

FORUM

A NEWSLETTER FOR THE GRAND VALLEY STATE UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY

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1,200 students to participate in commencement

More than 1,200 students are expected to participate in the fall commencement ceremony, set for Saturday, December 7, at Van Andel Arena in Grand Rapids.

The keynote speaker will be A.C. Grayling, an author and the master of London's New College of the Humanities, in addition to serving as professor of philosophy.

Grayling was named the first master of New College, an independent undergraduate college, in 2011. He is also a



A.C. Grayling

supernumerary fellow of St. Anne's College at Oxford University.

The author of more than 30 books, Grayling also served as a columnist for the *Guardian*, *Times*, and *Prospect* magazine. He has contributed to many leading publications in the United Kingdom,

United States and Australia, and to BBC Radio and the World Service.

Grayling has served as judge for the Booker Prize, annually awarded to the best novel of the year published in the UK or Ireland.

Grayling will also highlight the second Fireside Chat, as part of President Philomena V. Mantella's Reach Higher Together initiative.

The student speaker will be Nina Nguyen, a graduating student who will receive a bachelor's degree in integrated science and education.

The event will be webcast, watch the live stream online at gvsu.edu/commencement.

ACROSS CAMPUS

Lowenstein named new civil discourse professor

The new faculty member to be named as Padnos/Sarosik Professor of Civil Discourse will bring his knowledge of global journalism and the impact of "fake news" to the position.

Jeff Kelly Lowenstein, assistant professor of multimedia journalism, was announced as the fourth endowed professor November 19 at the annual Padnos/Sarosik Civil Discourse Symposium.

Housed in the Brooks College of Interdisciplinary Studies, the endowed professorship, a two-year appointment, was a gift to Grand Valley from longtime supporters Shelley Padnos and Carol Sarosik.

Kelly Lowenstein will teach a course, "Journalism and Global Civil Discourse," in the fall semester and work with students to host a public symposium and other events focused on the implications of misinformation and what he called the rising tension from an international assault on democracy and civil discourse.

"We will look at the what, why and how these attacks on journalists and spread of fake news are happening, the impact of this, and what we can do about it," he said.

Mark Schaub, interim dean of Brooks College, said Kelly Lowenstein's course proposal was timely as 2020 is a presidential election year.

"Jeff has demonstrated a track record of successfully involving undergraduate students in cutting edge international journalism, and we



Photo by Rex Larsen

Lisa Perhamus, director of the Padnos/Sarosik Civil Discourse Program, greets Jeff Kelly Lowenstein as the next civil discourse professor.

trust that this will carry over into high-impact student research and learning in the realm of fake news and the importance of independent journalism to a healthy democracy," Schaub said.

Lisa Perhamus, associate professor of educational foundations, is the director of the Padnos/Sarosik Civil Discourse Program. She said the umbrella topic of civil discourse creates multiple levels of engagement for students and the public. Past themes have delved into immigration, climate change and grassroots community building.

"Civil discourse offers a way for people to develop empathy and mutual understanding, and it can help communities heal from the divisiveness of competing perspectives,"

Perhamus said. "Everyone has a right to be understood, and the tools of civil discourse help us to understand one another."

Perhamus was the first civil discourse professor, followed by Jack Mangala and Elizabeth Arnold.

Faculty member helps school district update curriculum

A psychology faculty member who was seeking ways to engage in the wider community found an opportunity to lend expertise to a West Michigan school district.

Tara Cornelius, professor of psychology, collaborated with Hudsonville Public Schools representatives as they considered options for the district's sex education curriculum. Board members, acting on a recommendation from an advisory panel Cornelius sits on, ultimately adopted an updated program.

Cornelius played a key role in gathering data on different programs and outcomes, said Ami Taylor, Hudsonville assistant superintendent of curriculum and instruction. Taylor said the advisory board also considered district data, Ottawa County Health Department information and a parental survey as members weighed a recommendation.

Taylor said the breadth of research that Cornelius presented was an important step that led to changes in the curriculum.

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ACROSS CAMPUS

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Tara Cornelius

“Tara’s ability on the expertise side of this was huge and she came with a lot of credibility,” Taylor said.

Taylor said she is grateful to have the expertise of Cornelius on the advisory board as the curriculum is evaluated and refined with feedback from parents and others.

Cornelius commended district administrators

for the comprehensive nature of the curriculum study.

“I was really impressed by the leadership,” Cornelius said. “They were really invested in making sure we had a data-driven solution.”

Cornelius said she is working to further lend her expertise in more settings by collaborating with other outreach programs.

“It seemed like a natural fit to broaden the scope to constituents where you could make a tangible difference,” Cornelius said.

Last Forum for semester

This issue is the final Forum for the fall

semester. The publication will resume on January 13.

Keep up-to-date on campus news by visiting gvsu.edu/gvnext.

Career Center mini-grants aid internship possibilities

The Career Center offers mini-grants to faculty and staff members who want to create, expand, or enhance internship or practicum initiatives.

The deadline to apply is Friday, December 6. Details regarding the grant can be found online at gvsu.edu/careers/img.

GVNext recap:

GVSU to lead computer science curriculum

Grand Valley will lead coordination of K-12 computer science education in the state under an agreement reached with a key curriculum provider.

The partnership with Code.org, a nonprofit computer science organization that provides K-12 curriculum and training resources, will allow Grand Valley experts to coordinate annual professional development for up to 1,000 teachers in that discipline, said Kris Pachla, director of the Regional Math and Science Center. Code.org curriculum is prominently used in Michigan schools.

Grand Valley will partner with West Shore Educational Service District, which originally developed the statewide program in 2016, during the transition period until becoming the sole partner with Code.org in May, Pachla said.

Grand Valley’s greater capacity and history of running large-scale professional development led to West Shore’s decision to pass the mantle, he said, allowing the Code.org program to develop to the next level.

For more campus news, visit gvsu.edu/gvnext.

Making Waves: Dance



Photo by Kendra Stanley-Mills

Students in Hannah Seidel’s ‘Modern Dance Technique’ course perform a multimedia dance with water as a prop or a theme. Seidel’s course was among 50 listed with a water-related theme for the fall semester. Faculty members can add winter semester courses to the online list on the Making Waves website, gvsu.edu/makingwaves.

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Other University Communications publications:

Grand Valley Magazine, published quarterly; visit gvsu.edu/gvmagazine.

GVNext, web publication; visit gvsu.edu/gvnext, for daily news updates and video features.

Grand Valley State University is an affirmative action/equal opportunity institution.



Service awards to be presented at holiday celebration

Grand Valley’s Service Award and Holiday Gathering is set for Thursday, December 5.

The event will run from 3:30-5 p.m. in the Kirkhof Center, Grand River Room, with the awards ceremony beginning at 4 p.m.

45-year award recipient

Harvey Nikkel (retired), Chemistry

40-year award recipient

James Grant, College of Education

35-year award recipients

- Gordon Alderink, Physical Therapy
- Benjamin Lockerd, English
- Marie McKendall, Management
- H. Bart Merkle, College of Education
- Alexander Nesterenko, School of Communications
- Donald Paszek, Psychology
- James Persoon, English

30-year award recipients

- Andrea Bostrom, Kirkhof College of Nursing
- Patricia Clark, Writing
- Kevin Cole, Geology
- Rita Cooper, CCPS Dean’s Office
- Shirley Fleischmann, School of Engineering

- Julia Guevara, School of Social Work
- John Klein, Academic Computing Services
- Wayne Kooistra, Facilities Services
- Lynn Krupansky, Conference Services
- Mark Luttenton, The Graduate School
- Jane Mays, Mathematics
- Carmen Nochera, Biomedical Sciences
- Toni Perrine, Visual & Media Arts
- Mark Pestana, Philosophy
- Michael Schrottenboer, Facilities Services
- Terri Suess, University Budgets
- Daniel Teunis, Facilities Services
- Kurt Thompson, Annis Water Resources Institute
- Stephanie Vasquez (retired), Facilities Services

25-year award recipients

- Kathleen Bailey, School of Criminal Justice
- Deborah Bambini, Kirkhof College of Nursing
- Pamela Brenzing, Accounting Office
- Michael DeWilde, Management
- Polly Diven, Political Science
- Theresa Gooden, Facilities Services
- Robert Hendersen, Psychology
- Bonnie Hudson, Marketing

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WHAT'S AHEAD

Receptions planned for retired faculty members

Jonathan White, professor of interdisciplinary studies in the Frederik Meijer Honors College and executive director of the Homeland Defense Initiative at Grand Valley, will retire at the end of fall semester.

White will be honored for 36 years of service to Grand Valley at a celebration Tuesday, December 3, from 4-6 p.m. in the Niemeyer Learning and Living Center. Remarks will begin at 4:45 p.m.; light refreshments will be served.

White joined the Grand Valley faculty in 1983, with teaching appointments in criminal justice, liberal studies and the Honors College. He was the founding director of the School of Criminal Justice and also served as the dean of Social Sciences.

Stephen Rowe, a philosophy and liberal studies professor who had a prominent role in shaping curricula and who edited a book containing the speeches of President Emeritus Arend D.

Lubbers, is set to retire after 47 years.

A retirement reception is planned for Friday, December 6, from 2:30-5 p.m. at the Kirkhof Center, rooms 2215/2216. Remarks begin at 3:15 p.m.

Rowe's contributions to campus include serving as chair of the Philosophy Department from 1989-2002, serving as the founding coordinator of the liberal studies program and designing several core liberal studies courses.

The book about Lubbers, *Old Hopes for a New Place: The Legacy of Arend D. Lubbers at GVSU*, is a collection of speeches that shows how Lubbers shaped a rapidly growing university during his 32 years as president.



Jonathan White, left, Stephen Rowe

Health Forum panelists will discuss genetics

Area experts will discuss new discoveries in genetics at the next Health Forum of West Michigan event sponsored by the Office of the Vice Provost for Health.

The event is Friday, December 6, from 8-9:30 a.m. at the DeVos Center, Loosemore Auditorium, with a light breakfast served at 7:30 a.m. It's free and open to the public; RSVP online at gvsu.edu/vphealth.

Panelists are Caleb Bupp, division chief, medical genetics and genomics, Helen DeVos Children's Hospital; Anna Moore, assistant dean, Michigan State University College of Human Medicine and director of the Precision Health Program; and Jeremy Prokop, MSU assistant professor of pediatrics and human development.

Service awards to be presented at holiday celebration

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Sandra Jennings, CCPS Dean's Office

Brian Johnson, School of Criminal Justice

Philip Lane, WGVU Public Media

Gordon Lesinski, Facilities Services

Rosemaria Lintjer, Facilities Services

Neil MacDonald, Biology

Barry Martin, Music, Theatre and Dance

Anthony Nieuwkoop, Biomedical Sciences

Gabriela Pozzi, Modern Languages and Literatures

Phillip Pyrett, Facilities Services

Min Qi, Chemistry

Richard Rediske, Annis Water Resources Institute

Mary Reimink, Information Technology

Neal Rogness, Statistics

Stephanie Schaertel, Chemistry

Lisa Surman-Haight, Provost Office

Carol Talsma (retired), Copy Services

LeaAnn Tibbe, Student Life Office

Brian Van Doeselaar (retired), Accounting Office

Xiaojuan Xu, Psychology

20-year award recipients

Bogdan Adamczyk, School of Engineering

Majd Al-Mallah, Modern Languages and Literatures

Bradley Ambrose, Physics

David Austin, Mathematics

Victoria Baker, Facilities Services

Jerry Baltes, Athletics

Shari Bartz-Smith, Movement Science

Leslie Bateman, Center for Adult and Continuing Studies

Susan Brunell, Housing and Residence Life

Debra Burg, Biomedical Sciences

Martin Burg, Biomedical Sciences

Bernadine Carey-Tucker, University Communications

Jing Chen, Psychology

Maria Cimitile, Provost Office

David Cox, Facilities Services

Melissa Cunningham, Information Technology

Sonia Dalmia, Economics

Terry Daniels, Facilities Services

Diane Dykstra, Vice Provost for Health Office

Kurt Ellenberger, Meijer Honors College

Irene Fountain, The Graduate School

John Gabrosek, Statistics

Luke Galen, Psychology

Nancy Giardina, Movement Science

Karen Gipson, College of Interdisciplinary Studies Dean's Office

Scott Grissom, School of Computing and Information Systems

Melanie Grover, Housing and Residence Life

Marlene Hall, CLAS Academic Advising Center

Rebecca Hambleton, Padnos International Center

Lisa Haynes, Facilities Services

Mark Hoffman, School of Public, Nonprofit and Health Administration

William Hosterman, Visual and Media Arts

Wanda Isenga (retired), Records and Registration

Joseph Jacquot, Biology

Lori Koste, Management

Karen Libman, Music, Theatre and Dance

Barbara Lubic, College of Education

George Lundskow, Sociology

Leo McCormick (retired), Facilities Services

James McPherson, Information Technology

Todd Meindertsma, Facilities Services

Figen Mekik, Geology

Martha Moore, Accounting Office

Mary Morgan, University Libraries

Mark Muilenburg, Facilities Services

Paul Murphy, History

Terry Pahl, Facilities Services

Vandana Pednekar-Magal, School of Communications

Esther Ricco, Finance and Administration

Mark Richards, Political Science

Peter Riemersma, Geology

Mark Schaub, College of Interdisciplinary Studies Dean's Office

Daniel Spangler, Facilities Services

Charles Standridge (retired), School of Engineering

Roxana Taylor, Annis Water Resources Institute

Andrew Topper, College of Education

Janet Van Rhee, Chemistry

Scott Vander Werf, WGVU Public Media

Susan Votsch, Accounting Office

Thomas Willey, Finance

10-year award recipients

Jacqueline Adams, Inclusion and Equity

Kathryn Agee, Regional Math and Science Center

Salvatore Alaimo, School of Public, Nonprofit and Health Administration

Kevin Alderink, Facilities Services

Gordon Andrews, History

Elizabeth Arnold, Anthropology

Janet Aubil, Facilities Services

Melissa Baker-Boosamra, Student Life Office

Erica Baker-Bringedahl, Office of Multicultural Affairs

Edward Barnes, Department of Public Safety

Sarah Beaubien, University Libraries

Teresa Behrens, Johnson Philanthropy Center

Gene Bohner, Facilities Services

Brett Bolen, Physics

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FACULTY AND STAFF SKETCHES

SKETCHES

U.K. Visitors



Photo by Valerie Wojciechowski

The Division of Student Affairs hosted five people from the United Kingdom, pictured in center, as part of the NASPA International Exchange Program November 18-19. The guests toured the Pew Grand Rapids and Allendale campuses, then met with academic and administrative staff. The guests also toured Ferris State and Wayne State universities, Albion College, and Butler University in Indiana.

The **College of Education** received national accreditation from the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation. The college was recognized for its excellence and high standards in teacher preparation. It successfully met all five CAEP standards: content and pedagogical knowledge; clinical partnerships and practice; candidate quality, recruitment and selectivity; program impact; and provider quality, continuous improvement and capacity.

AWRI staff **Emily Kindervater** and **Al Steinman** were co-authors of an article, "Phosphorus Retention in West Michigan Two-stage Agricultural Ditches," published in the *Journal of American Water Resources Association*.

Davia Downey, associate professor of public, nonprofit and health administration, wrote an article, "Tax Increment Financing in Chicago: The Perplexing Relationship Between Blight, Race, and Property Values," published in *Economic Development Quarterly*.

Center for Adult and Continuing Studies staff members **Melissa Peraino** and **Kate VanderKolk** gave a presentation, "Lifelong Learning on Tap: Connecting Great Ideas and Great People at Great Places," at the Association for Continuing Higher Education conference.

Kim Ranger, liaison librarian, gave a presentation, "Assessing Students: Critical Thinking about Digital Information via Statistical Analysis," at the Conference on Advancing Teaching and Learning in Traverse City.

Danielle DeVasto, assistant professor of writing, wrote an article, "Interventional Systems Ethnography and Intersecting Injustices: A New Approach for Fostering Reciprocal Community Engagement," published in the *Community Literacy Journal*.

Service awards to be presented at holiday celebration

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JoAnn Boon-Shelton, Finance

Ranelle Brew, Public Health

Rachel Campbell, Sociology

Nancy Carlson, Kirkhof College of Nursing

Rebeca Castellanos, Modern Languages and Literatures

Brennon Clendening, Facilities Services

Vivek Dalela, Marketing

Kelli Damstra, Kirkhof College of Nursing

Juanita Davis, Office of Multicultural Affairs

Kristy Dean, Psychology

Nancy DeFrance, College of Education

Pamela DeJong, Regional Math and Science Center

Brian Deyo, English

Amanda Dillard, Psychology

Brian Drake, Mathematics

David Eaton, History

Jonathan Engelsma, School of Computing and Information Systems

Dawn Evans, English

Mayra Fortes Gonzalez, Modern Languages and Literatures

Nancy French, University Development

Gamal Gasim, Area and Global Studies

Joy Gianakura, Seidman Dean's Office

Beth Gibbs, Music, Theatre and Dance

Christopher Gillespie, Seidman Dean's Office

Sherri Hall, Charter Schools Office

Elisabeth Hammer, Mathematics

Katherine Haynes, Biomedical Sciences

David Huizen, Occupational Safety and Health

Azfar Hussain, Integrative Studies

Ingrid Johnson, Movement Science

Robert Kimball, Charter Schools Office

Cheryl Kotecki, Center for Adult and Continuing Studies

Tamera Kraker, Seidman Student Academic Services

Angel Kropf, Records and Registration

David Kurjiaka, Biomedical Sciences

Susan Laidlaw-McCreery, Writing

Rhonda LeMieux, Athletics

Yan Liang, Modern Languages and Literatures

Chad Lingwood, History

Eliza MacDonald, Movement Sciences

Lynne Mannard, Mathematics

Josita Maouene-Cavin, Psychology

Astin Marti, Admissions Office

John Martin, Music, Theatre and Dance

Hazel A. McClure, University Libraries

Sean M. McManus, Facilities Services

James McNair, Annis Water Resources Institute

Lawrence Meredith, Facilities Services

Allison Metz, Music, Theatre and Dance

Ruth Meyering, Mathematics

Wael Mokhtar, School of Engineering

Nicholas Nelson, Information Technology

Amy Norkus, Writing

Leonard O'Kelly, School of Communications

Donna Oster, University Libraries

Diana Page, University Libraries

Yin-Fen Pao, Visual and Media Arts

Rachael Passarelli, Institutional Analysis

Kim Patrick, Procurement Services

Margaret Patterson, Facilities Services

Thomas Pentecost, Chemistry

Elizabeth Psyck, University Libraries

Christine Renner, Faculty Teaching and Learning Center

Kelley Rogers, Institutional Marketing

Sally Schoen, Institutional Marketing

Medar Serrata, Modern Languages and Literatures

James Seufert, CLAS Dean's Office

Michele Shannon-Wildt, College of Education

Sara Simon, University Libraries

Latchezara Smith, Small Business Development Center

Laurie Stickler, Physical Therapy

Sally Stockdale, Kirkhof College of Nursing

Terry Stockton, College of Education

Timothy Syfert, Management

Agnieszka Szarecka, Cell and Molecular Biology

Lin Tian, School of Communications

Christopher Toth, Writing

Scott Truskowski, Occupational Science & Therapy

Erika Van Dyke, Conference Services

Brian Van Farowe, Facilities Services

Melba Velez Ortiz, School of Communications

Amirah Vosburgh, Charter Schools Office

Anna Walz, Marketing

William Washington, TRIO Student Support Services

Laurel Westbrook, Sociology

Edward Wierzbicki, Facilities Services

Shontaye Witcher, Disability Support Resources

Megan Woller-Skar, Biology

Nicole Woody, University Development

Mingyu Wu, Occupational Safety and Health

Jason Yancey, Modern Languages and Literatures

Suzanne Zack, Visual and Media Arts