

## Strengthening the Grand Valley Experience: A Lifetime Value

1. [Knowledge and skills for the 21st Century](#) – an education that builds on our longstanding commitment to liberal education to include digital competencies, entrepreneurial opportunities, and cross-disciplinary synergies and expands our experiential learning commitments.

Video Transcript: *We have a strong liberal education. We have experiential learning that is infused in our curriculum in a variety of different ways. We have professional disciplines and we have a fluidity in the way that our university allows students to move that is quite unique. All of that situated in a community that's growing and thriving. So, we have everything there is to work with, to put tools in our students' hands so that they can learn how to think and relearn and adapt which is the absolute number one skill you hear employers looking for. Do I have someone who's going to be continuously learning? Because we all know the technology's going to change. So, it's the capacity to embrace what's new or invent what's new.*

2. Build on the [reciprocity of learning](#) – a signature of the faculty-student relationship at Grand Valley.

Video Transcript: *It was really inspiring to me during the huddles to talk with our faculty and students about what that relationship looked like. And it was really a challenge to think about how does our language separate us from all of the universities who talk about being student centered or being a teaching institution. And there was one faculty member who termed it the reciprocity of learning, which is I know I'm leading right now and I'm teaching and modeling leadership skills, but I also know I'm learning right now. And from every student I touch. And it was that sort of vulnerability and understanding that we're always leaders, we're always learners, we always have something to offer each other if we're open to it. That was absolutely unique in my 30-some years of higher education of hearing faculty and students talk about their relationship. And I think that's incredibly powerful.*

3. [The Laker Lifetime Learning](#) – a commitment established to create an ongoing connection between Lakers and the university.

Video Transcript: *We have opened our doors to 18 to 22-year-olds because we have these incredible offerings and experiences. And now we're building this Laker Lifetime Learning commitment to extend that relationship. So those very same opportunities can be made available to a new population, which is largely over 25, working adults, raising their families, getting off in their profession. And we're going to be extending our academic offering in ways that make them accessible to those adult learners when they need it.*

## A Diverse and Inclusive Economic Engine

4. Expand access to [new learners](#) with high-quality online/hybrid adult learning and new pathways to GVSU.

Video Transcript: *We're going to be extending our academic offerings in ways that make them accessible to those adult learners when they need it. That means part of it will be offered to them online, part of it will maximize and utilize our campuses across the state. It will mean that the experiences we are able to provide on campus will be rethought in ways that we can create those*

*career networks or opportunities for someone to experience a career pivot they might be considering through the use of our broader network. So we're going to really open up the same kind of if you think about Grand Valley's growth over its 60 years, think about we're going to start that journey in a way that will have that same growth for our adult learning population and make our network, our Laker effect, even more impactful and even broader.*

5. A [Talent Epicenter](#) to attract entrepreneurs and employers to the talent of Grand Valley, expanding experiential learning and post-graduate opportunities while addressing their talent needs

*Video Transcript: A huge opportunity for Grand Valley is to create both a physical and virtual convergence of the employers and organizations in our locales, and I would use the plural on that. We're not only in Grand Rapids and Allendale where people know us the best, but in Detroit and Holland and Traverse City, and our newest location in Battle Creek, and make those places where the employers are participant in the learning, keeping their brand alive, allowing them to have new ways to get the talent gaps filled, and allowing our students to have more experiences. And if they're an entrepreneur, new ways to support the development of their idea, their product, or their service by having employers that are both in the space and adjacent to their space participating in shared work that advances both the learner and the employer. I'm excited that we have a team that's working on that right now, and already coming up for ideas in Holland and Grand Rapids and Detroit as our first sort of three spaces to make the talent at the center come alive.*