

# CLAS Weekly

**August 16, 2023**

If you have an item you would like included in the CLAS Weekly Mailing, please submit it using [this form](#). The weekly submission deadline is Mondays at 5:00 pm.

## All

### 1. New Interim Director of CLAS Academic Advising Center

Dr. Ashley Shannon has been appointed the Interim Director of the CLAS Academic Advising Center effective August 7, 2023. Dr. Cathy Buyarski was appointed to a new position as Vice Provost for Advising and Student Success. The decision to make an interim appointment rather than run a search was made for two reasons: because we need immediate leadership to continue the implementation of the new organizational structure for the Center; and to give us time to fully participate in the institution-wide discussions regarding academic advising that will be taking place over this next year. Once we have a better understanding of the plans for academic advising at GVSU, we will then be in a better position to identify the optimal leadership needed for the CLAS Academic Advising Center. Ashley is an experienced leader, having served as the unit head in English for the past seven years. She will also have the benefit of working with two experienced Assistant Directors in the Center – Julie Amon and Emily Davis – as well as a dedicated, collaborative, and caring team of academic advisors and support staff.

### 2. REMINDER: RSVP to the Fall Start Up Meeting

All CLAS faculty and staff are invited to attend the annual Fall Start Up meeting on Thursday, August 24. Join us for coffee at 9:00 am followed by the presentation at 10:00 am at the Louis Armstrong Theatre in the Haas Performing Arts Center. The presentation will be livestreamed for those who cannot attend in person. The luncheon begins at noon outside Kirkhof Center. [Please RSVP](#) by August 18.

### 3. 2023-2024 Call for Student Advisory Committee Members

The CLAS Student Advisory Committee for Dean Drake is looking for recommendations for student members majoring and/or minoring in disciplines within CLAS for the 2023-2024 school year. Our goal is to have a committee representative of our students. Student Advisory Committee members will be expected to be culturally humble. They will also be expected to help Dean Drake think about how to promote an inclusive and equitable environment in CLAS for students. There are no GPA or class year requirements. Please email your recommendations to [Mona Silva](#) by Friday, September 8, 2023.

## Staff

### 1. Fall Convocation

On Thursday, August 24 you are invited to attend the Fall Convocation, a time-honored celebration to welcome our newest students and is the kick-off event to Laker Welcome, providing opportunities to connect with fellow students as they acclimate to life as Lakers. Our presence in academic regalia helps students recognize that this is a time of intellectual discovery and that their university lives have begun. Faculty and staff who plan to process in regalia during the Convocation ceremony are invited to [RSVP by August 17](#). Visit the [Convocation website](#) for additional information and updates.

## Faculty & Unit Heads

### 1. Fall 2023 Faculty Learning Communities are OPEN!

[Faculty Learning Communities](#) (FLCs) bring faculty together for a 1-2 semester-long conversation on a topic of mutual interest and encourage an application of the knowledge gained. Past participants report this experience to be supportive, fun, and restorative!

## 2. Fall 2023 Personnel Portfolio Workshop

The [Personnel Portfolio Workshop](#) is designed to support faculty going up for any personnel review in 2023-24. Working with an assigned faculty mentor, participants will compose their Personal/Reflective statement and, as time permits, prepare other supporting materials for their portfolio in accordance with their college and unit personnel policies.

## 3. Strong Start Teaching Institute

The [Strong Start Teaching Institute](#) focuses faculty attention on best practices for engaging students in first-year undergraduate courses. The Institute is intended primarily for instructors teaching courses with high first-year student enrollment. Preference will be given to non-tenure-track instructors: affiliates, visitors, adjuncts, and those new or relatively new to university teaching. The Institute is limited to 40 participants so register soon!

## 4. 29th Annual [Fall Conference on Teaching and Learning](#)

Keynote presentation by Dr. James M. Lang, author of *Distracted: Why Students Can't Focus and What You Can Do About It*, and former Professor of English and Director of the D'Amour Center for Teaching Excellence at Assumption University. Dr. Lang will address the frequently expressed concerns of faculty regarding the distractions and distractibility of our students and challenge us to focus on creating educational experiences that cultivate and sustain attention.

## 5. Fulbright U.S. Scholar Program 2024-25 Competition Awards to Austria

The [Fulbright U.S. Scholar Program](#) give opportunities to U.S. citizens to teach, research and carry out professional projects around the world. The [following opportunities are open in Austria](#). Over 400 awards are available in more than 130 countries, many open to all disciplines. You can find a complete list of opportunities in [the list of open awards, found here](#). Application deadline is **September 15, 2023**.

# Important Dates & Deadlines

Aug 16	Senior Affiliate apps due to Dean, send to <a href="#">Heidi Nicholson</a>
Aug 20	Unit Stability Update commentary due in GVStability
Aug 21	Courses taught by part-time adjunct not meeting enrollment targets cancelled
Aug 22, 9:30-3	CLAS Unit Head Retreat
Aug 22, 4:30pm	University Address
Aug 22, 5:30pm	University Faculty & Staff picnic
Aug 23	FTLC Teaching & Learning Conference
Aug 24,9-2	CLAS Faculty and Staff Meeting
Aug 28	Fall classes begin
Aug 28, 5pm	Candidate Personnel Portfolio moved to dept BB site

Sept 1	Sabbatical proposals due through the <a href="#">sabbatical system</a>
Sept 1, 5 pm	Last day to add, register, pay;100% tuition refund deadline
Sept 3-4	Labor Day recess
Sept 22	Credit/No Credit deadline
Sept 22	75% tuition refund deadline/credit/no credit grade deadline
Sept 30	Sabbatical proposal unit recommendations due to USRC

Oct 1	Faculty workload plans (FWP) due in Digital Measures
Oct 1	<a href="#">CSCE Catalyst Grant for Research and Creativity</a> proposals due

Oct 9-13	Mid-term evaluations
Oct 13	Feedback on FWP from secondary unit head for joint appointees is due to primary unit head
Oct 13	Promotion materials due to Dean's Office
Oct 16-Nov 30	Unit process for reviewing FWPs
Oct 23-24	Fall break



1 Campus Drive  
B-4-232 Mackinac Hall  
Allendale, MI 49401

[Unsubscribe](#) from future emails

[Subscribe](#) to our email list.