

GRAND VALLEY STATE UNIVERSITY

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY DIVISION

NOVEMBER 2025 NEWSLETTER



IT DATA & ANALYTICS: Enabling Data-Informed Actions

The GVSU IT Data and Analytics team's mission is to enable the campus community to improve and advance our collective data capabilities and insights. We are committed to managing information responsibly to make better decisions and support university priorities.

In collaboration with other IT areas, the team provides a secure, high-quality data foundation for the university, by turning data into valuable insights. Key services include:

- Data Integration & Hosting: Securely hosting and integrating university data in the [Data Lakehouse](#).
- Certified Data Sets: Trusted, well-documented sources for analysis and AI projects.
- Report Development & Support: Interactive Power BI reports, plus training and consultation.

By unifying and integrating data, the team aims to break down silos, improve governance, and empower faculty and staff to make decisions that support student success, streamline operations, and guide strategy.

[Visit IT's Data & Analytics Webpage](#)



Clipper Supercomputer Enhancement: Upgrade Expands Research Power

GVSU's High-Performance Computing Cluster, called *Clipper*, recently got a big boost. Six new NVIDIA H100 GPUs were added, giving it even more speed and power for research and teaching.

Backed by cutting edge computing power, there is now a total of 22 GPUs, 54 CPUs, 984 cores, 16.75TB of memory, 1.2TB of video RAM, and 1 flux-capacitor (OK, we threw the last one in for fun), Clipper helps Lakers tackle data projects, run simulations, and explore new ideas in AI.

As of today, 225 students and faculty across 13 departments and 4 colleges already use Clipper. This upgrade means faster results, new discoveries, and more hands-on learning for the GVSU community.

[Visit the High-Performance Computing Cluster Knowledge Base articles](#) to learn more about Clipper!



Have You Tried the CDW-G and Staples Punchouts in Workday?

A few months ago, we introduced CDW-G and Staples as new punchout options in Workday, making it easier than ever to order the tech accessories and office supplies you need.

If you haven't checked them out yet, now's a great time! Both suppliers offer a wide variety of approved products at competitive prices, and ordering through Workday keeps everything simple and streamlined. In Workday, simply [create a requisition](#) and connect to the supplier website to start shopping.

Looking for commonly used tech items? Be sure to check the Technology Acquisition website for items that are [regularly kept in stock](#).

As a reminder, the university's [Technology Acquisition Policy](#) outlines the process that needs to be followed, including a required prior IT approval when purchasing local or cloud-based storage.



Meet Ben Freitag Solutions Architect, IT Enterprise Architecture

Ben Freitag is a Solutions Architect on GVSU IT's Enterprise Architecture team, specializing in network design and technologies. With over 22 years at GVSU, he helps deliver new network services more efficiently and supports the network team as a trusted technical resource when complex challenges arise.

Ben enjoys mentoring newer team members and helping them grow their skills within GVSU's dynamic technical environment. He holds a bachelor's degree in computer information systems from Western Michigan University, an MBA from Arizona State University, and an active Cisco Certified Internetwork Expert (CCIE) certification, along with other credentials from Cisco, F5, and Microsoft.

Outside of work, Ben is a lifelong learner and avid traveler with a passion for the Spanish language. He's completed two language immersion trips to Costa Rica. He has two trips planned to Mexico in 2026, one for another immersion experience and another to see the band Rush in Mexico City.

Need IT Assistance?

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