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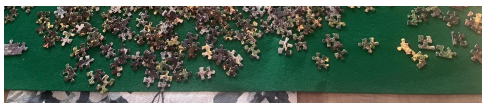
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Colleagues,

I recently revisited a favorite pastime which I find very soothing – assembling jigsaw puzzles, especially landscapes. If you are also a lover of jigsaw puzzles, you may have your own pathway to assembly, or like me, you start with the edges while simultaneously organizing the other pieces by color. The images are often such that some colors are distributed throughout the photo and sometimes I have to move pieces to a different part of the table to assemble the picture correctly. As I worked on my puzzle this weekend, I reflected on how the picture and the process of assembly often reflect circumstances. We all have a different approach to creating a landscape. Sometimes we may categorize things in one way, but then realize we have to rearrange the pieces around to where they belong, rather than keep them where *we think* they might belong.



My reflections may have been guided by the fact that I was also simultaneously 'watching' a documentary about the creation of the song, 'We Are the World'. This collaborative effort with artists from different genres and backgrounds remains one of the most successful fundraisers for a humanitarian effort – to address the extreme famine in Ethiopia. I learned that Tom Bahler, the vocal arranger for this project, listened to a signature song of each solo artist and



assigned lines based on how he thought their voice would contribute to the final product. I draw many parallels to how we approach our lives, our work, and our world. I hope that you will take your own thought journey based on this reflection.

Our programs in CECI serve as the building blocks for our societies and our world. As we celebrate Black History Month, I hope you are also able to reflect on how your voice contributes to our tapestry and how your contributions help our students build their own landscape.

~Sherril

COACHE

The **Collaborative on Academic Careers in Higher Education (COACHE)** Faculty Job Satisfaction survey will launch this week through an initiative that aligns Grand Valley State University with more than 300 other institutions. Affiliate and tenure-track faculty are being invited to complete the COACHE survey. The survey findings will be reported to Provost Fatma Mili in the summer with faculty reviewing the report during the fall semester and creating pathways for changes. The survey timeline, FAQs, and more information about the COACHE survey [can be found online](#).

Celebrations

GVSU Awards

The [Service Awards Celebration](#) will be held on Tuesday, March 12, 2024, from 12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. for those faculty and staff reaching their service milestone. The campus community is invited to watch the ceremony via livestream. [Congratulations can be extended](#) to the service award winners and will be displayed on the slideshow at the ceremony, so be sure to show your support for CECI.

GVSU CECI Service Award Recipients 2024



25 Years

Joan Borst, School of Social Work

20 Years

Paul Stansbie, CECI Dean's Office

Salvador Lopez-Arias, School of Social Work

Kristen Jack, School of Community Leadership & Development

15 Years

Jeffrey Rollins, Office of Certification and Accreditation

Breeann Mann, CECI Undergraduate Advising Center

Cindi Williams, Educational Leadership & Counseling

Nagnon Diarrassouba, Literacy, Educational Foundations, and Technology

Amanda Stansbie, School of Social Work

Monica Harris, Teaching and Learning

Gregory Cline, School of Community Leadership & Development



Robert Robins, School of Community Leadership & Development
Gail Zemmol, School of Community Leadership & Development
10 Years

Suzanne Cohrs, Educational Leadership & Counseling
Catherine Meyer-Looze, Educational Leadership & Counseling
Chasity Bailey-Fakhoury, Literacy, Educational Foundations, and Technology
Christopher Mehall, Teaching and Learning



Congratulations to the **2024 Faculty Award Recipients** for their hard work, excellence in teaching, outstanding contributions and service! The 2023 - 2024 [Faculty Award Convocation](#) will be held on February 15, 2024, at 4:00 p.m. in the Charles W. Loosemore Auditorium at the DeVos Center on the Pew Grand Rapids Campus.

College of Education & Community Innovation Faculty Award Recipients 2024

Outstanding Academic Advising & Student Services Award



Kathryn Ohle, Ph.D.
Teaching and Learning

Pew Teaching with Technology Award



Megan Freudigmann, M.S.
Teaching & Learning

Distinguished Early-Career Scholar Award



Laila McCloud, Ph.D.
Educational Leadership &
Counseling

Mary (Zuccherro) Robinson, HTM '02, was awarded the "Livingston Economic Tourism Driver Award" from The Greater Brighton Area Chamber of Commerce.

Lucy Karpukhno, education graduate student, [won the NASPA Region IV-East's Graduate Rising Star Award](#).

Kallie Crouch and **Isabella Gielniak**, education majors, are two out of the five GVSU students who received a [Dematic Grant Scholarship](#). Dematic granted scholarships in celebration of the 10th anniversary of the Mary Idema Pew Library and the Dematic Automated Storage Retrieval System (AS/RS) installation.

Recognitions

Faculty/Staff, Alumni, and Students

Tonisha Jones, associate professor in the School of Criminology, Criminal Justice, and Legal Studies, has been approved for a sabbatical during the Fall 2024 semester.

Dominique Rickett, an Educational Specialist in Leadership graduate student, was recognized for her [Excellence in Service](#) to the Community or Profession during the Fall 2023 Graduate School Citations.

Kyle Short, BS '13, was [hired by the Saline Athletic Department](#) to be the head coach for Saline High School Football.

Brady Selner, MPA '18, has been [extended an offer to be the Spring Lake Village Manager](#). Public interviews were held in January 2024, with Selner being one out of five candidates. Selner is the Village Administrator at the Village of Shelby, Michigan, and has been since 2020.

Sgt. Eric DeBoer, MPA '12, has been selected to be the next undersheriff for Ottawa County, beginning March 3, 2024. Sgt. DeBoer has also [announced his candidacy to be Ottawa County's next Sheriff](#), as Sheriff Kempker will not be seeking re-election.

Publications/Presentations

Faculty, Staff, and Students

Rick Vandermolen and **Catherine Meyer-Looze**, associate professors in Educational Leadership and Counseling, presented at the International Congress of School Effectiveness and Improvement Conference in Dublin, Ireland. The title of their presentation was, "Instructional Leadership Partnership".

Paul Stansbie, associate dean, was interviewed by MoneyGeek for a [story about hotel reward credit cards](#).

Community Engagement

CECI Community Impact Event: Kids' Food Basket

January 22 - February 23 - Bag Decorating

Decorating paper bags in connection to the Kids' Food Basket Sack Supper program. Students in the program receive a healthy evening meal and love to see fun designs on their Sack Suppers! **Our goal is to complete 7,000 bags during our drive.**

To continue with CECI's "Coming Together" theme, we'll celebrate with a **Bag-a-Thon** event!

WHEN: Wednesday, February 21 from 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

College of Education and Community Innovation

Community Impact Event

What is it?
College of Education and Community Innovation faculty, staff, and students are invited to decorate paper bags in connection to Kids' Food Basket's Sack Supper program. Students in the program receive a healthy evening meal and love to see fun designs on their Sack Suppers! Our goal is to complete 7,000 bags during our drive.
Let's show our community support!

Kids' Food Basket
Kids' Food Basket distributes **10,000** Sack Suppers in Kent County every weekday!

How do we participate?
Bags and coloring materials will be available in each office space. Decorate them with whatever kid-friendly design you want! Bring them to your classes, to a lunch with colleagues, or color to de-stress. Finished bags will be turned into the CECI Dean's Office (202C DEV) every Friday and tallied for each department. There may even be a prize for the department with the most bags at the end of our drive!

WHERE: Exhibition Hall outside of the Loosemore Auditorium

WHAT: Decorate bags and chat with colleagues. Appetizers and beverages are provided!



College Governance

All committee agendas and minutes are posted on our [website](#).

Faculty Council Committee

The Faculty Governance Committee will now be known as Faculty Council after the name change passed through a faculty vote last semester. The name has been updated on our committee's website. Additionally, you can find all committee agendas and minutes posted on our [website](#).

Below are the Faculty Council Committee meetings scheduled for the Winter 2024 semester. All committee meetings will be from 9:00 a.m. -10:30 a.m. via [Zoom](#). All Faculty Council Committee meetings are open to CECI faculty and an agenda will be shared a week prior to each meeting.

- Friday, February 16
- Friday, March 15
- Friday, April 12

The next Full Faculty Forum of the Winter 2024 semester is scheduled for Monday, March 18 from 3:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. This meeting will also be hybrid (in-person in 309E DeVos Center and a Zoom link will be sent out closer to the date of the second forum). Please mark your calendars!

The committee is in the process of updating the CECI College and University Committee Representative [slideshow](#) for the Winter semester. If you have any questions, please reach out to your CECI representatives. If you are a university or college committee representative, be sure to share 2-3 highlights after each committee meeting with your assigned liaison, along with any calls for feedback.

College Advisory and Communication Committee

Global Awareness Collaborative Colloquium

Winter 2024: Ghana

February 20 - March 30, 2024

For dates, times, locations, registration, and event details, please go to the [GACC webpage](#).



February 20 - University Club, DeVos Center, 12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.

- Keynote Presentations: Dr. Dianne Green-Smith, Professor of Social Work, and Dr. Jakia Marie, Assistant Professor of Integrative and African American Studies

- Pechakucha Hour: The Ghana Experience

February 27 - Kirkhof Center 2250, 5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

- For the Culture Quiz Bowl

March 12 - Webinar - 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

- A Conversation with Kweku Osam and Dr. Thomas Haas: Higher Education Interactions

March 13 - Webinar - 2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

- African Popular Music in the Age of Technoculture with NiiQuaye and Joseph Amartey

March 19 - Webinar - 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

- The Global Challenge of Textile Waste with Samuel Oteng and Janay Brower

March 23 - DeVos 107D, 4:00 p.m.

- Film and Pastry Matinee: Beasts of No Nation

March 30 - Location TBA - 4:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

- Closing Celebration: Ghanaian Dance and Fashion Show

CECI College Awards

CACC has incorporated feedback from last year's college awards to further streamline the nomination process and include additional awards. Nomination information will be sent to all faculty and staff later this month. Questions? Contact your unit's CACC representative.

You can find our committee charges, agendas, minutes, and your committee representative information on the [college website](#).

College Personnel Committee

The CPC will be sponsoring an informational session on using Digital Measures for personnel portfolios. For those of you who may be new to Digital Measures, or if you'd like to brush up on your Digital Measures skills, this session might be for you!

WHAT: Digital Measures Demo / Informational Session

WHO: All interested faculty; be sure to bring your laptop!

WHEN: Wednesday, February 14 from 10:45 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.

WHERE: 302E DeVos or via Zoom

<https://gvsu-edu.zoom.us/j/93114414031?pwd=aUtGbWNub2RzcWxybXpnR3hGeVNXdz09>

Meeting ID: 931 1441 4031

Passcode: 771843

Planning to attend in person? PLEASE RSVP to [Jackie Martin](#) to be sure we have adequate seating.

Can't make this session? No problem! We'll be hosting additional sessions in late Winter/early spring semesters. Please let your CPC representative know you'd like to participate in a future session, or contact CPC Chair [Jackie Martin](#) directly.

Reminder: Beginning in Fall 2024, personnel portfolios will be reviewed in Digital Measures only; Winter 2024 is the last semester that CECI faculty may use Blackboard for personnel reviews.

And finally, remember that your CPC representatives are here to support you! Should you ever have any questions related to personnel processes, portfolios, etc., please do not hesitate to reach out.

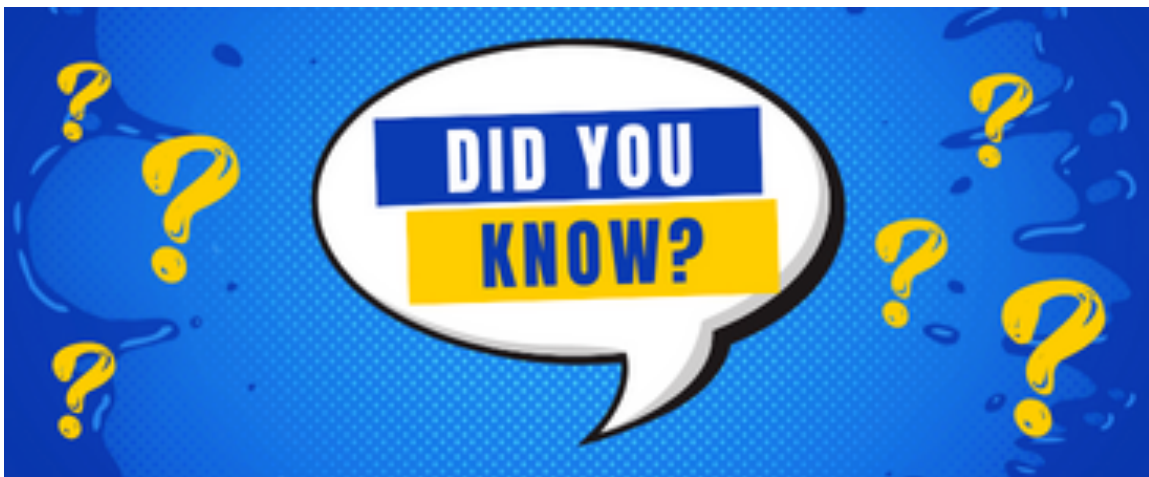
--The CECI Personnel Committee

Affiliate/Visiting Faculty Committee (AVC)

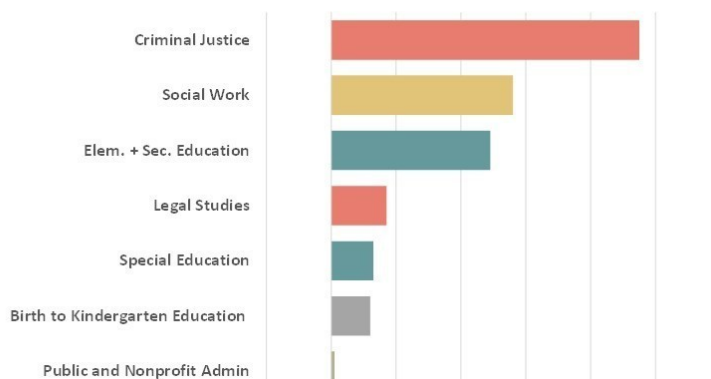
Our focus this past month has been on updating the review policy. Previously, we had been under the old COE policy but have now adopted the University policy. This will take effect immediately and be used for the review schedule this year.



The [CECI Happenings](#) is an informational form that can be submitted by any faculty, staff, or student to promote an event, publication, etc. for our social platforms and newsletter.



Net change in number of First-Year and Sophomore students between Winters 2022 and 2024

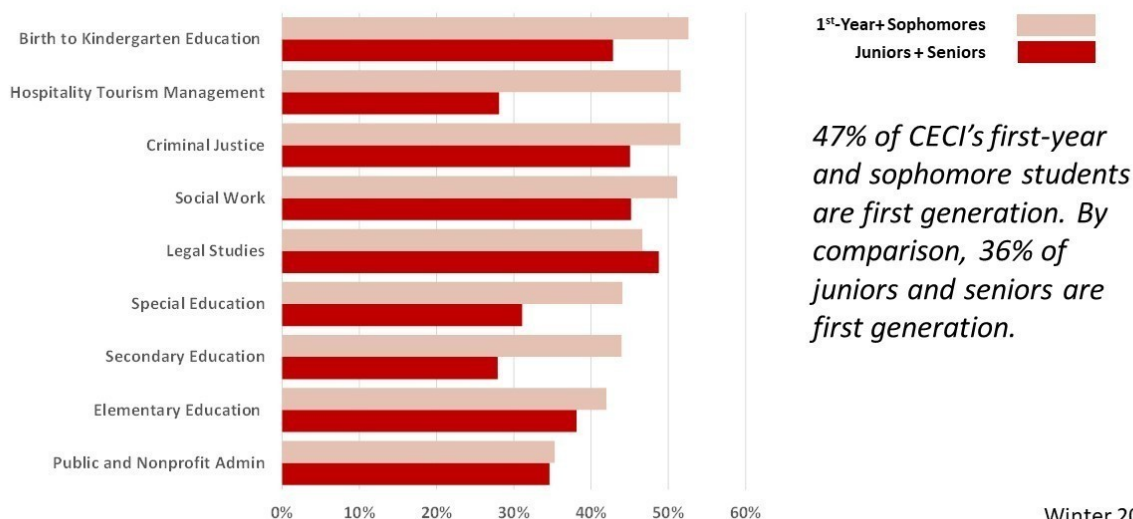


The number of first-year and sophomore students in CECI programs is currently 28% higher than in Winter 2022.



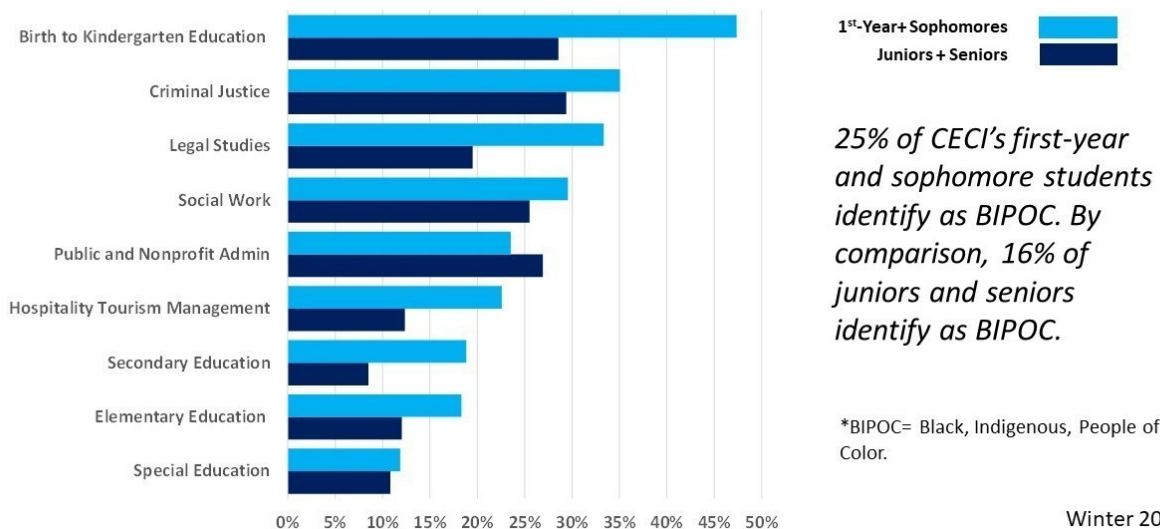
Winter 2024

Percent of First-Year and Sophomore students who are first generation college students vs. Juniors and Seniors



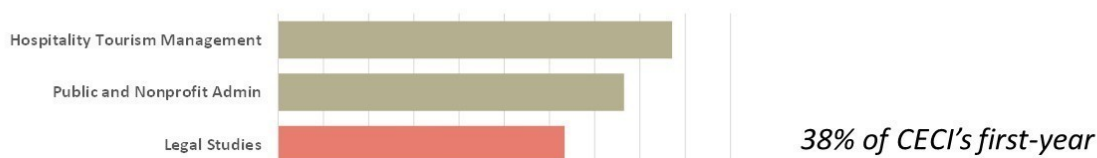
Winter 2024

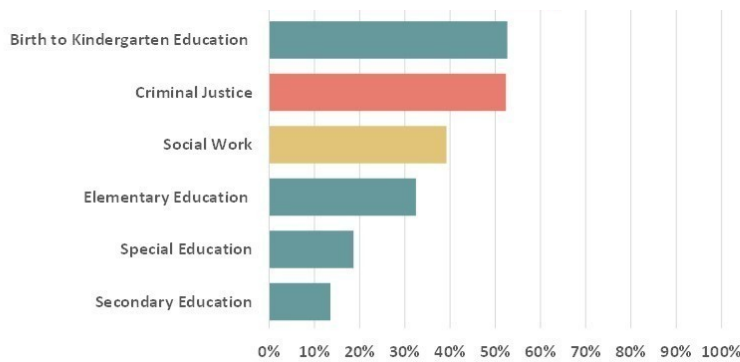
Percent of First-Year and Sophomore students identifying as BIPOC* vs. Juniors and Seniors



Winter 2024

Percent of First-Year and Sophomore students who have one or more classes on the Pew Campus





and sophomore students have one or more classes on the Pew Campus.

Winter 2024



Juvenile Justice Vision 20/20 and the Michigan Judicial Institute Present
In Partnership with the
National Council on Juvenile and Family Court Judges



2024 SPRING TRAINING CONFERENCE
March 14, 2024
8:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.



*“The Role of the Judge in Transforming Juvenile Probation:
A Toolkit for Leadership”*

February 13 - [2024 Summer Job Fair](#)

February 20 - [GACC Keynote and Lunch](#) - 12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. - University Club

February 21 - [KFB Bag-a-Thon](#) - 11:00 am. - 2:00 p.m. - Exhibition Hall

February 22 - Coffee with the Dean - 2:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. - HTM Student Lounge Area (Near DEV 220C)

February 22 - [GVSU Winter 2024 Career and Internship Fair](#)

February 23 - [Board of Trustees Meeting](#) - Seidman Center

February 29 - Coffee with the Provost - 1:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. - Open Space next to DEV 509C

March 14 - [Juvenile Justice Vision 20/20 - Spring Training Conference](#) - 8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. - Seidman Center

March 19 - [HTM Speaker Series: Bruce Jordan](#) - 1:00 p.m. - 2:15 p.m. - Register via

Handshake

March 20 - Coffee with the Dean - 1:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. - HTM Student Lounge Area (Near DEV 220C)

March 27 - Coffee with the Provost - 3:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. - Open Space next to DEV 509C

April 12 - [Reach Higher Showcase](#) - 4:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. - Richard M. DeVos Center

April 15 - Winter Year-End Meeting - Tentatively 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. - Seidman Center, Room 1008

April 16 - Coffee with the Dean - 1:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. - HTM Student Lounge Area (Near DEV 220C)

Important Dates

WINTER PERSONNEL ACTIONS

January 8 - Winter Personnel Portfolios due to Unit Heads

February 23 - Unit Heads submit appropriate winter personnel documents to Dean

February 29 - Dean forwards winter personnel documents to CPC

March 29 - CPC submits winter personnel recommendations to Dean

April 19 - Dean submits winter personnel recommendations to Provost

June 1 - Provost makes winter personnel decisions and notifies all appropriate people

Resources

- [Acronyms](#)
- [CECI Connections Guide](#)
- [CECI Newsletter Repository](#)
- [Experts Guide](#)
- [Organizational Chart](#)
- [Student Support Flowchart](#)

Thanks to all those who contributed to the February edition of CECI Connections:
Dean Sherril Soman, Associate Dean Mark Hoffman, Jennifer Vanderground, Jackie Doyon-Martin,
Cathy Meyer-Looze, Kel Nemetz, and Jamie Langlois

If you have any questions or suggestions, or want to share your newsworthy information with us,
please use the link below.

cecidean@gvsu.edu | (616) 331-6821 | gvsu.edu/ceci

Connect with us!



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