

CECI Connections

NEWSLETTER

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Colleagues,

At this time of the year, the university hosts the annual Enrichment Dinner which provides an opportunity to not only showcase the excellent work we do at GVSU, but also to say thank you to those who give of themselves, their time, talent and treasure so that we can continue our mission of educating the next generation.

I write with a spirit of gratitude, not only for the many ways our community gives to support us, but also for our excellent faculty, staff, and students who inspire those gifts. At this year's event, I had the privilege to connect with alumni, current students, and donors who support our programs, and I was touched by the stories they shared of how your work and engagement with them inspired them to give back to our students. While I was not able to connect with all of those in

attendance who are associated with our college, all of the individuals I spoke with shared heartwarming and poignant stories of how you touched their lives in significant ways. I'm grateful for the opportunity to work with such caring, compassionate, dedicated, and brilliant people. I raise a glass and a big thank you for all you do!

~Sherril



Celebrations

Faculty/Staff, Alumni, and Students

GVSU Education Alumni & Mentor Teacher Appreciation Night, took place Monday, May 6, 2024, at which education alumni, teacher mentors, and graduates from the Education program gathered at the L.V. Eberhard Center to mingle and [welcome recent graduates](#) to the Education Alumni Network.

Carley Curtis and **Kate Snow**, both majoring in Hospitality & Tourism Management, have garnered the [People's Choice Award](#) for their presentation at the Asian American Hotel Owners Association's annual conference. The conference's Hotel Turnaround Collegiate Championship challenged 11 teams from seven universities to engage in a simulation aimed at analyzing underperforming hotels.

Recognitions

Faculty/Staff, Alumni, and Students

The **School of Social Work (SSW)** is excited to announce its new unit head, Dr. Cray Mulder! Cray brings 20 years of experience in the SSW and her passion for quality programming. One of her major priorities is seeing the school through a successful reaccreditation.

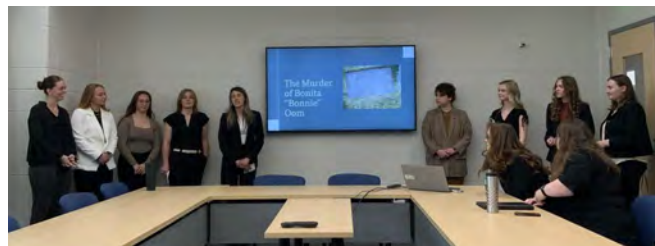
Patty Janes, professor in Hospitality and Tourism Management, was featured in a GVNNext article titled, [Nonprofit with GVSU roots unites volunteers for projects across Michigan](#). The article discusses the work done by the nonprofit organization, Michigan Cares for Tourism, and working with GVSU's Charter Schools Office and 120 11th graders from University Prep Science & Math in Detroit.

Julie Bulson, MPA '07, was [appointed](#) in May 2024 by Governor Whitmer to the State Fire Safety Board. Bulson is the director of business assurance for Corewell Health. She received her nursing degree from Blodgett School of Nursing, a Bachelor of Science, MPA in Healthcare Leadership, and a Doctor of Nursing Practice in Health Systems Leadership from GVSU.

Shane Scherer, MPA '11, director of the Military and Veteran Resources Center, along with a team of Lakers, [worked to assist a local veteran & single mother](#) for the 2024 Operation United.

Isa Grunwaldt, a senior studying public and nonprofit administration, was among 137 nationally recognized by ALL IN Campus Democracy Challenge for its [Student Voting Honor Roll](#). Students were recognized for their commitment to nonpartisan democratic engagement and their contributions to their local communities.

The **Criminal Justice Cold Case class**, was able to visit the Michigan State Police Sixth District to assist in the murder of Bonita "Bonnie" Oom. Students assisted with categorizing information, digitizing paper copies, analyzing the facts of the case, and presenting their findings.



Community Engagement

President Nelson Mandela Exhibit, Dianne Green-Smith, professor in the School of Social Work, brought from Africa to their first museum experience. Students shared their experiences of how they felt about the President Nelson Mandela exhibit:

- ...Going to the museum helped me appreciate history and culture. I think preserving culture is very important. These are values and lessons we learnt applied from the past to present societal issues.”
- ...”Mandela’s words about education deeply resonated with me. Education is a weapon. Education has truly changed the trajectory of my life and my family. I wouldn’t have made it this far without education.”
- ...Thank you for getting us the tickets to go see the Nelson Mandela exhibition. It gave me an opportunity to reflect on my experiences and that of my forefathers who struggled to fight for independence for Africa and the Black community.”



The **Groundswell Student Project Showcase** was held on May 16, 2024. The Groundswell Stewardship Initiative hosted over 400 students, educators, families, and friends for its 14th annual Student Project Showcase here at GVSU. **Twenty-seven local schools** showcased their hard work after conducting research all year long. Attendees enjoyed an outdoor picnic, crafts, raffles, yard games, and most importantly: learning from student scholars. Beautiful weather made the evening a fantastic event for the community to come together to celebrate our scholars' and teachers' stewardship efforts.



College Governance

All committee agendas and minutes are posted on our [website](#).

Winter 2024 College Election Results

Thanks to everyone for volunteering to serve and for making your vote count! Results can be found using the button below.

[W24 College Election Results](#)

College Advisory and Communication Committee

CACC held its retreat on June 4 to plan the 2024-2025 year and reaffirm its chair, Christopher Kierkus.

We are excited for our new representatives to join us for the first time:

- Kelly Lormand, T&L, elected to serve until 2027
- Jade Bowman, OCA, finishing Kel Nemetz's term
- Paul Bylsma, ELC, one-year appointment
- Raymond Higbea, SCLD, standing in until an appointment is made

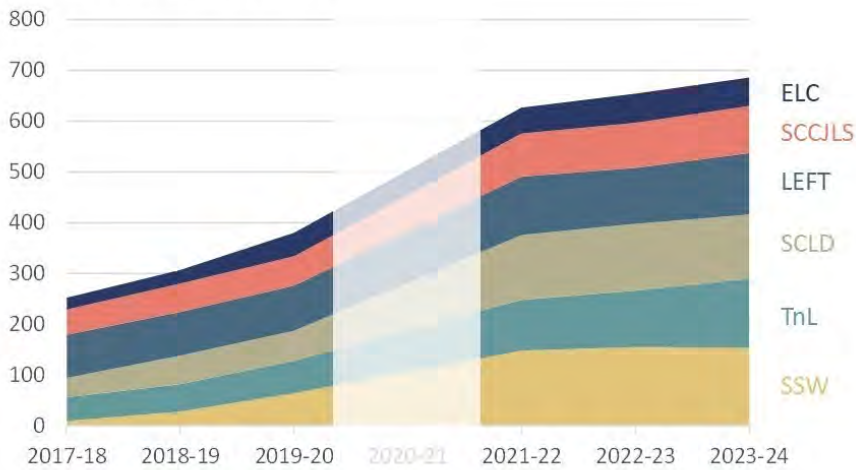
Something new for this year, CACC is helping increase support for the Replenish Food Drive beginning in October. Expect more information from your representative in the fall.



The [CECI Happenings](#) is an informational form that can be submitted by any faculty, staff, or student to promote an event, publication, etc. for our social platforms and newsletter.



Number of Hybrid and Online Sections, 2017-18 to 2023-24



June 17 - PK12 Advisory Council Convening, 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m., Pew Campus, Regency Room

June 17 - Classes End - 1st 6 Weeks

June 18 - 19 - Examinations: 1st 6 Weeks

June 24 - Classes Begin: 2nd 6 Weeks

June 24 by Noon - Grades Due from Faculty - 1st 6 Weeks

June 28 by 5:00 p.m. - Last Day to Add or Register - 2nd 6 Weeks

July 4 - Independence Day Recess

August 2 - Classes End - 2nd 6 and 12 Weeks

August 5 - August 6 - Examinations: 2nd 6 and 12 Weeks

August 12 by Noon - Grades Due from Faculty - 2nd 6 and 12 Weeks

August 22 - Fall 2024 Convocation

August 26 - Fall 2024 Begins

Grab a blanket or chair and join us on the lawn behind [Kentwood City Hall](#) (4900 Breton Ave. SE, about 20

minutes south of DeVos Center) for a summer Cecipalooza gathering, Thursday, 6/13, 7:00-8:30pm. The performer is the [Chris Canas](#), the “Detroit Prince of Blues.” Bring family and friends. Strollers are welcome. Look for a blue balloon to find us on the lawn.

Come early and check out the [Kentwood Farmers Market](#) which takes place next door in parking lot from 4:30-7:30pm. There will be several food trucks. You are also welcome to bring your own food, beer, or wine to the concert.

Another June Cecipalooza gathering will be June 25, when [Opal Agafia](#) (roots rock, blues) performs at Caledonia Community Green Park (9300 Dobber Wenger, 49316).

If you want to invite your friends and colleagues to a free concert, [pick one](#) (there are hundreds!) and let us know!



CECI Palooza

Important Dates

Fall Kick-off Meeting

Monday, August 19, 2024
Professional headshots begin at 8:00 a.m.
Breakfast begins at 8:45 a.m.
1008 Multipurpose Room, Seidman

Year-end Winter Meeting

Monday, April 14, 2025
1008 Multipurpose Room, Seidman



Resources

- [Acronyms](#)
- [CECI Connections Guide](#)
- [CECI Newsletter Repository](#)
- [Experts Guide](#)
- [Organizational Chart](#)

- [Student Support Flowchart](#)
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Thanks to all those who contributed to the June 2024 edition of CECI Connections:
Dean Sherril Soman, Associate Dean Mark Hoffman, Jamie Langlois, Mara Spears, and Dianne Green-Smith.

If you have any questions or suggestions, or want to share your newsworthy information with us,
please use the link below.

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