

# Grand Valley State University CLAS Center for Experiential Learning

## CLAS VOYAGE

The Voyage is a commitment to students in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences (CLAS) that their education is preparation for a multitude of future possibilities. The outcome of strategic planning undertaken in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences over 18-plus months using appreciative inquiry, the Voyage seeks to ensure all students have access to high-impact and experiential educational practices. These practices, which faculty and staff identified as critical, have been a part of the success of GVSU. The goal of the Voyage is to highlight, resource, and expand access to these experiences for all students. For information, go online to [gvsu.edu/clas](https://gvsu.edu/clas) or contact:

Rachel Campbell, Associate Professor of Sociology and the CLAS Voyage Curriculum Director, at [campbera@gvsu.edu](mailto:campbera@gvsu.edu)

Bradford Dykes, Associate Professor of Statistics and the Student Success Data Director, at [dykesb@gvsu.edu](mailto:dykesb@gvsu.edu)

## Laker Accelerated Talent Link

Internships play a critical role in shaping the future lives of GVSU students. Talent Link seeks to enhance the value of a liberal arts and sciences degree while meeting the needs of West Michigan employers through a unique employer-funded program. Student scholars receive:

- \$15,000 employer-sponsored scholarship to layer a technical certificate on top of their major.
- Participation in a co-curricular cohort to prepare for the internship.
- Paid internship with an employer partner.
- Good faith job offer post-graduation if positions are available.

There are many opportunities to engage as faculty, including internship support and coordination, new certificate development, employer relations, and skill tracking and assessment. For information, please contact Dana Hebreard at [hebreard@gvsu.edu](mailto:hebreard@gvsu.edu)

## OVERVIEW

The journey from the initial founding of the **CLAS Center for Experiential Learning (CCEL)** in 2022 to its current state has involved significant initial investment by the CLAS Dean's Office in experiential learning, strategic grant applications, a commitment from the university to build on CCEL's successes, considerable cross-divisional teamwork, and faculty-focused professional development, and student-centered design.

CCEL is a robust hub for experiential learning in the College of Arts and Sciences (CLAS) at Grand Valley State University, offering opportunities to connect faculty and students with established partnerships, support with developing new partnerships, professional development, and funding.

The **Regional Math and Science Center**, also within the unit, is an education outreach center that partners with GVSU faculty and students to engage K-12, higher education, and community stakeholders to advance STEM in the region. Both Centers are valuable resources for faculty. Two new initiatives that may be of interest to new faculty:

### **CCEL Conference Fund**

Support focused on professional development for experiential learning.

[gvsu.edu/ccel/conferencefund](https://gvsu.edu/ccel/conferencefund)

- \$1000 maximum to support experiential learning
- All CLAS faculty types are eligible Rolling application period

### **Community Partner Interest Form**

Support faculty connections with external partners for classroom engagement.

[gvsu.edu/ccel/communitypartners](https://gvsu.edu/ccel/communitypartners)

- Field external partnership requests for faculty
- Work with the Community Engagement Office to capture info for the Laker Effect Map

**\*\*To get involved, please check out the faculty resources page online.**