

# FORUM

A NEWSLETTER FOR THE GRAND VALLEY STATE UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY

Published by University Communications | For news updates, visit [gvsu.edu/gvnow](http://gvsu.edu/gvnow)

## Speakers named for commencement ceremonies

Prominent community philanthropists, a football coach and a lifelong educator will give commencement addresses at Grand Valley's three ceremonies April 26-27 at Van Andel Arena in Grand Rapids.

Daniel and Pamela DeVos will speak at the April 26 ceremony, which will begin at 7 p.m. and include the Seidman College of Business, College of Community and Public Service, and Padnos College of Engineering and Computing.

As lead donors for Daniel and Pamela DeVos Center for Interprofessional Health, under construction on Grand Valley's Health Campus, they are continuing the DeVos family's legacy of providing transformative support for health and education in West Michigan. Dan is chair and CEO of DP Fox Ventures LLC. Pamela is founder and president of pamella roland, a prominent women's fashion house.

Brian Kelly, head football coach for the University of Notre Dame, will return to campus as the speaker for the 10 a.m. ceremony on April 27 for graduates of the College of Health Professions, Kirkhof College of Nursing



From left are commencement speakers Daniel DeVos, Pamela DeVos, Brian Kelly and Lupe Ramos-Montigny.

and half of the majors in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

Kelly has an overall record of 231-91-2 (.716) in 29 seasons as a head coach. He won two NCAA Division II titles at Grand Valley in 2002 and 2003 and also coached at Central Michigan University and the University of Cincinnati. Kelly and his wife, Paqui, founded the Kelly Cares Foundation, which has contributed more than \$5 million to various organizations.

Lupe Ramos-Montigny, member of the Michigan State Board of Education, is the speaker at the 3 p.m. ceremony on April 27 for

graduates of the College of Education, Brooks College of Interdisciplinary Studies and half of the majors in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

Ramos-Montigny worked for more than 35 years in education, including many years as a Grand Rapids Public Schools building principal. She was elected to the state Board of Education in 2012. Ramos-Montigny serves as the chair for the Committee to Honor César E. Chávez; in 2015, Grand Valley renamed a

*continues on page 4*

## ACROSS CAMPUS

### Campus Drive to close for construction

The main road through the Allendale Campus (North and South Campus Drive) will be closed from May 6-August 9 due to construction. Crews will be making improvements to prepare for The Rapid's new Laker Line that will eventually replace Route 50.

Road closures include North Campus Drive between Ravine Center and Calder Drive and West Campus Drive between the Meadows parking lot and North Campus Drive.

North and South Campus Drive will be open only for delivery and services vehicles from Calder Drive to the Commons loading dock driveway.

Detour routes:

- Entrance from north academic and athletic areas: Enter campus from Lake Michigan Drive and turn right onto West Ravine Center Drive. Turn left onto Laker Village Drive and enter Lots C, E, F, G, H, K and P on the left.
- Entrance from north to North Housing and Lot D: Enter from Lake Michigan Drive and turn left on East Ravine Center Drive and enter Lot D on the right.
- Entrance from south and west to academic and athletic areas: Enter campus from Pierce Street or 42nd Avenue. Enter Lots P, K, H, G, F, E, C and D on the right.
- Entrance to the Meadows Golf Course and practice facility: Enter West Campus Drive from 48th Avenue.

To view a map outlining the detours, visit [gvsu.edu/facilitiesplanning](http://gvsu.edu/facilitiesplanning) and click on "Road Detours."



Photo by Amanda Pitts

To accommodate construction of the Rapid's new Laker Line, North and South Campus Drive will be closed beginning May 6.

# ACROSS CAMPUS

## Four faculty earn Fulbright Scholar awards

Three Grand Valley faculty members have earned Fulbright Scholar awards from the U.S. Department of State to teach or conduct research overseas in the next academic year and one faculty member will return soon from a semester teaching in Austria.

They are Dianne Conrad, associate professor of nursing; Lara Jaskiewicz, associate professor of public, nonprofit and health administration; and Rachel Powers, professor of chemistry. Robert Adams, professor of computing and information systems, is teaching in Graz, Austria, for the winter semester.

Details of each person's teaching or research assignment is below.

- Conrad will spend the fall 2019 semester in Dublin, Ireland, at Dublin City University, where she and a colleague from the University of Detroit Mercy (who will follow in spring 2020) will assess the country's regional health care delivery system and its status of advanced practice nursing roles. Conrad said she hopes to develop a sustainable partnership among Grand Valley and the two other institutions.
- Powers will spend part of the winter 2020 semester in Argentina at the Universidad de Buenos Aires to advance her current research on antibiotic resistant bacteria. Powers will also develop and teach a course on the structural aspects of antibiotic resistance using molecular graphics programs to analyze structures of proteins that play a role in resistance.
- Jaskiewicz will spend the next academic year at Vilnius University in Lithuania, serving as a guest lecturer and providing consultations for graduate students who are conducting qualitative research. Jaskiewicz's research project focuses on exploring barriers that limit the growth of health and wellness nonprofit organizations, which she said might contribute to the high rates of alcoholism and suicide within the country.
- Adams has been teaching in Austria at Fachhochschule Joanneum, the



Clockwise from top left are Dianne Conrad, Lara Jaskiewicz, Robert Adams and Rachel Powers.

country's second largest university of applied sciences. Adams said the experience has been life-changing and he will take away new ideas for research and teaching.

Grand Valley has consistently been named a regional top producer of Fulbright Scholar and Fulbright Student awards.

## Last published issue for semester

This issue marks the final *Forum* published for the winter semester. The publication will resume August 27.

Keep updated on campus news by visiting Grand Valley's news website, [GVNow, gvsu.edu/gvnow](http://GVNow.gvsu.edu/gvnow).

## Outstanding Faculty, Staff Members



Students in the Oliver Wilson Freshman Academy nominated Williamson Wallace, criminal justice faculty member and director of Grand Valley's Police Academy as Outstanding Faculty Member of the Year. Wallace, at right, is pictured with (at left) student Chase Brown and Gabe Peña, student success coach.

Mike Messner, director for Student Success Programs, was named Outstanding Staff Member of the Year. The Freshman Academy held its annual celebration April 16 in the Alumni House.

## FORUM

### Volume 43, Number 16

The GVSU Forum is published by University Communications. The submission deadline is Tuesday prior to the publication date. Send publication items to Michele Coffill, editor, c/o [forum@gvsu.edu](mailto:forum@gvsu.edu). Web: [gvsu.edu/forum](http://gvsu.edu/forum)

#### University Communications Staff:

**Mary Eilleen Lyon** associate vice president  
**Sherry Bouwman** university comm. assistant  
**Dottie Barnes** associate director of news  
**Meagan Beck** social media coordinator  
**Bernadine Carey Tucker** director of creative services  
**Michele Coffill** associate director of publications  
**Bill Cuppy** creative director, video and multimedia  
**Nate Hoekstra** associate director of digital content  
**Dave LeFurge-McLeod** videographer  
**Elizabeth Lienau** multimedia project coordinator  
**Tony Packer** videographer  
**Amanda Pitts** senior photographer  
**Madison Barnes** student writer

#### Other University Communications publications:

Grand Valley Magazine, published quarterly; visit [gvsu.edu/gvmagazine](http://gvsu.edu/gvmagazine).

GVNow, web publication; visit [gvsu.edu/gvnow](http://gvsu.edu/gvnow), for daily news updates and video features.

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



# ACROSS CAMPUS

## GVNow recap:

### DTE president says learn 'soft skills' early

Gerry Anderson, president and CEO of DTE Energy, said he was trained on the "hard side" of business (finance, engineering, operations) and it took him a while to discover how to be successful at the "soft side" of business.

Anderson stressed the importance of soft skills during a presentation as part of the Peter F. Secchia Breakfast lecture April 17 in the Eberhard Center.

Anderson said when he became president and chief operating officer of DTE in 2006, he felt as though the company was a reflection of himself.

"When I looked around, I had to admit it wasn't a pretty picture. We were a mediocre company," he said. "Our industrial safety record was poor in the industry, and our customer service was ranked near the bottom in our peer group."

Anderson said the company had been measuring the engagement of its employees for years, and it was very low. He said it was his job to fix the broken culture, and he had to figure out how to build a winning culture of 10,000 people.

"At its core, continuous improvement must have a deep respect for the dignity of people," Anderson said. "If you ask people to bring their best energy and creativity, you have to put the best in their future, or it's not a fair exchange."

During the economic crisis in Michigan in 2008-2009, Anderson said he told employees if they would bring their very best to the job, he would do his very best to avoid layoffs. He was able to make good on that promise and he said that gave people hope.

"In the middle of the economic crisis we had the strongest cash flow year in the company's history," he said. "I learned far more in 2009 than in any other year of my career. Everything I learned was about people and what they are capable of if they really commit themselves to something."

The DTE Energy Foundation Electromagnetic Compatibility Lab, located in Grand Valley's Innovation Design Center for Engineering on the Pew Grand Rapids Campus, helps local businesses design and test electrical devices entering the marketplace.

## Blue honored for career dedicated to students, university

"In many ways, Chick's story 'is' the story of Grand Valley," said President Thomas J. Haas, during the naming ceremony for the Lynn M. Blue Connection April 9.

Blue, '86, vice president for Enrollment Development, was honored for a legacy of mentoring students and her support for the university.

*continues on page 3*



## WHAT'S AHEAD

### Teaching, learning with technology symposium set

More than two dozen presentations highlighting the use of technology in the classroom will be offered during the 18th annual Teaching and Learning with Technology Symposium.

The event will take place May 1 from 1-3:30 p.m. in the Mary Idema Pew Library, multipurpose room.

A keynote address will be given by Provost Maria Cimitile, ePoster sessions will be held, and a "Technology Test Kitchen" will be available offering hands-on exploration of the latest technologies.

Topics include using digitally interactive lectures to increase classroom creativity, assistive technology for students with and without disabilities, use of light board videos to reduce cognitive loading, and exploring the future of teaching and learning through the technology showcase.

The event is sponsored by eLearning and Emerging Technologies in partnership with the Pew Faculty Teaching and Learning Center, and University Libraries.

To see a full list of topics and to register, visit [gvsu.edu/elearning](http://gvsu.edu/elearning).

### Title IX conference includes free, pre-conference session

Grand Valley will host a regional Title IX Investigation Conference for K-12 and college/university employees that includes a free, pre-conference session open to the public.

The two-day conference is May 1-2 at the DeVos Center. Workshop sessions and roundtable discussions will focus on investigator content, interviewing skill enhancement, case preparation and policy implementation. Cost to attend the conference is \$175 and includes meals and snacks; to register or view details, visit [gvsu.edu/titleix/conference](http://gvsu.edu/titleix/conference).

The free, pre-conference session on April 30, from 5-6 p.m., features Lilia Cortina, professor of psychology and women's studies, and management and organizations at the University of Michigan. Cortina is the principal investigator for Research in the Gender and Respect in Organizations (GRO) lab, which addresses gender, sex-based harassment and incivility in the workplace.

Cortina's presentation, "#MeToo: From a Moment to a Movement," will be in the DeVos Center, Loosemore Auditorium. No registration is necessary.

Cortina will discuss how the term "sexual harassment" is misleading, as she contends the harassment has little to do with sexuality but rather gender. Cortina will highlight her research on gender harassment, where it occurs and the type of employees who engage in it.

Cortina is the author of more than 50 articles published in academic journals and a contributor to a report, "Sexual Harassment of Women: Climate, Culture and Consequences in Academic Sciences, Engineering and Medicine."



Lilia Cortina

### Fostering Laker Success to hold celebration, build network

Grand Valley's Fostering Laker Success uses cross-campus collaboration to provide a safe network for students who experienced foster care.

FLS will host its annual celebration May 2 at the Alumni House, beginning at 5 p.m. The fundraiser will include a silent auction, dinner and student presentations. RSVP for the event online at [gvsu.edu/s/111](http://gvsu.edu/s/111).

Established in 2017 and housed in the Gayle R. Davis Center for Women and Gender Equity, FLS helps students success on- and off-campus by ensuring they have access to academic and professional resources.

Staff members are trying to establish a network of GVSU alumni who experienced foster care to serve as resources for current students. People who are interested can contact Jessica R. Campbell at [campbej1@gvsu.edu](mailto:campbej1@gvsu.edu).

### Rescheduled Health Forum to highlight organ donations

Panelists at the May 3 Health Forum of West Michigan event will discuss the need for organ donations and the decisions involved in a transplant.

"Organ Donation and Transplantation" will begin at 8 a.m. in the DeVos Center, Loosemore Auditorium. A light breakfast will be served at 7:30 a.m. It had been scheduled for February 1 but canceled due to poor weather.

The event is free and open to the public, RSVP online at [gvsu.edu/vphealth](http://gvsu.edu/vphealth).

Panelists are Dorrie Dils, CEO of Gift of Life Michigan; Dr. Michael Hofmann, Mercy Health Kidney Transplant Center; Dr. Anupam Kumar, Spectrum Health's heart and lung transplant program; Dr. David Start, chief medical examiner for Ottawa County and deputy medical examiner for Kent County.

Health Forum events are held monthly and supported by the Office of the Vice Provost for Health.

### Fall semester events announced by Vice Provost for Health

Two key events held in the fall semester have been announced by the Office of the Vice Provost for Health.

- **The Midwest Interprofessional Practice, Education, and Research Center (MIPERC) conference** will be held September 19-20 on the Pew Grand Rapids Campus. With the theme, "The Next Wave: Embedding IPE Initiatives within Health Professions Education and Practice Settings, the conference is free for faculty and staff members and students.

Visit [gvsu.edu/miperc](http://gvsu.edu/miperc) for details on speakers and other details. Abstracts for poster or podium presentations are being accepted through June 30.

- **The DeVos Medical Ethics Colloquy**, "The Power of Data and the Dilemma of Privacy," will be held October 14 at the Eberhard Center. Speakers are I. Glenn Cohen, professor of law at Harvard Law School and faculty director of the Petrie-Flom Center for Health Law Policy, Biotechnology and Bioethics; and Bonnie Kaplan, scholar at Yale Interdisciplinary Bioethics Center and faculty fellow, Yale Law School's Information Society Project.

Faculty members who wish to bring their classes to the colloquy can contact Diane Dykstra at [dykstrdi@gvsu.edu](mailto:dykstrdi@gvsu.edu). Information about the colloquy is online at [gvsu.edu/colloquy](http://gvsu.edu/colloquy).

## ACROSS CAMPUS

continued from page 2

"In 1968, when Chick began her career, this was a very different university, physically," said Haas. "One thing that didn't change was Chick's love of students, adaptability and innovative thinking."

Blue has held six positions and worked in at least 11 different offices during her more than 50 years at Grand Valley. She was instrumental in creating a one-stop



Photo by Amanda Pitts  
Jodi Chycinski, left, director of Admissions, leads a toast to Lynn 'Chick' Blue.

service for students, integrating registration and financial services into one system.

Jodi Chycinski, associate vice president and director of Admissions, said Blue is an inspirational mentor who has dedicated her career to making Grand Valley feel like home to students.

"Chick has personally gone above and beyond to care for students," said Chycinski. "Understanding the financial barriers some students face, she started the Blue Working Family Scholarship, which will continue to help students in a significant way for generations to come."

Haas said in addition to investing her own time and financial resources, Blue's major accomplishments include her long-standing relationship with the University Prep Academies in Detroit and her establishment of the student textbook fund.

"Chick devoted her life to Grand Valley and its success; she is the epitome of our mission," he said. "She would literally give the coat off her back to a student in need."

For complete stories, visit [gvsu.edu/gvnow](http://gvsu.edu/gvnow).

# FACULTY AND STAFF SKETCHES

## IN THE NEWS

### MOAS



The Latin American Studies class, co-taught by Dennis Malaret and Adriana Almanza, traveled to Washington, D.C., to participate in the Model Organization of American States in early April. MOAS is a simulation in which students are delegates of Latin American countries within the United Nations.

## SKETCHES

**Joel Potrykus**, visiting professor of visual and media arts, had his new film, “Relaxer,” reviewed by the *New York Times*.

Allied health sciences faculty members **Claudia Leiras** and **Alisha Davis** gave a presentation, “The Microaggression Effect: Are You Creating Safe Spaces and Places for Health Care?” and participated in a World Health Organization healthy cities panel discussion at the World Health Care Congress Europe in Manchester, United Kingdom.

**William Neal**, emeritus professor of geology, wrote an article, “Book Review: ‘Coastal Scenery: Evaluation and Management,’” published in the *Journal of Coastal Research*. Neal was also interviewed by BVI Beacon for a story, “Experts: CGB Shore Fix Unlikely to Last.”

The **Office of Student Life Community Service Learning Center**, in partnership with Kent State University and University of Maryland, Baltimore County, received a \$5,816 grant from the Association of American Colleges and Universities to develop tools for student civic empowerment.

**Sarah King**, associate professor of liberal studies and religious studies, and **Amy McFarland**, assistant professor of food and agricultural studies, Honors College, received a \$30,000 grant from the Wabash Center for Teaching and Learning in Theology and Religion for their project, “Growing Diversity,” which will connect the Sustainable Agriculture Project and teaching religious diversity.

**Ruthanne Griffin**, director of human resources administration and technology; **Brian Snyder**, IT systems analyst; and **Daniel Vainner**, associate registrar, gave a presentation, “My Name (Preferred Name) Implementation at GVSU,” at the Ellucian Live conference in New Orleans, Louisiana.

**Loren Rullman**, vice provost for Student Affairs and dean of students, gave a presentation, “The Purpose of the College Union in Fulfilling

the Academic Mission of the Institution,” at NASPA: Student Affairs Professionals in Higher Education held in Los Angeles, California.

**John Kilbourne**, professor of movement science, gave a presentation, “Early Sami Play and Games: Sustainability and Peace,” at the Sami Festival in Umea, Sweden.

**Elizabeth Kilbourne**, part-time faculty of liberal studies, gave a presentation, “Moving Adventures for Design,” at the Interaction Design School at Umea University in Umea, Sweden.

**Amy Russell**, associate professor of biology, wrote an article, “A Coalescent-based Estimator of Genetic Drift, and Acoustic Divergence in the *Pteronotus parnellii* Species Complex,” published in *Heredity*.

Facilities Services staff members **Cathy Headley** and **Janet Aubil** were featured in the cover story for *American Cleaning and Hygiene* for their leadership in gender equality.

**Danielle Lake**, assistant professor of liberal studies, received the Jane Addams Prize from the Society for the Advancement of American Philosophy. It recognizes excellence in feminist scholarship in papers presented at the annual meeting.

**Carol “Griff” Griffin**, director of the General Education Program and professor of biology; **Wendy Burns-Ardolino**, director of the Master’s Program in Social Innovation and professor of liberal studies; and **Ellen Schendel**, assistant vice president for Academic Affairs and professor of writing, gave a presentation, “Striving for Inclusive Excellence in a General Education Program: Examining Racial and Ethnic Disparities in Student Learning,” at the American Association for Colleges and Universities’ conference on Creating a 21st Century General Education.

**Kay Losey**, professor of writing, gave a presentation, “Written Code-switching in the Classroom: Creating Lessons that Work,” at the TESOL International Conference in Atlanta, Georgia.

**Liz Collver**, assistant director for Student Life, Civic Engagement, gave a presentation, “Democracy Academy: Engaging Campuses, Persons, and Communities in the Electoral Process,” at NASPA: Student Affairs Professionals in Higher Education held in Los Angeles, California.

**Carmen L. Nochera**, professor of biomedical sciences, wrote an article, “Development of a Breadfruit Flour Pasta Product,” published in the journal *Foods*.

**Andrea Riley-Mukavetz**, assistant professor of liberal studies, gave a presentation at the Native American and Indigenous Studies Symposium hosted by the Five Colleges Consortium and two presentations at the College Composition and Communication Conference in Pittsburgh. Riley-Mukavetz was also invited to serve on the Diversity and Inclusion Committee for the Grand Rapid’s Children’s Museum.

**Stephen Rowe**, professor of philosophy, was appointed as advisor to the Institute for Postmodern Development of China in Claremont, California, and to the faculty of Cobb Ecological Academy in Jiande, China.

College of Education faculty members gave presentations at the Michigan Reading Association Annual Conference in Grand Rapids: **Pam Page**, Motivating Readers with Non-Fiction: Strategies to Increase Enjoyment, Curiosity, and Engagement; **Mary Shelton**, Reading, Writing, Performing: From Serious to Silly; **Elizabeth Stolle**, Swedish Perspectives: Living and Learning; **Nancy DeFrance**, Fostering Reflection on Teaching and Learning: the Facilitative Role of the Coach; and **Erica Hamilton**, Focused on Student Learning: Teacher-Led Learning Labs as Professional Development and Bridging the Gap: Using a University-School Partnership to Extend Secondary Students’ Writing Development.

## Graduating students also will address commencement audiences

*continued from page 1*

scholarship to honor her.

Honorary degree recipients are Joyce F. Hecht, who served as director of Grand Valley’s University Development office; Edward J. Hanenburg, Grand Valley University Foundation director and longtime Coopersville resident; and Sylvia C. Kaufman, who, with her late husband, Richard, founded the Kaufman Interfaith Institute.

Shinian Wu, professor of English, will receive the Outstanding Educator Award from the Alumni Association. The Alumni Association will present its Distinguished Alumni Award to Dr. Mark Smith, ’91. Smith is senior vice president of medical affairs/chief medical officer of Henry Ford Allegiance Health, and CEO of the Henry Ford Allegiance Medical Group in Jackson.

A graduating student was selected to give

remarks at each ceremony. They are Amy Harris, an international student from Zimbabwe and MBA student; Natalie Loewengruber, a psychology major; and Teresa Salas, a communications studies major.

All commencement ceremonies will be live streamed, visit [gvsu.edu/commencement](http://gvsu.edu/commencement) for details.