit/Plan-Noorthoek Academy (2018)

Media Plan-Ottawa Foods (2018)

Advertising Campaign-Community Service Learning Center (2018)

## Leadership Activities

President- Grand Valley Rowing (2018-2019)

Vice President- Grand Valley Rowing (2017-2018)

Varsity Captain- Grand Valley Rowing (2018-2019)

Novice Captain- Grand Valley Rowing (2016)

## Activities and Awards

Grand Valley Rowing (2015-2019)

Whale Radio (2015-2017)

Academic All-American 2nd Team (2018)

Superior Award Winner (2019)

## Internships and Practicum Experiences

Social Media Intern- GO Scavenger Hunts (2017-2018)

Volunteer and Events Intern- Gilda's Club of Grand Rapids (2019)

## Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley

Setting the school record for the fastest novice 8 to ever come through Grand Valley Rowing.

## Plans after Graduation

I will be starting a career as an Assistant Event Manager through Gilmore Catering, moving in with my girlfriend downtown, and enjoying a well deserved deep breath.



# Isabella River

**Major:** *Marketing*

## **Senior Project**

*Student Life Market Research*

I worked with the Office of Student Life to help develop a student position. I developed this position into a student lead advising program to help students get involved at Grand Valley. This position is targeted at first year students yet advising is open for any student.

## **Leadership Activities**

Presidents Ball coordinator 2018 & 2019

Phi Sigma Pi recruitment advisor 2017

## **Activities and Awards**

I am Grand Valley

## **Study Abroad Experience**

Barcelona, Spain winter 2018

## **Internships and Practicum Experiences**

Marketing Internship with Tamarack Camps

## **Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley**

Coordinating Presidents Ball

## **Plans after Graduation**

I want to go into higher education and I am currently exploring my options to go into this field.



# Lauren Robb

**Major:** *Biomedical Sciences*

## Senior Project

*Localization of Histamine and Histidine Decarboxylase in Drosophila melanogaster*

For my senior project I have continued the research on Histamine and Histidine Decarboxylase in *Drosophila melanogaster* that I have been performing for the past 3 years and attempted to discern the size of HDC in *Drosophila* through Western Blot Analysis.

## Research and Presentations

Over the past 3 years I have researched the localization of Histamine and HDC in *Drosophila Melanogaster* (fruit flies) through the utilization of a FLAG-HDC epitope tag. I have presented this research at GVSU's student scholar's day, the Michigan Society for Neuroscience meeting, and the National Society for Neuroscience meeting.

## Leadership Activities

Honors Mentor, Honors Mentor Council member, Medical Scribe Training and Development Associate.

## Activities and Awards

Spectrum Health Rehabilitation and Nursing Center Volunteer

MSU College of Human Medicine Pipeline Program Mentor

Honors Freshman Mentor

I am Grand Valley Student Leadership Award

Biomedical Sciences Graduate of Distinction

Phi Kappa Phi Member

## Study Abroad Experience

Honors Ghana Study Abroad Trip 2016

## Internships and Practicum Experiences

BMS internship working in hospitals and clinics in Ghana

## Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley

My greatest accomplishment at Grand Valley was traveling to Ghana during the summer after my freshman year. I expanded my comfort zone and learned more about the world than I could have ever imagined in just two short months. That trip forever changed the

## Plans after Graduation

I am attending Wayne State University's School of Medicine starting this summer!





# Regina Rolando

**Major:** *Medical Laboratory Science with a minor in Spanish*

## **Senior Project**

*Art in the Lab*

This project bridges my two passions, science and art. I created a series of paintings inspired by scientific images of microorganisms examined within a medical laboratory.

## **Research and Presentations**

Student Life Awards Program of the Year: Neil Hilborn Poetry

## **Leadership Activities**

Secretary, then Vice President, then President for 2 years of GVSU's To Write Love On Her Arms Chapter.

## **Activities and Awards**

Dean's List a total of 7 semesters.

2015-2016 and 2016-2017 I am Grand Valley Nominee.

## **Study Abroad Experience**

Bilbao, Spain in the summer of 2016.

## **Internships and Practicum Experiences**

Clinical rounds at Mercy Health in Muskegon.

## **Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley**

I found a career I love. I am so grateful for the friends I made. I became a strong independent young woman ready to become a professional in this world.

## **Plans after Graduation**

Taking my MLT certification exam in June. Returning to Metro Detroit to work as a Medical Laboratory Technologist.



# Luke Rozema

**Major:** *Biomedical Sciences with minors in Chemistry & Mathematical Statistics*

## **Senior Project**

*Characterization of Putative Salmonella enterica Serovar Typhimurium Virulence Genes*

The purpose of this project was to characterize the effects two polar mutations in putative virulence genes ("4501 and "4502) had on S. Typhimurium pathogenicity. This was done through transcriptional and motility assay in cell strains containing these mutations.

## **Research and Presentations**

Microbiology research involving biofilm formation in Escherichia Coli.

## **Leadership Activities**

Board member of the Neuroscience Club.

## **Activities and Awards**

Recipient of the General Chemistry Award.

## **Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley**

Graduating and subsequent admission into a graduate program of my choice.

## **Plans after Graduation**

I will be pursuing my Masters in Health Data Science at The Geisel School of Medicine at Dartmouth College.



# Monica Rufe

**Major:** *Allied Health Sciences*

## Senior Project

*Systematic Comparison of Physician Assistants, Nurse Practitioners, and Physicians.*

It is becoming increasingly important to understand the role of physician assistants (PAs) and nurse practitioners (NPs) in primary care because of the looming shortage of physicians. To gain a better understanding of these careers and their contribution to primary care, this paper explores their education, responsibilities, and salaries.

## Leadership Activities

Catholic Student Ministry Peer Minister during 2016-17 and 2017-18 school year.  
Catholic Student Ministry Outreach Chair 2018-19.

## Activities and Awards

Circle K member (2 years)  
Pre-PA club member (4 years)  
Running club member (4 years)  
Catholic Student Ministries (4 years)

## Study Abroad Experience

Medical Mission Trip to Panama (May 2017)

## Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley

My greatest accomplishment at Grand Valley was having the courage to leave my comfort zone and join organizations that encouraged my passions, including my dreams to become a PA, grow deeper in my Catholic faith, and continue to embrace the joy of running

## Plans after Graduation

I will begin classes at Eastern Michigan's PA School this spring and graduate with a Master's in Physician Assistant Studies in 2021.



# Conner Rypma

**Majors:** *Economics & Finance with a minor in History*

## Senior Project

*The Emergence of Canon Law in Medieval Europe*

Around the twelfth century, the emergence of canon was triggered by Gratian's Decretum, the power struggle between church and state, and by a population growth and societal shift.

## Research and Presentations

Compensation Study for Loutit Public Library

## Leadership Activities

Financial Officer of the Economics Club  
Economics Department Student Advisory Board

## Activities and Awards

Dean's List

## Internships and Practicum Experiences

Internship at Stenger & Stenger, P.C.

## Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley

My academic evolution and consistency

## Plans after Graduation

I plan on attending Law School



# Emily Saenz

**Major:** *Electrical Engineering*

## **Senior Project**

*Engineering Capstone (Confidential)*

Engineering Capstone (Confidential)

## **Research and Presentations**

I presented an algorithm to automatically detect blood vessels in digital retinal images at the College of Engineering and Computing's 2019 Project Day. In the past, the detection of blood vessels in the retina has aided in the evaluation and treatment of various cardiovascular and ophthalmologic diseases.

## **Activities and Awards**

Grand Valley Award for Excellence

## **Internships and Practicum Experiences**

I interned at Exelon Corporation in Chicago during the Summer of 2016. After this internship, I returned to Exelon for three additional co-op semesters from 2017 to 2018.

## **Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley**

My supervisor nominated me as Co-op Student of the Year for 2019.

## **Plans after Graduation**

I plan to work in the utility industry, or a related industry, after graduation. My current interests include power systems and telecommunication systems. I also would like to further my education with a Master's degree in Engineering Management.



# Sydney Saier

**Major:** *Allied Health Sciences*

## **Senior Project**

*Educating women (both English and Spanish speaking) on prenatal care and breastfeeding.*

Two colleagues and I worked with HELP Pregnancy Crisis Aid to better educate women. We met with several different groups and gathered what they knew and what they would like to know. We then put all of the information together and formed a presentation in both English and Spanish.

## **Research and Presentations**

Capstone Research: Comparison of the Keto diet and Vegan diet.

## **Activities and Awards**

I am Grand Valley Leadership Recognition

## **Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley**

My greatest accomplishment at Grand Valley would have to be not only growing as a student, but also growing as an individual. I have gained a lot of professional experience throughout my major that I will take with me after graduation.

## **Plans after Graduation**

Nursing/ PA school



# Jenna Saleh

**Major:** *Behavioral Neuroscience with minors in Psychology & Biology*

## Senior Project

*Cultural Communication Skills in Two Groups of Students: Pre-Professional Students at GVSU and Physician Assistants Students Across the United States*

Communication is the foundation of patient-clinician interactions, and is a factor in successful medical outcomes. As the U.S. becomes more heterogeneous, it is imperative to teach students communication skills that are adaptable to diverse populations. The first step is identifying perception of their communication skills, then development of an improved curriculum.

## Research and Presentations

Student Scholars Day

## Leadership Activities

Pre-PA Club  
Relay for Life

## Internships and Practicum Experiences

Emergency Medical Technician (EMT)

## Plans after Graduation

Will be attending Grand Valley State University's Physician Assistant Program



# David Salerno

**Major:** *Communication Studies with a minor in Mathematics*

## Senior Project

*Communication, Music, and the Midwest.*

A video essay looking into the world of the Midwest underground music scene. By using communication theory and field experience I was able to critically examine this underappreciated subculture.

## Research and Presentations

Holland Helpers (HRNS 313)

Nonverbal Communication and Flirting (COM 375)

## Activities and Awards

Grand Valley Rowing freshman year.

## Internships and Practicum Experiences

Engineering Intern at OMT-VEYHL from 2016 to 2019

## Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley

Graduating with Honors and a 3.4 GPA

## Plans after Graduation

To Find a fulfilling career that allows me to combine the knowledge I learned at GVSU with my passion for music.





# Christine Sankey

**Major:** *Music*

## **Senior Project**

*Vocal Pedagogy: An exploration of Italian and German styles of singing*

I explored the similarities and differences between Nationals School of Singing in Italy, Germany and America.

## **Activities and Awards**

Betty Van Andel Scholarship Award.

Grand Rapids Opera Vocal Competition Runner-Up Award.

Grand Rapids Grand Award winner best supporting actress - Oklahoma

Scholarship award for study abroad program in Urbino, Italy (Musica Nelle Marche)

## **Study Abroad Experience**

Musica Nelle Marche, 1 month long study abroad program in Italy for opera

## **Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley**

Growing as a musician and discovering who I am

## **Plans after Graduation**

After a gap year, I will be pursuing graduate school in vocal performance.



# Cali Savage

**Major:** *Allied Health Sciences with a minor in Chemistry*

## Senior Project

*The Breiner Bibliography: An Analysis*

A reanalyzed and finalization of the original Breiner Bibliography, created in 1949, along with an analytical view of how the bibliography was created and American historical trends that impacted the family's migration, religion, and family model.

## Leadership Activities

Was the South-End Student Lead Manager of the Grand Valley State University I.T. Department where I managed over twenty student workers and all South Campus technology labs.

## Activities and Awards

Volunteered at the Helen Devos Children's Hospital in the inpatient care unit.

## Internships and Practicum Experiences

Interned at Materialise, an innovative additive manufacturing company.

## Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley

Getting to work in the I.T. department, learning how to combine leadership skills with my academics.

## Plans after Graduation

I plan on getting an advanced master's degree in nursing and eventually get a Ph.D. in nursing.



# Alyssa Schafer

**Majors:** *Biomedical Sciences & Pre-Physical Therapy*

## Senior Project

*Variance in Incidence and Consequence of Anterior Cruciate Ligament Injury Among the Sexes: Prevention and Training Considerations.*

The purpose of my literary research was to compile results from a multitude of studies that show possible contributing factors affecting the unequal incidence of Anterior Cruciate Ligament injuries across the sexes, and to offer strategies on prevention and rehabilitation of the injury.

## Research and Presentations

Research done on Robotic Assisted Gait Training in my senior

capstone course.

## Leadership Activities

Senior Microbiology Lab teaching assistant

## Activities and Awards

I was a kids in motion community volunteer during my freshman year, I volunteered at Sparrow Hospital the summer before my sophomore year, I was a student volunteer at Mary Free Bed during my junior year, and I've been in GVSU's pre-physical therapy club all 4 years at GVSU.

## Study Abroad Experience

I participated in a pre-physical therapy fellowship abroad in Greece from May-June during the summer following my Junior year at GVSU.

## Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley

My greatest accomplishment was learning who I truly am and what I'm meant to do for this world. I wouldn't have been able to figure it out if it weren't for Grand Valley and all the people I've met here.

## Plans after Graduation

I will be taking a gap year following the end of undergraduate classes, during which I will be applying for and preparing to attend a Physical Therapy Doctorate program.



# Paige Schedin

**Major:** *Nursing*

## **Senior Project**

*Why Don't They Come Here Legally? Understanding Immigration and Breaking the Stigma*

My senior project included an in-depth research paper on the topic of immigration and the role of the nurse as well as a pamphlet provided to the public. This project aimed to inform students, faculty, and healthcare providers of the role of immigration in our community.

## **Research and Presentations**

KCON Community Health Capstone

## **Leadership Activities**

Campus Ministry Serve Global Team  
Campus Ministry Life Group Leader  
Simulation Lab Assistant Mentor

## **Activities and Awards**

Sigma Theta Tau International

## **Study Abroad Experience**

San Jose, Costa Rica

## **Internships and Practicum Experiences**

Clinical Immersion: St. Mary's Mercy Health Emergency Department

## **Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley**

My greatest accomplishment while at Grand Valley was completing my volunteer trip to San Jose, Costa Rica. This trip helped teach the importance of cross-cultural communication and compassion.

## **Plans after Graduation**

I plan to work as a Registered Nurse in Chicago, IL. I hope to work on a medical-surgical unit as well as use Spanish through community involvement and volunteer work.



# Alison Scheffler

**Major:** *Computer Engineering with minors in Computer Science & Mathematics*

## **Senior Project**

*Intelligent Slat Sensor*

Intelligent Slat Sensor for Dematic. This is a prototype for Dematic to expand upon. It will give gather information about their conveyor system and display it via a windows application. This will be used to determine when maintenance is needed.

## **Leadership Activities**

Tau Beta Pi - Recording Secretary

## **Activities and Awards**

Tau Beta Pi

## **Internships and Practicum Experiences**

Software Development Intern: Belcan (Jan. 2019 - Present)

Platform Software Intern: GE Aviation (Jan. 2018 - Jan. 2019)

Software Development Intern: GE Aviation (May 2017 - Aug. 2017)

Software Development Intern: BS & A Software (May 2016 - Aug. 2016)

## **Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley**

Maintaining a good GPA

## **Plans after Graduation**

Working as a software development intern at GE Aviation until I graduate in August.



# Kristin Schepke

**Major:** *Biology*

## **Senior Project**

*Genetic connectivity of eastern massasauga rattlesnake populations in Michigan.*

Eastern massasauga rattlesnakes natural habitat has been fragmented, leading to small isolated populations. We used microsatellite and statistical analyses to determine the level of gene flow between EMR populations in Michigan. Populations appear to have high levels of isolation but do not seem to be negatively affected by inbreeding depression.

## **Research and Presentations**

Outcrossing of a Colorado wildflower with mixed mating systems may lead to outbreeding depression.

## **Leadership Activities**

Vice President of Cru

Mentoring through Bethany Christian Services

## **Activities and Awards**

2019 Excellence-in-a-Discipline for the Department of Biology

Undergraduate Research Ambassador

GVSU Goldwater Scholarship Nomination, 2018

Ryan Brown Scholarship, RMBL, June 2018

## **Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley**

Conducting research at both Grand Valley and through an REU program at Rocky Mountain Biological Laboratory.

## **Plans after Graduation**

Intern with an international student ministry called Bridges International at Grand Valley.



# Joshua Schneider

**Majors:** *Statistics & Political Science*

## **Senior Project**

*Morality in Bureaucracy: A Case Analysis on Bureaucratic Structures and Outcomes*

This project discusses how bureaucratic structures hinder moral decision-making and create an environment of moral inversion for bureaucrats. This thesis analyzes the authorization of deadly force in the Nazi's Final Solution and US drone strikes in the War on Terror.

## **Research and Presentations**

OCED Health Spending Per Capita and Health Outcomes

## **Activities and Awards**

Staff Writer at The Black Sheep Newspaper

## **Internships and Practicum Experiences**

Project Management Intern at Farmers Insurance Company

## **Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley**

My greatest accomplishment at GVSU is when I got a picture with T. Haas.

## **Plans after Graduation**

Living my best life.



# Melanie Schnelbach

**Major:** *Biology with a minor in General Business*

## **Senior Project**

*Your Future Pet Vet*

I have created a personal blog to be used as an advising tool for pre-veterinary students to access correct and up to date information about preparing for veterinary school . I write about my experiences applying to veterinary school, interesting cases I have seen, and more.

## **Leadership Activities**

Pre-Veterinary Club Public Relations Officer

## **Activities and Awards**

I was involved in the Dissection/ Plastination Lab and was a teaching assistant for Comparative Vertebrate Anatomy.

## **Internships and Practicum Experiences**

Wildlife Rehabilitation Internship at Howell Nature Center

## **Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley**

My greatest accomplishment while at Grand Valley was developing my public speaking and leadership skills through the pre-veterinary club.

## **Plans after Graduation**

I am applying to veterinary school and hope to be admitted to Michigan State University College of Veterinary Medicine for the fall 2020 term.





# Amanda Schulte

**Majors:** *Economics & Political Science with a minor in Accounting*

## **Senior Project**

*An Analysis of America's Four Strongest Recessions*

Cross analysis of the contributing factors and public policy responses to the four most impactful recessions in the history of the United States - the Panic of 1873, the Panic of 1893, the Great Depression, and the 2008 Recession.

## **Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley**

Being able to focus my studies across four disciplines during my time here at Grand Valley and still managing to graduate in four years.

## **Plans after Graduation**

Take a gap year and then law school



# Casandra Schuster

**Major:** *Allied Health Sciences with a minor in Psychology*

## **Senior Project**

*Promoting Mental Wellness at Grand Valley State University*

In the pursuit to stop the stigma against mental health, I organized an event at a home GVSU basketball game to promote the new Lakers Listen program on campus. I incorporated on and off campus resources, made a video to be aired at halftime, and wrote a reflection.

## **Leadership Activities**

Student Athlete Advisory Committee, Team Representative  
Lakers Listen Member  
ANCHOR Peer Mentor

## **Activities and Awards**

Cross Country, Indoor and Outdoor Track & Field, Varsity Member  
Pre-Physician Assistant Club Member

## **Internships and Practicum Experiences**

Oasis of Hope of Grand Rapids, MI, Volunteer Medical Assistant  
Viola Startzman Clinic of Wooster, OH, Volunteer Medical Assistant  
Fountain View Assisted Living of Coopersville, MI, Resident Care Specialist and Med-Tech  
GVSU Microbiology Lab, Lab Assistant

## **Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley**

I made it through 4 years being a 3-season collegiate athlete while also achieving my goals of making it into Physician Assistant Studies program. This process taught me about myself, and even more about how I can best help others in the future, than I ever thought imaginable.

## **Plans after Graduation**

After graduation I plan to enjoy my last free summer with friends and family, as I will be attending GVSU's Physician Assistant Studies program in Fall.



# Ryan Schwaar

**Majors:** *Dance & Accounting*

## Senior Project

### *Move(r) Athleticwear*

I designed, sourced, created, and marketed a line of athletic wear, specifically geared towards dancers. I found that there is a lack of quality, inexpensive dancewear for men. Along with my adviser, I sourced materials and handmade a cohesive line of quality, danceable clothes, marketiby them on a self-designed website.

## Research and Presentations

Researched the crossovers of dance and visual art, as well as the origins and current manifestations of Salsa dance.

## Leadership Activities

Named Fellow in the Cook Leadership Academy  
Choreographer for Momentum & Dance Capstone

## Activities and Awards

Bretzlaff Scholarship Award (two time recipient)  
Alexander Calder Honors Scholarship  
Excellence-in-a-Discipline Award for Dance  
Placed first in FEI-West MI Essay Competition  
Upper-Division Dance Scholarship  
Member of Phi Kappa Phi & Beta Gamma Sigma

## Study Abroad Experience

Studied for a semester in Florence, Italy - Spring 2017

## Internships and Practicum Experiences

Management Intern at Hubbard Street Dance Chicago - Chicago, IL  
Intern / Summer Camp Coordinator at Dance Precisions - Anaheim Hills, CA  
Studio Intern at Associazione Demidoff - Florence, Italy

## Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley

Putting on my Senior Capstone this fall & having my self-choreographed solo chosen to represent GVSU at the American College Dance Association, and then having it chosen as one of the works to be featured at the conference s final gala.

## Plans after Graduation

I m moving to Chicago, IL, to be a Trainee at Cerqua Rivera Dance Theatre. I'll also be pursuing arts administration and dance performance opportunities throughout Chicago.



# Morgan Scollard

**Major:** *Exercise Science*

## **Senior Project**

*Literature Review of Clinical Addiction Theories*

A review of literature from a large base of disciplines (including psychology, public health, nursing, neuroscience) to help to discuss the strengths and weaknesses in each different theory about the cause of addiction and synthesize these theories to best understand how to treat addiction in a modern American clinical setting.

## **Research and Presentations**

Research on the Effect of Antioxidant Supplementation in Mid-Distance Runners

## **Leadership Activities**

CRLA-certified, small-group chemistry tutor

## **Activities and Awards**

Four years on the Deans List at GVSU

Spectrum Health Industries Inc. Scholarship recipient

Phi Kappa Phi Freshman Honoree

Three-time Traverse City Track Club Scholarship recipient

## **Study Abroad Experience**

Semester abroad in London, England at Kingston University studying Clinical Exercise Science

## **Internships and Practicum Experiences**

Internship at Holland Hospital in Cardiac and Pulmonary Rehabilitation

Fieldwork at Grand Valley's Injury Care Clinic

Nursing Technician at Spectrum Butterworth Hospital

## **Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley**

My greatest accomplishment at Grand Valley has been discovering my passion for exercise science. This major has perfectly synthesized my personal health and wellness philosophies, academic strengths, past clinical experiences and future career aspirations.

## **Plans after Graduation**

After graduation, I am planning on pursuing a Master's degree in Physician's Assistant studies. I am hopeful to continue my education with Grand Valley's program in my hometown of Traverse City.



# Hannah Scott

**Majors:** *International Relations & Political Science with a minor in Spanish*

## Senior Project

*Beware the Beautiful Game: How Bureaucrats Use Soccer to Beguile and Bully Their Way to Legitimacy*

Based on studies of qualities authoritarian regimes, this analysis compiles accounts of governments that were connected to soccer and illustrates how this contributed to creating legitimacy. Whether soccer was used to garner support or distract from oppression, this analysis illustrates its role as a tool to gain and remain in power.

## Leadership Activities

Served on Student Senate from 2017-2018 and as both Chief Executive Officer and Executive Director of College Republicans, as well as a Life Group Leader in Campus Ministry for two years.

## Study Abroad Experience

Studied for one semester at the Universidad Veritas in San Jose, Costa Rica.

## Internships and Practicum Experiences

Worked for one semester as a legislative intern in the Washington, DC office of United States Congressman John Moolenaar.

## Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley

My greatest accomplishment at Grand Valley has been working at the Mary Idema Pew Library on campus and growing in my ability to research and work with data as well as help my fellow students do the same.

## Plans after Graduation

After graduation I will be moving to Washington, DC to pursue a career in international relations



# Jennifer Shaffer

**Major:** *Allied Health Sciences with a minor in Spanish*

## Senior Project

*Comparing Acoustic Output of Vocalists Using Different Breathing Techniques*

A case study exploring the effect that breathing technique has on a singer's ability to produce highly resonant voice in a range known as the singer's formant

## Research and Presentations

Comparing Pitch Production in Vocalists and Non-vocalists (Winter Semester, 2018)

## Leadership Activities

Event Coordinator for Alpha Psi Omega

## Activities and Awards

Alpha Psi Omega Theatre Fraternity

La Tertulia Spanish Club

Productions with GVSU's theatre department

## Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley

Being inducted into the Phi Kappa Phi National Honor's Society for my academic achievement.

## Plans after Graduation

I will be headed to Purdue to pursue a master's degree in Speech-Language Pathology this fall.



# Sydney Shanley

**Major:** *Sociology*

## **Senior Project**

*The Effect of Media Representation on Drag Queens*

A sociological exploration on the media representation and newfound mainstream popularity of drag queens on performers in the Grand Rapids area.

## **Research and Presentations**

Presenting at Midwest Sociological Society conference

## **Activities and Awards**

Member of the Law Society

Member of the Humane Society

Member of Phi Kappa Phi

Member of Alpha Kappa Delta

## **Study Abroad Experience**

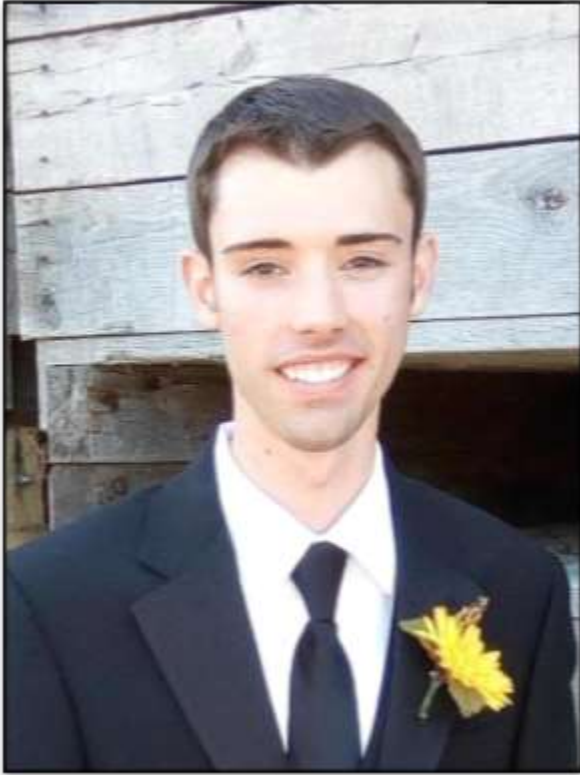
Summer study abroad in Amsterdam

## **Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley**

Graduating in 3 years

## **Plans after Graduation**

Attending law school at Arizona State University



# Allen Sietsema

**Major:** *Computer Engineering with minors in Computer Science & Mathematics*

## **Senior Project**

*Inspection Artificial Intelligence*

This project involves the development of a vision system to inspect automotive parts. It includes concepts such as 3D scanning, robotics, and data processing.

## **Research and Presentations**

Vision and machine learning research for Steelcase, Inc.

## **Leadership Activities**

Treasurer of Tau Beta Pi

## **Activities and Awards**

Excellence-in-a-Discipline Award for Computer Engineering

## **Internships and Practicum Experiences**

Steelcase, Inc., Software Development

Gentex Corporation, Embedded Software Development

## **Plans after Graduation**

Employment at Gentex Corporation





# Taylor Slais

**Major:** *Economics with minors in Mathematics & General Business*

## Senior Project

*Detroit: Economic Trends in the Past, Present, and Future*

I performed a case study of the economic history of the city of Detroit as well as the surrounding area. My main focus revolved around population, industry mix, and housing and how these elements explained the changes in Detroit and its potential for revival.

## Research and Presentations

Artistic Expressions of the Dirty Wars: A paper researching art related to the Dirty Wars of the 1970s and 80s in Argentina and Chile (presented at Student Scholars Day 2019).

## Activities and Awards

2015 - 2019: Momentum membership

2016 - 2019: Belly Dance Club membership

2019: I am Grand Valley Award

## Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley

I would consider my greatest accomplishment while at Grand Valley to be discovering my ability to multitask, in completing 154 credit hours, working a steady job, discovering a passion for data analytics, and maintaining a 4.0 for all four years of undergraduate studies.

## Plans after Graduation

I have an internship lined up at Plante Moran with their Data Analytics team for Summer 2019. I also plan on attending graduate school at Grand Valley to achieve my Masters of Science in Accounting.



# Makaela Smith

**Major:** *Allied Health Sciences with a minor in Biology*

## **Senior Project**

*Recruitment for Ghana: Honors Cultural Exchange and Service Learning Study Abroad Program*

I worked closely with Lindsey Short and Karyn Rabourn to encourage students to study abroad. We worked specifically to recruit for the Ghana: Honors Cultural Exchange and Service Learning program. For the first time, number of student applications passed the requirement needed for the trip.

## **Research and Presentations**

Treat Yourself: The Role of Spirituality in Reducing Stress in University Students

## **Study Abroad Experience**

Ghana: Honors Cultural Exchange and Service Learning

## **Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley**

Grand Valley provided me with the tools to step outside of my comfort zone and study abroad in Ghana, Africa. While there, I was able to dive into a new culture and volunteer alongside healthcare providers.

## **Plans after Graduation**

I am currently searching for a career in the healthcare field that will utilize my degree. I decided to take a year off from school and I plan to continue in the near future.



# Marijke Sommer

**Major:** *Psychology with a minor in Spanish*

## **Senior Project**

*Trauma Therapy and the Need for Cross Cultural Competence*

This project addresses the relevance of cross cultural competence for work in trauma therapy. I review the current literature on trauma therapy, the cross cultural variations in mental health conditions and symptoms and tie the two together, highlighting the need for more cultural competence in trauma therapy.

## **Research and Presentations**

Research on Procrastination and Perfectionism with Dr. Lawrence Burns

## **Leadership Activities**

FYLE - First Year Leadership Experience  
Site Leader for the GVSU Green Team

## **Activities and Awards**

QPR certified  
Achieved Dean's List  
Obtained the Mary and Wilhelm Seeger Scholarship, the GV Faculty Scholarship, the GV Award for Excellence, and the Grand Finish Grant

## **Study Abroad Experience**

I studied abroad in Bilbao, Spain at the Universidad de Deusto during the Fall 2017 semester.

## **Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley**

My greatest accomplishment at Grand Valley would have to be using my experiences while studying abroad to kindle my passion for helping refugees. It inspired my Honors Senior Project which is impactful for all trauma therapies and which will hopefully help improve the lives and reduce the suffering of refugees.

## **Plans after Graduation**

I will attend the University of Illinois Chicago to pursue a Master's of Social Work.



# Ashley Spagnuolo

**Major:** *Biomedical Sciences with a minor in Applied Statistics*

## Senior Project

### *Healthcare: A Work In Progress Worldwide*

After spending 6 weeks rotating through different hospitals and clinics in Ghana, on a study abroad trip, I wrote a comparative analysis paper on healthcare throughout Ghana compared to healthcare in the United States. This included how each system can benefit from the other, to improve healthcare as a whole.

## Research and Presentations

I have done research on the *Drosophila* Genome, in which I have performed sequence improvement and comparative annotation. This research is done in conjunction with several other schools throughout the United States as part of the Genomics Education Partnership (GEP).

## Leadership Activities

After volunteering at Gilda's Club for 2 years, I joined the Volunteer Leadership Team, where I work to help recruit and improve the experience for other volunteers!

## Activities and Awards

I volunteer weekly at Gilda's Club, where I work with kids 6 and under whom are going through a grieving process. I have also made the Dean's List at Grand Valley. As well as receiving a 3<sup>rd</sup> place and honorary mention award in a study abroad photo contest.

## Study Abroad Experience

I studied abroad in Ghana for a summer semester on a service learning trip, in which I interned in the Ghana Healthcare Services. This included spending six weeks rotating through a variety of different hospitals and outreach clinics. As well as taking a class on the history of Ghana.

## Internships and Practicum Experiences

My internship was through Ghana Healthcare services, during my time studying abroad.

## Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley

Being able to grow as a more compassionate and kind individual and truly learn how to be a successful healthcare provider to my patients.

## Plans after Graduation

I plan on applying to medical schools this summer, in hopes of pursuing a career as a physician in the field of pediatrics.



# Marisa Stankov

**Major:** *Anthropology with a minor in Art History*

## Senior Project

*Preventative Conservation of Family Collections*

I created a preventative conservation plan for my family's collection of photographs, coins, and historical documents. The plan addressed how to store these items and maintain the best possible conditions for their preservation, considering temperature, relative humidity, and light exposure. I also created a budget for implementing the plan.

## Research and Presentations

Participated in an archaeological excavation of two Archaic/Woodland Era Sites in Muskegon, Michigan

## Leadership Activities

Was a Resident Assistant during my sophomore year

## Activities and Awards

Member of Lambda Alpha: Anthropology Honors Society

Member of Omicron Delta Kappa: National Leadership Honors Society

## Study Abroad Experience

Unfortunately, I was not able to study abroad during my time at Grand Valley. I am currently applying for field schools over seas, and hoping I will have the opportunity to study abroad as a graduate of GV.

## Internships and Practicum Experiences

I participated in a six-week archaeological excavation of two Archaic/Woodland Period sites in Muskegon, Michigan during the summer of 2018.

## Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley

I started college as a pescatarian and I am finishing it as a vegan. I am proud to have followed my personal convictions and worked hard to learn how to cook and eat a healthy, balanced plant-based diet during my time as an undergraduate.

## Plans after Graduation

I am hoping to travel during the summer after my graduation. Afterwards, I am taking some time to figure out if graduate school is the right decision for me: I am currently considering applying for graduate programs in art conservation.



# Mallory Stevenson

**Major:** *English Language and Literature with a minor in Writing*

## Senior Project

*Language as a Tool of Resistance in Dystopian Fiction*

The concept of restriction of language is prevalent in dystopian literature, where totalitarian governments either change language or restrict it in order to gain total dominance over their citizens. By studying various novels, I seek to explore the role of language conversely as a tool of power and unity.

## Research and Presentations

Student Scholar's Day 2019: "The Sea Witch vs The Bad Boy: Men in the Mother Role of Hairspray"

Linguistic Research with Professor Remlinger (presently untitled)

## Leadership Activities

Honors Mentor (2017-2019)

Honors Mentor Council (2017-2018)

Honors Curriculum Development Committee Member

## Activities and Awards

Dean's List (Fall 2016-Winter 2019)

Gilbert and Patricia Davis Merit Scholarship

Love Your Melon Campus Crew (Fall 2017-Winter 2019)

I Am Grand Valley Leadership Award (2019)

InWriting Copyeditor (Fall 2018)

## Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley

My greatest accomplishment at Grand Valley has been completing the English Department Capstone Thesis. After switching my major from Dance to English during my freshman year, I have worked hard to complete my degree in something I am passionate about and still graduate a year early.

## Plans after Graduation

My hope is to one day work as a copyeditor in a publishing company. I do not have any solid plans as of yet, but I am definitely working towards my dream job.



# Hannah Stoliker

**Majors:** *Marketing & Finance*

## Senior Project

*Bigger Than Bitcoin: Impacts of Blockchain Technology on Supply Chains*

Blockchain's popularity has driven numerous industries to explore potential applications beyond finance in areas like supply chain management. Blockchain is a distributed peer-to-peer ledger supported by consensus, provenance, immutability, and finality. When properly applied, these characteristics may help improve supply chain reliability, responsiveness, agility, costs, and asset management efficiency.

## Research and Presentations

My freshman year I delivered a presentation on innovation in radio advertising at the Mid-East Honors Association annual conference in Richmond, Indiana.

## Leadership Activities

My sophomore year I helped mentor students in the freshman honors sequence Social Product Innovation.

## Activities and Awards

Marketing & Administrative Employee of the Year - GVSU Campus Recreation

## Internships and Practicum Experiences

Idea-to-Market Finance Intern - Amway

Game Day Promotions Intern - Grand Rapids Drive

## Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley

I'm most proud of my work as a Scholarship Competition Volunteer for the Honors College. It was rewarding to share my passion for GVSU with prospective students and their families. I loved when students who competed would approach me the following year and thank me for helping them choose GVSU.

## Plans after Graduation

My soon-to-be husband and I will be moving to Grand Rapids. I will be starting my career at Amway working as an Associate Financial Analyst in their Finance Rotation Program.



# Haley Sullivan

**Majors:** *Biomedical Sciences & Behavioral Neuroscience*

## **Senior Project**

*Service Learning with Ghanaian Healthcare*

Haley's paper focused on Ghanaian healthcare structure and her personal experiences touring Community-Based Health Planning and Services compounds in the Ashanti Region of Ghana. Additionally, she designed and delivered educational infographic notecards focused on non-communicable diseases that will assist nurses with monthly educational outreach in their communities.

## **Leadership Activities**

Haley has been a part of Universities Allied for Essential Medicines Executive Board for three years. As a Leader, she has organized a 5k walk for clean water, several documentary discussions, UAEM's Opioid Public Health Crisis Panel, and UAEM's Health Advocacy Center.

## **Activities and Awards**

Haley has volunteered with the following organizations in undergrad: Pals Student Mentors, Universities Allied for Essential Medicines, MSUCHM Pipeline Program, Arts in Motion, Evergreen Day Center, National Multiple Sclerosis Society, ISHEW, Challenging Heights, and Lakerthon.

## **Study Abroad Experience**

In Summer of 2016, Haley studied abroad in Ghana, West Africa for seven weeks. She studied non-governmental organizations at the University of Ghana, Legon and worked with an NGO called International Sustainability of Health, Education, and Water. Additionally, she attended clinical rotations in communities surrounding Winneba.

## **Internships and Practicum Experiences**

Haley gained clinical experience on an adult inpatient behavioral health unit for over two years in Holland, Michigan as a mental health assistant. She was an active member of the mental health team taking on roles such as patient observer, mental health approach coach, and dialectical behavioral therapy skills educator.

## **Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley**

Haley led the organization on an event called the 'Opioid Public Health Crisis Panel' in Spring, 2018. The panel served to function as both educational awareness of the opioid epidemic and an integrative platform of Grand Rapids professionals to approach the crisis practically and effectively at a regional level.

## **Plans after Graduation**

Haley is moving to Harrogate, Tennessee in July to attend Lincoln Memorial University-Debusk College of Osteopathic Medicine. Haley plans to focus her medical interests on rural healthcare and advocacy for the underserved.





# Emily Sund

**Major:** *Biochemistry with a minor in Criminal Justice*

## Senior Project

*Importance of Clean Water*

I created a small booklet about the importance of drinking clean water and having access to clean water. This book was made for ISHEW, a local organization in Ghana, that I worked with when I studied abroad.

## Research and Presentations

Research: Capillary electrophoresis of GAP-43

Presentations: Student Scholar's Day for GAP-43 research

## Leadership Activities

Dance Marathon Planning Committee

## Activities and Awards

Dean's List

GV Award for Excellence

GV Presidential Scholarship

## Study Abroad Experience

Ghana: Honors Cultural Exchange & Service Learning

## Internships and Practicum Experiences

I have an internship with the Michigan State Police Crime Lab for the summer.

## Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley

Helping raise money for the children at Helen DeVos Children's Hospital through Dance Marathon.

## Plans after Graduation

I plan on attending graduate school to obtain a Master's degree in Forensic Science.



# Taylor Szost

**Major:** *Biomedical Sciences*

## **Senior Project**

*Helminth and Protozoa Infestation and Prevention in the Low-Income Areas of Belize*

The purpose of my honors project was to review the issues that lead to high intestinal parasite prevalence in low-income rural and urban communities in Belize. Solutions to the issues were also given, along with a brochure to spread the solutions amongst the population.

## **Research and Presentations**

I worked with Professor Strictler in the plastination lab to dissect and plastinate multiple specimen to further demonstrate difficult topics in the anatomy labs. I also dissected a human, deer and cow heart to create a comparative anatomy poster to present at Student Scholar's Day.

## **Leadership Activities**

During my time at Grand Valley, I have become a site leader at The Boys and Girls Club in Holland and Godfrey Elementary School through the club, Kids in Motion. I also am leading a tennis program through the Girls and Boys Club in Grand Rapids.

## **Activities and Awards**

Grand Valley Award of Excellence, Grand Finish Grant, BMS Graduate of Distinction Award

## **Study Abroad Experience**

- Mission trip to Belize to bring medical care to the impoverished communities.
- Medical Fellowship to Greece through the Atlantis Fellowship.

## **Internships and Practicum Experiences**

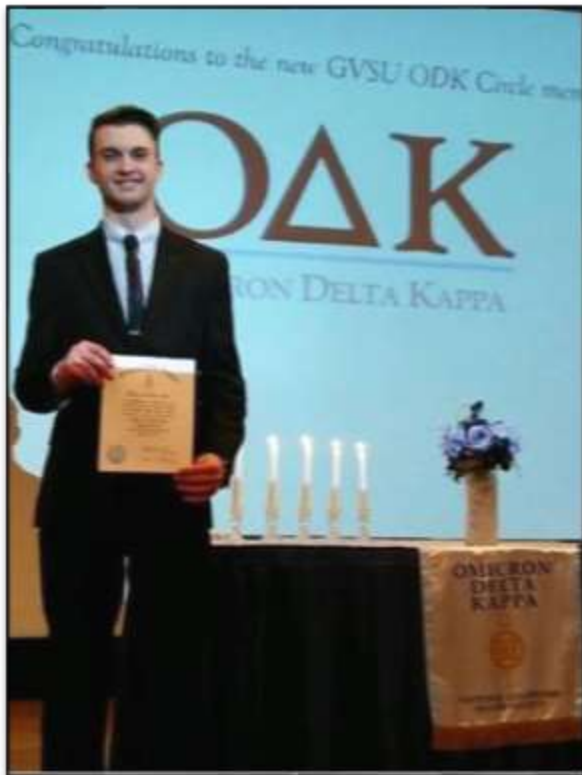
- Volunteered in endoscopy at Hackley Hospital (100 hours)
- Worked at Hackley Hospital as a phlebotomist for 2 years

## **Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley**

My greatest accomplishment at Grand Valley was becoming involved with volunteering at the Boys and Girls club. I believe the opportunity allowed me to bring service to a community who is underserved. I also believe this allowed me to make a big difference

## **Plans after Graduation**

I plan to take a gap year and then attend Michigan State College of Osteopathic Medicine to become an anesthesiologist.



# Tyler Szymkowski

**Major:** *Engineering*

## **Senior Project**

*Spectrum Health Innovation Surgical Tool Bio-burden Removal*

Our team was responsible for developing a product for use in the operating room to remove bio-burden from surgical tools, with the goal of reducing infection rates and improving turnover time.

## **Research and Presentations**

Participated in a team project for NASA to develop a mechanism for sealing holes on pressurized modules on the International Space Station. We designed a solution, which was tested by NASA at the Neutral Buoyancy Laboratory.

## **Leadership Activities**

Led a team to develop a tracheotomy care device, which holds a patient's breathing tube to make tube tie changes safer and more convenient.

## **Activities and Awards**

Served as a Student Senate Appropriations Committee member and as treasurer of Omicron Delta Kappa Honors Organization.

## **Internships and Practicum Experiences**

Worked for three full semesters at Nissan Technical Center, focusing primarily on the development and testing of autonomous vehicles and Nissan's Pro-Pilot Assist system.

## **Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley**

My greatest accomplishment was learning how to balance my free time with my academics, and when it's necessary to tip that balance one way or the other.

## **Plans after Graduation**

I have accepted a full time position with Nissan and will start working in August.



# Ted Tabor

**Major:** *Psychology with a minor in Biology*

## Senior Project

*Living with Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy (DMD)*

A literature review summarizing the genetic basis, development, and prognosis of Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy (DMD)--a progressive neuromuscular disease--along with a compilation of treatment options and resources within West Michigan. This research cumulated in an informational pamphlet which serves as a resource for related health professionals, individuals with DMD, and their families.

## Leadership Activities

Resident Assistant, Niemeyer Living Center – 2017-2019  
President, Genetic Counseling Organization (preprofessional

student organization) – 2016-2019

Fellow, Cook Leadership Academy – 2018-2019

Vice President and Recruitment Chair, Oxfam – 2016-2018

## Activities and Awards

Student Assistant, Frederik Meijer Honors College Student Assistant – 2016-2019

Volunteer, Children's Advocacy Center of Kent County – 2018-2019

Dean's List – 2015-2019

Award for Academic Excellence – 2015-2019

I am Grand Valley Award – 2016-2019

## Study Abroad Experience

New Zealand – Auckland University of Technology – Winter Semester of 2017

## Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley

I have found a lot of value in my leadership experiences on campus, especially as a Resident Assistant and Cook Leadership Academy Fellow. I am proud to have worked alongside such impressive peers, and am honored to call them my friends. Their positive impact my collegiate success and overall wellbeing is undeniable.

## Plans after Graduation

To spend the summer traveling before attaining a Master's degree in Genetic Counseling.



# Erika Taukert

**Major:** *Social Work with minors in Juvenile Justice & Sociology*

## Senior Project

*What are the implications of adopting a child that is a different race than the adoptive family, for both the family and the child?*

Completed a 14-page research paper assessing transracial adoption and the implications for the children and adoptive families

## Research and Presentations

Adoption Associates Blog Talk Radio Featured Speaker  
Adoption Associates Fundraising Gala Featured Video Presentation

## Leadership Activities

Alpha Sigma Alpha Sorority - Panhellenic Delegate Chair  
Panhellenic Association - Rho Gamma  
Junior Panhellenic Delegate - Public Relations Chair  
Relay for Life - Team Captain

## Activities and Awards

Activities: Alpha Sigma Alpha Sorority  
Awards: School of Social Work Field Education Outstanding Achievement Award Recipient, Panhellenic continuing education scholarship, Panhellenic Community Service Award

## Internships and Practicum Experiences

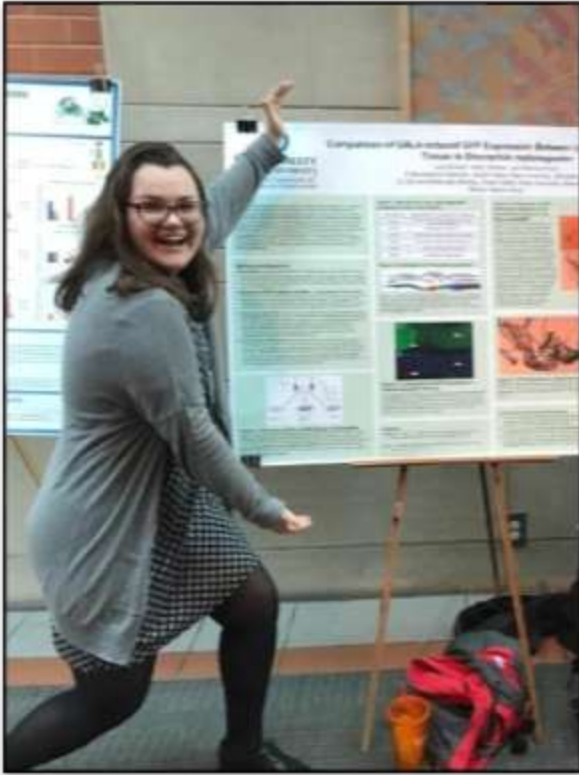
Great Lakes Caring Hospice Volunteer, Crisis Text Line Volunteer, Wellspring Lutheran Services Intern, Employee at D.A. Blodgett - St. John's: Behavioral Supports Specialist, Head Start for Kent County volunteer, Adoption Associates Intern

## Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley

Building my time management skills through consistently working three jobs, completing an internship in foster care, being involved on campus in a sorority, and taking 20 credits, while maintaining and building strong academic and professional success.

## Plans after Graduation

I have been accepted to the Peace Corps as well as Grand Valley, Western Michigan, Michigan State, and Arizona State for grad school. I plan to pursue my Master of Social Work degree through Arizona State University while working full time as a foster care case manager at Wellspring Lutheran Services.



# Kelly Tekiela

**Major:** *Cell & Molecular Biology with a minor in Writing*

## Senior Project

*A Rhetorical Analysis of Online Advertising in Biotechnology*

This project aims to investigate the online advertising strategies used by four successful biotechnology companies. The websites chosen were rhetorically analyzed using criteria of design and language, and evaluated by the ethos established. This information can serve as a preliminary framework for how companies in this industry could market effectively.

## Research and Presentations

My undergraduate research project is titled "Functional characterization of histamine in *D. melanogaster* enteric tissue". I have presented stages of this research at Student Scholars Day three times, and our work was also presented by my fellow labmates at the Annual *Drosophila* Research Conference in 2017 and 2019.

## Leadership Activities

Vice President of the Organization for Professional Writers  
Secretary (past) & APSA Liaison (present) of the Pre-MD/PhD Club

## Activities and Awards

Writing Consultant at the Fred Meijer Center for Writing & Michigan Authors  
I Am Grand Valley Award recipient

## Internships and Practicum Experiences

Medical Devices Sales Internship at GC America

## Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley

My greatest accomplishment has been my work with students at the Writing Center. We help students feel more confident in their writing abilities, and it has been a very special and gratifying experience.

## Plans after Graduation

I plan to pursue a career in medical writing.



# Madison Telder

**Major:** *Nursing*

## **Senior Project**

*Post-Neonatal Intensive Care Unit Discharge Concerns*

My senior project investigated what concerns and problems parents encountered after being discharged from the NICU. I also developed a short survey based on that research to send to parents as a part of a future research project.

## **Research and Presentations**

I completed my nursing community health capstone project at the Kent County Health Department. We researched and presented on adolescent pre-conception health.

## **Activities and Awards**

I was a member of the Student Nurses Association. Through SNA, I was able to participate in many different volunteer activities at places like Kid's Food Basket and the Other Way Ministries. I was also a volunteer at Helen DeVos Children's Hospital in the emergency department.

## **Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley**

My greatest accomplishment while at Grand Valley was completing my nursing capstone project and feeling like our presentation really made a difference and educated adolescents in our local community about their health.

## **Plans after Graduation**

After graduation, I plan to stay in Grand Rapids and get a nursing job at Helen DeVos Children's Hospital. I also plan to eventually go back to school to become a nurse practitioner.



# Sara Terwillegar

**Major:** *Marketing General Management*

## **Senior Project**

*Homelessness in Grand Rapids: The History, The Problem, and Possible Solutions*

Researched and analyzed trends and causes of homelessness in the Greater Grand Rapids area. Also researched assistance programs aimed at securing residency for homeless and at-risk individuals, local agencies that provide food, shelter, and medical services, and ways that locals can give back and fight to end homelessness.

## **Leadership Activities**

Member of Phi Sigma Sigma, where positions have included Risk Management Chairperson, Standards Board Representative, and Multicultural Chairperson  
Order of Omega Honor Society Member  
National Society of Collegiate Scholars

## **Internships and Practicum Experiences**

Sales & Management Intern at The Buckle, Inc.  
Marketing Intern with GVSU Athletics

## **Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley**

Being able to fundraise and/or donate significant contributions to many local and national philanthropies, including Kids in Need Foundation, Kids' Food Basket, Michigan Blood, Relay for Life, and Mel Trotter Ministries.

## **Plans after Graduation**

After graduation, I will work for Brookstone Realty Management, specializing in both luxury and low-income property management. I will be taking the LSAT in the fall, and plan to pursue law school in 2020.





# Cole Thompson

**Major:** *Religious Studies*

## **Senior Project**

*Transcendental and Ontological Argument for the Necessary Existence of a Multipersonal Creator God from Consciousness as an Immaterial Emergent Property*

Arguing from consciousness as a concrete object, emergent property, and requisite for the act of creation, I deduce the existence of an ontologically necessary, maximally great Being with a plurality of consubstantial, maximally great persons.

## **Research and Presentations**

Honors Thesis: Trinitarian Argument for the Necessary Existence of and Metaphysical Functionality within the Godhead.

## **Leadership Activities**

President of GVSU's Ratio Christi club

Apologetics teacher at St. John Lutheran Evangelical Church

## **Activities and Awards**

Award for Excellence Scholarship

Nichols Sustainability Scholarship

Certificate of Academic Excellence in Cell and Molecular Biology

Dean's List

## **Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley**

Finding an amazing group of God-fearing friends.

## **Plans after Graduation**

Finish my BSN at Madonna University, study philosophy of religion, and become an author of Christian apologetics.



# Jacob Timmerman

**Major:** *Electrical Engineering*

## **Senior Project**

*Koops Engineering Senior Design Project*

The project is a research and design project based on engineering design, testing, and data analysis.

## **Leadership Activities**

President of the Michigan Lambda Tau Beta Pi Chapter  
(Winter 2018 - Winter 2019)

## **Internships and Practicum Experiences**

Engineering Co-Op, Koops, Inc. (2017 - 2018)

## **Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley**

While president of the MI Lambda Tau Beta Chapter, successfully increased chapter activities and recruitment.

## **Plans after Graduation**

Enjoy life and make money.



# Hannah Todd

**Majors:** *Psychology & Behavioral Neuroscience with a minor in Applied Statistics*

## Senior Project

*Social Functioning in Major Depressive Disorder and Borderline Personality Disorder*

Through a literature review, I am exploring how certain mental disorders may impact social functioning. I am comparing and contrasting the potential implications Major Depressive Disorder and Borderline Personality Disorder might have on the ability to make and maintain relationships.

## Research and Presentations

I worked in Dr. Bergman's lab for a year and a half exploring exercise-induced neurogenesis in crayfish.

## Leadership Activities

I am the president of Neuroscience Club for the 2018-2019 school-year. I was previously the vice-president.

## Activities and Awards

On top of being president of Neuroscience Club, I am also a member of Psi Chi. I am a recipient of the Grand Valley Presidential Scholarship. I am on the Dean's list. I was a Phi Kappa Phi Freshman Honoree.

## Study Abroad Experience

I studied abroad at the University of Roehampton in London, England for the summer of 2018. I studied the psychology of murder and art psychotherapy while I was there.

## Internships and Practicum Experiences

I interned at an elementary school mentoring students with learning deficits and behavioral issues.

## Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley

My greatest accomplishment at Grand Valley has been completing the Psychology and Behavioral Neuroscience majors and the Applied Statistics minor in three years.

## Plans after Graduation

I plan on completing a Master of Science program in Psychology at the University of Surrey in Guildford, England. After obtaining my master's, I plan to pursue a doctorate in psychology.



# Katherine Toenniges

**Major:** *Exercise Science with a minor in General Business*

## Senior Project

*The Role of Health and Fitness*

During my semester abroad to Australia I compared and contrasted the role of health and fitness in the culture between Australia and the United States.

## Leadership Activities

Event Coordinator for CHAARG - 2 years

President of CHAARG - 1 year

CHAARG - All woman's health and fitness organization at GV

## Study Abroad Experience

I spent a semester abroad at the University of the Sunshine Coast in Queensland, Australia.

## Internships and Practicum Experiences

I completed a 300 hour internship in corporate wellness with The McCahill Group at their Amway Fitness Facility.

## Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley

President of GV CHAARG.

## Plans after Graduation

I have accepted a full time position as a Fitness Specialist and Membership Coordinator with The McCahill Group. I will be at their Amway and Farmers Insurance sites.



# Joseph Trojniak

**Major:** *Electrical Engineering*

## **Senior Project**

*Baited Marten PIT Tracker*

Design a baited enclosure to allow martens to enter and exit as they please in order to record data in an effort to estimate the marten population.

## **Leadership Activities**

Peer Minister

Resident Assistant

## **Activities and Awards**

I am Grand Valley (x2)

## **Internships and Practicum Experiences**

E3 Compliance LLC - Engineering Coop

## **Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley**

Retaking a class that I had previously not passed, and acing that class.

## **Plans after Graduation**

Obtain an electrical engineering job in the Grand Rapids area.



# Madasyn Tyldesley

**Major:** *Criminal Justice with a minor in Juvenile Justice*

## **Senior Project**

*Juvenile Justice Practitioner Manual Contribution*

I wrote a historical chapter for a juvenile justice manual that will be published and used by probation officers.

## **Research and Presentations**

The Experience of Juveniles in the Criminal Justice Process --  
Research Paper for SWS

Mental Health and Criminal Justice-- Capstone Paper

## **Leadership Activities**

President of the Grand Valley State University Pompon Team

President of the Criminal Justice Student Association

Treasurer of the Alpha Phi Sigma Honors Criminal Justice Fraternity

## **Activities and Awards**

Most Dedicated- Pompon

Heart of the Team - Pompon

## **Internships and Practicum Experiences**

Internship at the Kent County Juvenile Detention Center Winter 2019

## **Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley**

Coaching the Pompon Team for the 2018-2019 season instead of playing.

## **Plans after Graduation**

I will go back to Detroit and begin my certificate in Paralegal Studies. I plan to work at a law firm.



# Nicholas Vande Kerkhoff

**Majors:** *Biomedical Sciences & Pre-Professional Preparation*

## **Senior Project**

*Improved Sex Education for Incoming Freshman*

We created a lesson plan to better convey important sexual education topics to incoming freshman. Based on research conducted we discovered that there is a lack of understanding of safe sex practices in underclassmen.

## **Leadership Activities**

Allendale High School Football Coach

## **Activities and Awards**

Red Cross Club

## **Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley**

Created a sexual education plan for incoming freshman to try and combat unsafe sex practices and promote healthy ones.

## **Plans after Graduation**

I plan to take a gap year and gain experience while working before I attend medical school.



# Haydn VanDenBerg

**Majors:** *Psychology & Sport Coaching*

## **Senior Project**

*Club Athletics and Academic Success*

This research studied the relationship between gender specific club athletics and academic success, focusing specifically on what factors are the greatest predictors of good scholarship. Input was given by athletes as to how Grand Valley could help to improve the relationship as well.

## **Research and Presentations**

Effects of Neuroticism and Performance Under Pressure on Attentional Control

## **Leadership Activities**

Jr. Panhellenic Vice President of Risk Management, Sigma Kappa Alumnae Relations Chairman, Campus Activities Board Event Director, Transitions Leader

## **Activities and Awards**

Sigma Kappa Sorority, Psi Chi International Honors Society in Psychology, Campus Activities Board, Pre-Law Society

Highest Panhellenic Woman GPA, I am Grand Valley, Phi Kappa Phi Honoree

## **Internships and Practicum Experiences**

Public Relations Assistant (internship) at Stature PR (London, ENG), Assistant Coach (internship) at GVSU Men's Club Lacrosse

## **Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley**

Although I am proud of the academic success I have had at GV, I believe my greatest accomplishment is personal growth I have experienced during college. I have created lifelong friends, expanded my worldview, and created memories that I will cherish forever.

## **Plans after Graduation**

I will be attending law school at Drake University, after which I plan to pursue a career as a professional sports agent!





# Eric VanVoorst

**Majors:** *Accounting & Finance*

## **Senior Project**

*The Impact of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act on Real Estate Investing*

I studied how the new tax law will impact real estate investing from a personal and business perspective. Topics covered range from basic interest deduction to things like the 1031 exchange and pass through income.

## **Activities and Awards**

Outstanding Student in Finance, Beta Gamma Sigma, GVSU Accounting Alumni Scholarship, Phi Kappa Phi Freshman Honoree, RMA Foundation Scholarship. I competed in the Association for Corporate Growth Cup, was part of the 1st place team in the RMA Commercial Banking Challenge, and am involved in the Finance Mentorship program.

## **Internships and Practicum Experiences**

I currently work in Business Valuation at Hungerford Valuation. Prior to that I worked as a commercial credit intern at Mercantile Bank and as a tax intern for BDO out of their San Francisco office.

## **Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley**

Receiving the Outstanding Student in Finance Award

## **Plans after Graduation**

I will be pursuing a Master of Accounting at the University of Michigan's Ross School of Business.



# Pamela Vredevoogd

**Major:** *Criminal Justice with a minor in Juvenile Justice*

## **Senior Project**

*An Examination, Evaluation, and Recommendation of Public Safety Services for Byron Township*

This project examines and evaluates the current allocation of public safety services to Byron Township and its residents. Furthermore, this project will evaluate and recommend alternative options for public safety services in the Township; such as the establishment of a dedicated Department of Public Safety.

## **Internships and Practicum Experiences**

Cadet: Kent County Sheriff's Office (2017-2019)

Cadet: Grand Valley Police Department (2016-2019)

## **Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley**

My greatest accomplishment is completing my Bachelor's Degree in 3 years. I'm a first generation college student, so simply completing my degree is an accomplishment, but pushing myself to do it in 3 years is a great achievement.

## **Plans after Graduation**

I plan on attending the 2019 Grand Valley Police Academy, then finding a job at a local West Michigan law enforcement agency, working as a local law enforcement officer.



# Luke Warner

**Major:** *Sport Management with a minor in General Business*

## Senior Project

*Israel-Palestine Conflict in Relation to American Christians*

I examined the conflict between Israel and Palestine in relation to the Christian faith in the United States by evaluating the beliefs of American Christians on the subject with surveys, interviews, and additional scholarly research.

## Leadership Activities

On the leadership team for Campus Ministry @ GVSU for two years.

## Activities and Awards

- Involved with Campus Ministry @ GVSU for four years
- Went on two missions trips (Dallas, TX and East Palo Alto, CA) through Campus Ministry Freshmen and Sophomore year Spring Break
- Member of the American Marketing Association
- Played every intramural sport possible

## Internships and Practicum Experiences

- Internship with the Grand Rapids Griffins for 2017-2018 season
- Events Intern at Indiana Sports Corp. (largest sports commission in US) Summer of 2018
- Marketing Intern for SMG Entertainment at Van Andel Arena in Fall of 2018
- Marketing and Sales Intern for SMG Entertainment at Van Andel Arena in Fall of 2018

## Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley

Fortunate enough to acquire four internships in my desired field in my time here.

## Plans after Graduation

Professionally, I plan to work full time for MaxOne, the company I currently intern for to pursue my aspirations of marketing in the world of sports.

Personally, I am getting married to my fiancee McKenzie in July :)



# Reuben Wattenhofer

**Major:** *Computer Information Systems with a minor in Mathematics*

## Senior Project

*Real-Time Hair Rendering*

This project goal was to write code that displays hair in a 3D scene both realistically and quickly (at least 60 frames per second). Techniques involved include specular highlighting, transparency, and shadows within the hair.

## Research and Presentations

Participated in an independent research project with Dr. Ed Aboufadel. The goal was to write a program that could output the 3D coordinates of any of the so-called Johnson solids, a well-documented group of convex polyhedra.

## Activities and Awards

Awarded membership with Phi Kappa Phi

## Internships and Practicum Experiences

Interned with the USC Institute for Creative Technologies as an undergraduate researcher last summer. Was involved in computer graphics work, especially in creating a shader for real-time eye rendering.

## Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley

Gaining a more globalized perspective.

## Plans after Graduation

I plan to enter the computer graphics industry, which may include obtaining a masters degree in computer science. I also want to travel abroad.



# Bailey Webb

**Majors:** *Accounting & Information Systems Management*

## Senior Project

*Standardized vs. Personalized Vision Structure: A Comparative Case Study in Ghana*

A comparative business research analysis focused on vision structures and their impact on the success of NGOs and the effective use of volunteers. Designed to spur further success for NGOs, in Ghana and elsewhere, by making them more efficient, specifically in their communication and application of resources like volunteers.

## Research and Presentations

Beta Alpha Psi Regional Meeting Best Practices Presentation in Ohio for our West Michigan Accounting Careers Awareness Initiative.

## Leadership Activities

Vice President of Kappa Beta Beta Alpha Psi, Honors Mentor for Orientation and Welcome Week, and a High School Leader for Young Life

## Activities and Awards

Volunteer Tax Preparer with United Way, Enterprise System Student Union Member, Benjamin A. Gilman Scholar, Seidman Dean's Advisory Board Scholar, Grand Valley's Award for Excellence, Grand Valley's Dean's List

## Study Abroad Experience

Winneba, Ghana: Honors Cultural Exchange and Service Learning Internship Experience

## Internships and Practicum Experiences

Risk Assurance Intern - PricewaterhouseCoopers, Volunteer Intern - ISHEW, Pursuing SAP Certification in August 2019

## Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley

Discovering management information systems has been an impactful point in my academic career. I have a true passion for this skillset, and genuinely enjoy all of these classes. By adding this second major, I have experienced opportunities I never realized existed and made connections to incredible professionals in this field.

## Plans after Graduation

After graduation, I am spending the summer as an intern at PwC in Detroit.



# Logan Wieber

**Major:** *Criminal Justice*

## **Senior Project**

*An Analysis of Crime Statistics and Public Safety Resources in Byron Township*

This project examines and evaluates the current allocation of public safety services to Byron Township and its residents. Furthermore, this project analyzes the growth of the Township and the effects this growth has on the crime statistics.

## **Activities and Awards**

Dean's List

## **Internships and Practicum Experiences**

I served as both an Intern and a Police Cadet with the Kentwood Police Department.

## **Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley**

My greatest accomplishment while at Grand Valley was in my Honors Junior Seminar when our class helped jump-start the redesign of the Honors College Curriculum.

## **Plans after Graduation**

After graduation, I hope to attain a career at a local police department so that I can give back to a local community that has played an important role in my life.



# Kathryn (Kate) Williams

**Major:** *Therapeutic Recreation*

## **Senior Project**

*The Use of Bibliotherapy by Certified Therapeutic Recreation Specialists (CTRS)*

Bibliotherapy is the use of literature for therapeutic purposes. Literature is recommended by a professional (i.e., a CTRS) who facilitates meaningful reading, debrief, and reflection for a therapeutic benefit. My project evaluated if CTRS use bibliotherapy, and if they have the necessary tools and training to do so.

## **Research and Presentations**

Use of Assistive Technology to Facilitate Employment for Individuals with Traumatic Brain Injury

## **Leadership Activities**

President, Sigma Kappa Sorority (2017)

President, Panhellenic Association (2018)

Leadership Team, Campus Ministry @ GVSU (2016-2019)

## **Activities and Awards**

Sigma Kappa Sorority

Panhellenic Association

Campus Ministry @ GVSU

## **Internships and Practicum Experiences**

Wellness Intern, Porter Hills Village

Developed programming for residents with dementia, including the piloting of a Montessori program.

## **Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley**

I am proud of my values-driven leadership of sorority women on campus and the positive changes I encouraged in the fraternity and sorority community.

## **Plans after Graduation**

Continuing at GVSU to pursue my master's of science in Occupational Therapy.



# Annette Williams

**Major:** *Nursing*

## **Senior Project**

*Educating Future Healthcare Professionals on Opioid Overdose Prevention and Response*

Worked with the Grand Rapids Red Project to teach students the health professions how to identify risk factors, recognize an opioid overdose, and respond to an opioid overdose using naloxone hydrochloride

## **Leadership Activities**

Part of the Campus Ministry leadership team from 2016-2018

## **Study Abroad Experience**

Independent study in Israel in 2016

## **Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley**

My senior project was my greatest accomplishment. It was rewarding to be able to share vital knowledge that empowered and equipped students to save a life in the event of an opioid overdose.

## **Plans after Graduation**

I plan to work as a registered nurse in the greater Grand Rapids area.





# Tom Williamson

**Major:** *Education & Group Social Studies with a minor in Math Secondary Teaching*

## **Senior Project**

*Student Perceptions of History*

High School social studies students were surveyed on their historical experiences outside of the classroom. The results are to benefit future pre-social studies teachers at Grand Valley State University.

## **Leadership Activities**

GVSU Taekwondo Club Treasurer (2017-2018)

## **Activities and Awards**

Francis Anne Kelleher Memorial Scholarship

National Collegiate Taekwondo Association National Champion (2018)

Provost Award for Outstanding Major in Group Social Studies Nomination (2019)

## **Study Abroad Experience**

GVSU Mathematics Arusha, Tanzania Study Abroad: Taught and studied in Tanzanian education for 4 weeks and participated in other enriching experiences.

## **Internships and Practicum Experiences**

Teacher Assisting: Wyoming Junior High. Student Teaching: Thornapple Kellogg High School.

## **Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley**

National Collegiate Taekwondo Association National Champion (2018)

## **Plans after Graduation**

Teaching Social Studies or Mathematics in the West Michigan area.



# Megan Wills

**Major:** *English & Education with minors in Applied Linguistics - Teaching & Math Secondary Teaching*

## Senior Project

*Language Learning Through Storytelling: A Project-Based ESL Unit*

I created a month-long unit plan for high school students learning English as a second or additional language where they practiced their speaking, listening, grammar, reading, and writing skills through writing and recording their own narrative stories.

## Research and Presentations

GVSU Teach-In Presenter

Research in Codeswitching & Language Attitudes in Post-Colonial South Africa

## Leadership Activities

Executive Board Member of Evolve Education Club

## Activities and Awards

"Distinguished Work in Applied Linguistics" Award

Phi Kappa Phi Honors Society

Sigma Tau Delta Honors Society

## Study Abroad Experience

GVSU English Education Study Abroad Program- Maastricht, Netherlands

## Internships and Practicum Experiences

Teacher Assistant at Grandville Middle School

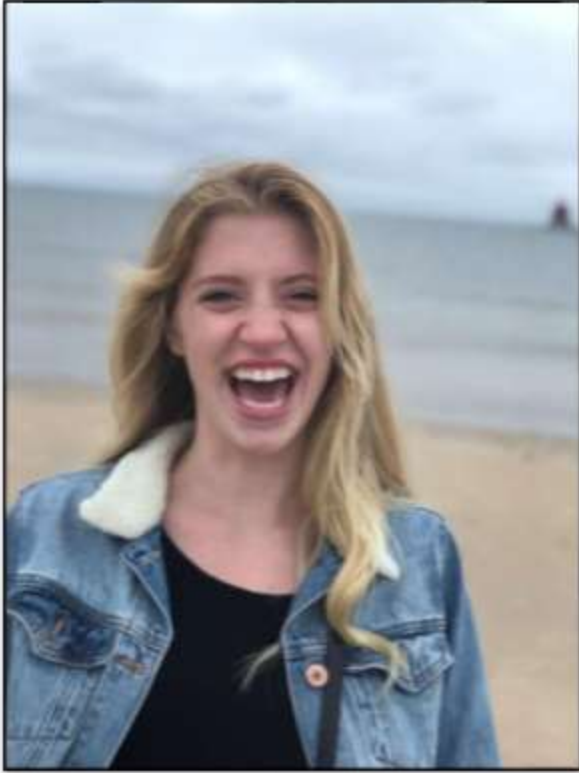
Student Teacher at West Ottawa High School

## Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley

My greatest accomplishments while at Grand Valley have been completing my linguistics research and studying abroad in the Netherlands.

## Plans after Graduation

Starting in the fall, I will be in Madrid, Spain teaching English for a year! After that, I plan to return to the US to find a full-time teaching position and pursue a graduate degree in Applied Linguistics.



# Amanda Witsaman

**Major:** *Hospitality Tourism Management*

## Senior Project

*The Importance of Internships for HTM Majors*

Through our senior project, we hope to inform incoming freshman within the HTM field of study about the importance of internships. Highlighting the steps to take in order to choose an internship that is right for each individual student. Additionally, we will discuss the benefits of the Disney College Program.

## Activities and Awards

mParks Conference & Trade Show: Future Professional Showcase GVSU Student Delegate (2019)

Grant Finish Grant Recipient - GVSU (2019)

American Council on Education Credit - Walt Disney Company College and International Program Internship (2017/2018)

Student Scholarship Winner - Resort and Commercial Recreation Association (2016)

Dean's List Recipient (2015 - 2019)

## Study Abroad Experience

Cannes Film Festival Study Abroad Program (May 2019)

## Internships and Practicum Experiences

Kiawah Island Golf Resort, South Carolina - Camp Counselor (Summer 2017 & 2018)

Disney Cast Member, Florida - Quick Service Food and Beverage Team Member (Fall 2017)

## Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley

My greatest accomplishment while in college was pushing myself out of my comfort zone. My time at Grand Valley has taught me to take risks and trust in myself. I will be forever grateful for the encouragement I have received from family, faculty, and students alike to follow my dreams.

## Plans after Graduation

I will be studying abroad in France, working at the Cannes Film Festival in May. I will then return to the Disney Company as part of the Children's Activities team. I will get to spend August - January creating magical experiences for families at Disney Resorts



# Olivia Witsaman

**Major:** *Hospitality Tourism Management*

## **Senior Project**

*The Importance of Internships for HTM Majors*

Through our senior project, we hope to inform incoming freshman within the HTM field of study about the importance of internships. Highlighting the steps to take in order to choose an internship that is for each individual student. Additionally, we will discuss the benefits of the Disney College Program.

## **Activities and Awards**

Member of Act on Racism, a club dedicated to analyzing as well as raising awareness about inequality through discussion and performance art.

Dean's List Recipient (2015-2019)

Recipient of the Grand Finish Grant (2018-2019)

## **Study Abroad Experience**

Cannes Film Festival Study Abroad Program (May 2019)

## **Internships and Practicum Experiences**

Seven Bridges Golf Club Banquet Supervisor

Disney Cast Member - Quick Service Food and Beverage Team Member

Kiawah Island Golf Resort - Camp Counselor

## **Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley**

My greatest accomplishment while at Grand Valley has to be my overall personal growth. I have discovered where my passions lie, developed friendships that will last a lifetime, and genuinely learned to love all parts of myself! :)

## **Plans after Graduation**

I will be studying abroad in France for two weeks in May. This opportunity will give me the chance to work at the Cannes Film Festival. After this, I plan to spend time exploring New York with my family before I head to Florida to work for the Disney Company



# Toni Wolfe

**Major:** *Behavioral Neuroscience with a minor in Biology*

## Senior Project

*The Psychological, Physiological, and Social Effects of Exercise and Sport on Special Military Populations: A Literature Review*

Breaking down common physical and mental issues that arise after or while participating in the military and discussing the pros and cons of exercise in each of those conditions.

## Research and Presentations

The Effects of Color on Perceived Intelligence

## Leadership Activities

Honors College Mentor

Vice President of Operations of the Alpha Sigma Tau Sorority

Co-Captain of the Women's Rugby Team

## Activities and Awards

Three years on the Women's rugby team

Four years in Alpha Sigma Tau

## Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley

My greatest accomplishment at Grand Valley was balancing rugby, my sorority, school, and my friends. Being able to accomplish everything that I wanted to at Grand Valley and getting into a couple graduate schools is definitely one of my biggest accomplishments.

## Plans after Graduation

I will be attending Marshall University's School of Physical Therapy to receive my Doctorate degree.



# Maureen Wood

**Major:** *Psychology & Economics with a minor in General Business*

## Senior Project

*How are language and music connected? An examination of the literature on the subject*

This project examined previous research on the relationship between music and language in the brain. Through the study, a likely connection was observed but the exact nature of it is unknown. In order to learn more about the connection, the authors proposed a study to examine this relationship in adults.

## Research and Presentations

Presenter, Grand Valley State University Student Scholar s Day [Spring 2018; Spring 2019]

Library Scholar [April 2019-August 2019]

Presenter, Grand Valley Psychology Department Colloquium [Fall 2017]

Research Assistant, Grand Valley Psychology Department [Fall/Winter 2017-Spring 2018]

## Leadership Activities

Resident Assistant

Finance Officer, Belly Dance Club

## Plans after Graduation

Planning to attend Indiana University-Bloomington as part of the School Psychology PhD program



# Jacob Woodland

**Major:** *Biology with a minor in General Business*

## **Senior Project**

*A Comparative Study between Dental Care in the United States and the Developing Country of Ghana*

Upon returning from my study abroad experience in Ghana where I observed several dental clinics in rural and urban areas, I compiled a report comparing the state of the Ghanaian dental system to the system currently in place in the United States.

## **Leadership Activities**

Campus Ministry Life Group Leader

## **Study Abroad Experience**

Ghana: Honors Cultural Exchange & Service Learning

## **Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley**

I was able to obtain a high GPA in the honors college while working 15-20 hours per week and juggling commitments to Campus Ministry.

## **Plans after Graduation**

After graduation I plan on getting a job in the field of biology before continuing my education at a graduate school that is yet to be determined.



# Brenna Wyffels

**Major:** *Allied Health Sciences*

## Senior Project

*Trans, Gender Non-Conforming, and Non-Binary Experiences with the US Health Care System*

This project identified health care obstacles faced by members of the trans, gender non-conforming, and non-binary community. Through interviews, this project elucidated possible solutions to eliminate health care barriers.

## Research and Presentations

Future State: This project aimed to find ways to prepare the Grand Rapids entry level work force for an increasingly automated economy. This project was sponsored by the City of Grand Rapids and the Frederick Meijer Honors College.

## Leadership Activities

Service Chair for Circle K International 2017-2019

## Activities and Awards

Dean's List, 2016-2019

I Am Grand Valley Honoree, 2018-2019

Sterling Heights Community Foundation Scholarship, 2016-2018

Phi Kappa Phi Freshman Honoree, 2016

Grand Valley State University Circle K International Member of the Semester, 2016

Grand Valley State University Presidential Scholarship, 2016

Grand Valley State University Award for Excellence, 2016

## Internships and Practicum Experiences

I've completed 600+ patient contact hours in the home health care setting since my freshman year.

## Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley

My greatest accomplishment is leaving my Circle K club better than I found it. Over the past 2 years, I've worked hard to bring quality service projects to members every week. I've also used service to bring my club closer together.

## Plans after Graduation

After graduation, I will be matriculating into Grand Valley's Master of Physician Assistant Studies program as a part of the Class of 2021.





# Jessica Wyn

**Major:** *Biomedical Sciences with a minor in Arabic*

## Senior Project

### *Guidebook to Eastern Medicine*

I worked with Prof. Toot to develop a guidebook to the foundations of Eastern medicine aimed at a Western clinician. I reviewed standard diagnostic procedures, herbalism, acupuncture, and long-term practices. In these reviews, I included relevant scientific studies alongside summaries of these traditional practices.

## Research and Presentations

I investigated the effect of Melatonin on the Caudate Putamen in mouse brains with Dr. Ramsson, and we are expecting to publish this year. I also worked with Dr. Maisel and Dr. Redzic on a second edition to *The Hajj Today*, where I wrote the chapter regarding Saudi Health Administration.

## Leadership Activities

I was a Teaching Assistant for the anatomy lab, BMS 309, where I helped Dr. Kegley teach and review information with the students. I am the lead undergraduate student in Dr. Ramsson's lab, and I regularly help develop goals for the lab and teach procedures to new students.

## Activities and Awards

BMS Graduate of Distinction, Student Summer Scholar, OURS Project Supplies Grant, GV Award for Excellence

## Study Abroad Experience

I studied abroad in the Grand Valley Oman and Dubai program, where I learned Arabic and Business in class, alongside cultural, political, and religious lessons in the streets.

## Internships and Practicum Experiences

Nurse Technician at Spectrum Health, CNA at Heather Hills Care Center, CNA at Brookcrest campus of Sunset Manor

## Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley

I developed a deep understanding of and curiosity for the sciences I love, but also was able to engage in philosophy, art and language. There is so much I wish to learn, but I used my time well at Grand Valley, and my personal character has grown.

## Plans after Graduation

I am in the process of applying to medical school and I plan to attend in the fall of 2020. I will spend my gap year exploring a new city, continuing to gain clinical experience, and pursuing old and new interests.



# Emily Yoxheimer

**Major:** *Biomedical Sciences with a minor in Biology*

## Senior Project

*Cross Stitch Designing: An Exploration in Color Theory*

I studied color through creations of my own cross stitch patterns and the subsequent cross stitches. I incorporated my biology minor by choosing seven animals, one from each continent, as subjects.

## Research and Presentations

The Consequences of Inadequate Sleep: A Review

## Leadership Activities

Risk Management Officer of Grand Valley Running Club, Student Tutor

## Activities and Awards

Grand Valley Running Club, I Am Grand Valley Award, Grand Valley Turkey Trot

## Internships and Practicum Experiences

I was a Certified Nursing Assistant for a year and half, and I shadowed a doctor of Osteopathic Medicine for a week.

## Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley

Academically, my greatest accomplishment is in the classes I retook. I knew I could do better, and I wanted to learn. I did not let a poor grade deter my interest or drive for learning.

In the extra-curricular realm, my greatest accomplishment was runni

## Plans after Graduation

Currently, I am still hunting for jobs. I plan to take a gap year or two and return to school for my Master's and Doctorate. I hope to become a professor someday, but for now I'll remain open-minded. The future looks bright!



# Kyle Zaremba

**Major:** *Biomedical Sciences*

## **Senior Project**

*Investigation of Chlorine Gas, Phosgene Gas, and Mustard Gas: Development, Use, Effects, and Treatments with a Focus on World War I*

I examined contemporary military and medical thought regarding the use, effects, and treatments of chlorine gas, phosgene gas, and mustard gas during World War I using primary sources mostly from the World War I era.

## **Research and Presentations**

I conducted clinical research with Comprehensive Urology regarding new and more efficient ways to diagnose and treat urinary tract infections by analyzing the gene composition of microorganisms present in the urine sample. I also did work on new methods to diagnose prostate cancer.

## **Leadership Activities**

I am a member of the Omicron Delta Kappa National Leadership Honors Society and have mentored a young boy from the Grand Rapids community through GVSU's PAL's program.

## **Activities and Awards**

I have earned the GV Award for Excellence and the BMS Graduate of Distinction Award. Also, I'm a member of National Society of Collegiate Scholars and the pre-med club and work as a microbiology lab assistant for GVSU.

## **Internships and Practicum Experiences**

I travelled to Nicaragua through International Service Learning to aid local physicians in underserved rural communities and have spent over 100 hours shadowing physicians ranging from family practice to vascular surgery.

## **Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley**

I consider my greatest achievement to be putting in the time and effort both academically and with extracurriculars to earn the Biomedical Sciences Graduate of Distinction Award and become a successful applicant for medical school. I had multiple acceptances at medical schools across the country.

## **Plans after Graduation**

I will be attending Michigan State University College of Osteopathic Medicine in June.



# Kaylin Zaroukian

**Major:** *Computer Science with a minor in Mathematics*

## Senior Project

*Reflecting on Ranking: The Effect of Self-perception From Greek-Based Sites*

Through our Honors Senior Project, we hope to create awareness and provide education to members of the Greek community at GVSU, specifically Panhellenic, about the impacts gossip sites have on the way people, both inside and outside of the Greek community, view Fraternity and Sorority Life.

## Research and Presentations

Completed research on GVSU's students' opinions on genetically modified foods for my Honors Junior Seminar: Biotechnology and the World.

## Leadership Activities

Served as a Rho Gamma for the Panhellenic community in 2017. Also served as president of UPE Honors CIS Fraternity from 2017-2018.

## Activities and Awards

Member of Sigma Sigma Sigma sorority and UPE Honors Fraternity.

## Internships and Practicum Experiences

Worked as a software engineer intern at Tome Software in Royal Oak, MI during the summer of 2018.

## Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley

Completing my senior capstone project.

## Plans after Graduation

I will be working as a Software Engineer at Learning A-Z in Ann Arbor, MI.



# Emily Zerrenner

**Major:** *Writing with a minor in LGBTQ Studies*

## Senior Project

*Unable to Carry: A Novella about Infertility and Sisterhood*

My senior project is a creative endeavor that seeks to document infertility from the perspective of a younger sister to the woman who is dealing with it. It is fictional, though it pulls from my own experiences.

## Research and Presentations

SNAPS: The Public and Private Benefits of Consultant-to-Consultant Appreciation for the Michigan Writing Centers Association Conference, Students First: Library Philosophies for the UX Student Team at the Mary Idema Pew Library

## Leadership Activities

Lead Writing Consultant at the Fred Meijer Center for Writing, Lead User Experience Student at the Mary Idema Pew Library, President of the Organization for Professional Writers, Reader, Fiction Editor, and Layout Designer for fishladder, Co-Director of the Student Reading Series, E-board Member of In the Margins, Honors Mentor

## Activities and Awards

Excellence in a Discipline for Writing

Glenn A. Niemeyer Award Nominee

Internship Award from the Writing Department

Distinction in Writing

Oldenburg Awards: 1st place twice and second place once

Bear River Writers Conference Attendee

Association of Writers and Writers' Programs Attendee twice

WGS 491 Menstrual Product Drive: Collected 5,929 single use products to donate to schools

## Internships and Practicum Experiences

My internship experience was for the GVSU Writing Department, in which I created career resources on editing and freelancing for current and incoming writing students. I did a great deal of research, including interviewing current professionals. I also helped to revitalize a student organization.

## Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley

One of my greatest accomplishments at Grand Valley was all the work I did with students at my two on-campus jobs at the library and the writing center. It was invaluable for my own growth and learning.

## Plans after Graduation

I was accepted to the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign for a Masters in Library Science. I plan to attend in Fall 2020 after taking a year to work in my field and bond with my new niece, who will be arriving in June 2019.



# Kaylin Zocharski

**Major:** *Political Science International Relations  
Human Rights*

## **Senior Project**

*The Relationship Between Human Rights and Democracy*

This project examines how democracy and its globalization has promoted some human rights, and ignored others. In addition, an increased number of human rights claims have made it difficult for the government to fulfill the rights of its citizens. Perhaps there is such a thing as too many human rights.

## **Leadership Activities**

RA

Chairman of the GVSU Women's Water Polo Club

## **Activities and Awards**

I am Grand Valley

## **Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley**

My greatest accomplishment is finishing my senior project for the honors college. It demonstrated my abilities to complete a huge project and be innovative to provide something unique to the human rights realm.

## **Plans after Graduation**

I am attending GVSU in the College Student Affairs Leadership program, and will be earning a Masters in Education for Higher Ed. After that I would like to work in student affairs, academia, or be a Dean of Students or President of a University.



# Katarina Zomer

**Majors:** *International Relations & French*

## Senior Project

*Religious Turmoil in France and Central Europe*

Since 300 AD, the Catholic Church had a strong hold on the politics and society in Central Europe. Between the 10th and 18th century, heresies in France rose to challenge the belief system that was in place. Until religious freedom was ensured, the Cathars and Waldensians were heavily persecuted.

## Research and Presentations

An autobiography titled: *Du connu à l'inconnu*

A bivariate and multivariate analysis titled: *Has globalization improved the socioeconomic status of women around the world? Factors Associated with Women's Socioeconomic Status*

## Leadership Activities

Co-president of the GVSU Chapter of the Pi Delta Phi French National Honors Society

Board member of "Les Francophiles" French Club

## Activities and Awards

The 2019 Outstanding Graduate in International Relations & French

Paul B. Henry Congressional Internship Award

Pi Delta Phi, the National French Honors Society

Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society

Kappa Phi Chapter of The Pi Sigma Alpha National Political Science Honors Society

## Study Abroad Experience

Université catholique du l'Ouest in Angers, France for the Fall 2018 semester

## Internships and Practicum Experiences

U.S. Senate summer 2018 intern with the Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee Subcommittee on Federal Spending Oversight and Emergency Management

## Greatest Accomplishment while at Grand Valley

One of my greatest accomplishments while at Grand Valley was being the recipient of the Paul B. Henry Congressional Award that funded my summer internship on Capitol Hill

## Plans after Graduation

I will be pursuing a career in the public sector, focusing on human rights and international development, foreign affairs, and factors driving inequality.