

GRAND VALLEY STATE UNIVERSITY

Information Technology Division

JUNE 2026 NEWSLETTER

2026-2030 DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION (DX) STRATEGY

The updated GVSU Digital Transformation (DX) Strategy for 2026 - 2030 has been completed and endorsed by the [University Technolgy Council](#) (UTC) and the university's Senior Leadership Team. Thank you to the students, faculty, and staff who shared feedback over the past several months to help shape the plan. Your input helped identify opportunities to enhance university community members' experience and further unify the university through technology in support of [GVSU's Reach Higher Together vision](#).

The strategy's three core pillars remain unchanged - Service Excellence & Greater University Support, Modernization of Enterprise Solutions, and Accelerating Transformation through Innovation - with updated initiatives and projects to guide our work through 2030.

Ongoing updates, communication, and information about collaborative partnerships will be shared throughout the plan's rollout this summer and beyond. Thank you for helping shape the future of technology at GVSU.

[Explore the GVSU Digital Transformation Strategy](#)

Exploring What's Next: GV Technology Summit, November 3, 2026

The [GV Technology Summit](#) returns on November 3, bringing together students, faculty, and staff to explore how technology is shaping teaching, learning, and research at Grand Valley. This year's keynote will feature [Dr. Imran Mazid](#), who will share insights on emerging technologies and their impact on innovation, learning, and the evolving digital landscape across higher education.

The Summit will also include an exciting panel discussion highlighting how students and faculty are using High-Performance Computing (HPC) to advance learning and research. More details on the panel will be shared soon.

We are now accepting proposals to present at the summit, with submissions due by September 15. The event is free to attend and open to the campus community.

Get Involved:

- [Submit a proposal to present by September 15](#)
- [Sign up to attend the GV Technology Summit on November 3](#)

GVSU IT Highlights: Project updates, upcoming events, division news, and more

This month, our highlights shine a spotlight on team members who have recently earned recognition for their outstanding contributions to the university.

Hunter Bridwell, Emerging Technologies Coordinator with IT Innovation + Research, is featured in [a recent GVNext article](#) highlighting GVSU's participation in the Detroit TRIO STEAM Summit at Michigan Central. Hunter helped students explore immersive technologies through hands-on learning experiences that encouraged creativity, curiosity, and innovation.

Kyle Macciomei and [The Bridge](#) team were recently honored with the Michigan Veteran Affairs Association's Impact Award for developing a personalized onboarding module for veteran students. Working in partnership with GVSU's Veteran Resource Center, the team created a resource that connects incoming veteran students with the information and support they need to navigate financial aid and begin their GVSU experience with confidence.

Learn more:

- [Forum Feature Article](#)
- [The Bridge Veteran Student Onboarding Module](#)

Samuel Nyarega, Academic Computing Specialist with IT's Academic Research Computing team, was selected to attend the Open Science Grid (OSG) School on High Throughput Computing at the University of Wisconsin - Madison this July. During this school, students will learn how to leverage HTC systems with large data sets to run and manage complex computing workflows. Sam is one of less than 100 students chosen from an international pool of candidates and looks forward to putting the knowledge he gains into practice within the High-Performance Computing environment here at GVSU.

Kelley Senkowski, Instructional Technology Project Specialist with IT's eLearning Technologies team, was recently recognized with the Blackboard Exemplary Course Program (ECP) Award. This international recognition celebrates excellence in course design and innovative online learning experiences.

Learn more:

- [Kelley's Course Design Presentation](#)
- [Blackboard Exemplary Course Program](#)

Meet Mari Comai IT Operations Coordinator

Mari joined Grand Valley State University in 2022, beginning her career in Institutional Advancement before bringing her talents to Information Technology in January 2025. As an IT Operations Coordinator, Mari supports a variety of important functions across the division, including purchasing and expense reconciliation, communications and events, and calendar support for IT Leadership.

A proud GVSU alumna, Mari earned a bachelor's degree in Integrative Studies with an emphasis in Nonprofits and Global Perspectives. She enjoys being part of Grand Valley's mission to help people grow, reach their potential, and pursue their dreams. One of her favorite aspects of working at GVSU is the opportunity to collaborate with the many talented and dedicated people across the university.

Outside of work, Mari enjoys curling up with a good book, baking, and spending time outdoors with her husband, Will, and their miniature schnauzer, Max.

We're grateful to have Mari as part of the IT team and appreciate the support, organization, and positivity she brings to our division each day.



Need IT Assistance?

Service Portal:

[services.gvsu.edu](#)

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