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CECI Connections

NEWSLETTER

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Colleagues,

All the world's a stage,
And all the men and women merely players;
They have their exits and their entrances,
And one man in his time plays many parts,
His acts being seven ages.

Jaques to Duke Senior: As You Like It, Act II, Scene VII
[William Shakespeare](#) (1564 –1616)

It was great to see so many of our faculty and staff at the commencement celebrations for our students this past weekend. Approximately 650 students from CECI received their diplomas, 185 were master's and educational specialist candidates. It is also notable that 37% of the graduate students who participated in commencement were from CECI programs.

This is also a time of transition for our faculty and staff, some of whom will be retiring, and others who will move on to other ventures after many years of dedicated service to our programs and students. We are so grateful for your significant contributions to our growth and wish you all the best in your future endeavors.



As we work through the summer act, whatever place you are in the seven stages, I hope you find times to reflect and refresh.

~Sherril

Celebrations

Faculty/Staff, Alumni, and Students

Tyler Peery, elementary education with a minor in applied linguistics and a focus on teaching English as a Second Language, is one of the recipients of the [Fulbright Summer Institute Award](#). The Fulbright Award consists of eight students from across the nation who will be participating in the program at Welsh University. While abroad, students will explore Welsh nationhood through the perspective of the Welsh people.

Pi Alpha Honors Society, eight Master of Public Administration and Public & Nonprofit Administration students were inducted. Pictured (Left to right): Neal Buckwalter (MPA Program Director), Alexis Asaro, Jose Capeles, Saray Figueroa, Colton Hyble, Sam Jacobs, Jennifer Levandowski, Jessica White-Hattinger, and Catherine Zietse.



Kent County Juvenile Detention Center, one of our internship sites, has won the award for Non-Profit Internship Employer of the Year! Included in the picture below our current student intern and 3 previous interns that are now full-time staff!





Recognitions

Faculty/Staff, Alumni, and Students

Lorie Tuma, associate professor in the Hospitality and Tourism Management program, was recently appointed to the administrative team for Great Lakes Ski Riders as an ambassador to the State of Florida. The Great Lakes Ski Riders (GLSR) is a community of jet ski enthusiasts who love to ride and explore the Great Lakes. Tuma continues to serve as an administrator emeritus for Jet Rider Nation Ladies, and has created a jet ski riding course for women that want to learn more about riding responsibly in rivers and lakes in Florida, and in the Gulf of Mexico.

Publications/Presentations

Faculty, Staff, and Students

Reach Higher Showcase, thirty-four faculty, staff, and students from CECI were among the collaborators on project posters that were submitted for the event on April 12, 2024.



Student Scholars Day, twenty-six students in CECI programs participated in the event on April 10, 2024. There were twenty posters and two presentations for the all-day annual event. Faculty mentors from CECI included Mary Bair, Jamie Langlois, and Emily Nichols.



Amy Schelling, associate dean in the CECI Dean's Office, and **Adrianna Lynn**, GYO GTC Director, spoke with Shelley Irwin to share an update on [addressing the Teacher Shortage](#), including a review of the college's PK-12 initiatives and praising education faculty and staff for all of their work on the initiatives.

Nicole Sutton, MSW, and **Jasmine Nicole Wilson**, M.Ed, both presented at the Winter 2024 Graduate Showcase that was held in the Hager- Lubbers Exhibition Hall on April 23, 2024. Sutton's presentation was

on the topic: Sex Offender Treatment Panel: An Ethical Approach and Wilson's topic was on the topic: Predominantly White Teacher Education Programs Are Stifling Black Preservice Students' Teaching Experience: Now What?

A. Scott Rood, associate professor in the Hospitality and Tourism Management program, was featured as an expert on a recent Marketwatch article. He was highlighted in the article that was titled, "[Managing Your Finances While Traveling Full-Time](#)".

John Lipford, affiliate professor in the Hospitality and Tourism Management program, was featured in a MoneyGeek article as giving expert insight. The Money Geek article was titled, "[Small Cities and Towns Are Getting Safe, While Violent Crime in Large Cities Is On The Rise](#)."

Hannah Hosfelt, BA in Special Education and Elementary Education student & CLA Fellow, was featured in the final episode for the mini podcast series, '[Reflections on Patriotism](#)'.

Jowei Yek, who is receiving his degree in Social Innovation with the School of Community Leadership and Development, was [highlighted for his achievements](#) by The Graduate School.

Community Engagement

Kids' Food Basket, The Kids' Food Basket Organization has sent us a note for all the hard work that CECI has done for their mission:

Thank you so much for dropping off all of the colored bags for our sack suppers that were done by the College of Education and Community Innovation. We appreciate all those who participated in decorating/ coloring the bags for our sack suppers that go out to about 10,000 children each weekday during the school year!

We are so thankful to have your group learning about the need for healthy food so children can learn and grow strong.

Kay Friacano - Volunteer Experience Specialist

University Governance

Faculty Facilities Planning Advisory Committee

Christine Kenney will be the CECI representative to the Faculty Facilities Planning Advisory Committee (FFPAC) starting in 2024-25. Below are links to channels where you can report classroom and facilities issues, as well as submit classroom improvement requests. All these avenues are also available on the [Classroom Issues webpage](#).

- [I.T. issues](#)
 - [Maintenance/facilities issues](#)
 - [Classroom Improvements](#)
-

College Governance

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

College Curriculum Committee

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank these committee members who served 2023 – 2024:

- Nagnon Diarrassouba (recently re-elected)
- Daisy Fredricks
- Gabriela Gui
- Brian Johnson
- Leanne Kang (recently re-elected)
- Mohammed Lefrid
- Larry Warkoczewski
- Melissa Villarreal (stepping down from the Committee)

We'd also like to welcome:

- Joseph Kuilema – (recently elected)

Your College Curriculum Committee is here to advocate for you. Please join me in thanking all faculty who serve in this capacity.

Scott Rood
CCC Chair

College Advisory and Communications Committee

A HUGE thank you to the committee members of the College Advisory and Communications Committee for all of their hard work this year on our various service and social events! We'd like to shout out our committee members, and those who filled in for members on sabbaticals, to end our year: **Lynda Bykerk-Rupke, Wei Gu and Jennifer DeWaard, Rita Cooper, Mark Hoffman, Patty Janes, Christopher Kierkus, Jamie Langlois, Angie Leedy, Kel Nemetz, Melanie Rabine-Johnson, Mei Mah, Mary Bair and Rui Niu-Cooper**, thank you for your commitment to broadening communication and collaboration throughout our college this year, we could not have done it without you!

CACC was able to host two service events, the Fall Give Back Event with Michigan Cares for Tourism where we built 330 monofilament tubes to help keep our boat ramps clean, and the Kid's Food Basket Bag-A-Thon event where our college successfully decorated almost 2,500 bags and volunteered to prepare food for the Sack Suppers. We also hosted multiple social events, including the Art Prize walks, the Kid's Food Basket social, and our Fall Kickoff and Year-End meetings. CACC was also involved in the organization of the Global Awareness Collaborative Colloquium series which highlighted two countries, Czechia in the Fall and Ghana in the Winter, and were very successfully attended and received. Lastly, we were able to focus on enhancing our College Awards system with clear procedures and FAQs, as well as add or change criteria for fourteen awards to more inclusively celebrate more of our colleagues!

Next year, we look forward to welcoming **Kelly Lormand** onto our team and to another year of "*Coming Together*" as a college and working alongside each other collaboratively. Enjoy your summer!

CECI Tech Tidbits

Big Byte Webinar

Big Byte webinar

[Subscribe](#) to the GVSU Education Programs channel on YouTube to be notified of future Big Byte webinars. For past webinars, check out the [technology committee's website](#).

CECI Technology Committee meeting

The [CECI Technology Committee](#) held its Year End meeting on April 17, 2024. We invite you to be part of our

future meetings. If you're interested, please send an email to Dr. Rick Vandermolen.

Did you know?

How can Making Artificial Intelligence-Proof Assignments Improve Your Class?

[Watch](#) Ioana Literat, Columbia University, talk about her experience of being reluctant to revisit her assignments in classes that were going well. However, she wanted to make updates to ensure everything still worked, given the popularity of generative AI tools such as ChatGPT. However, she found that doing an AI Audit of her syllabus improved her courses overall. She found even more appreciation for tools that allow students to annotate readings with multimedia, adding multi-modal and interactive layers that go beyond a written reflection.

Staffing Changes in eLearning Technologies

Staffing Changes in eLearning Technologies: starting May 6, 2024, Justin Melick will resume his role as Senior Instructional Design Specialist, supporting CECl, SCB, and Engineering. We also bid farewell to Mai Mohamed Nour, whose contributions to eLearning Technologies will be remembered with fondness. We wish her the best in her new role in Records and Registration.



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.



Five CECl winter-term courses get "five stars" based on student responses to the "Laker Impressions of Faculty Teaching" (LIFT) evaluations. These were 3+ credit lecture/discussion courses with a high score in both satisfaction and challenge, with a response rate over 50%, and with enrollment at or over 15 students for undergraduate courses or 10 students for graduate courses. Alexis Oosting' is the first instructor to pull a hat trick and have three courses make the list in the same term. The courses with five-star recognition in the

winter 2024 semester are:

- Richard Geisel's EDL670/01 (School Law)
- Duane Zuber's HTM373.01 (Hospitality Information Analysis)
- Alexis Oosting's EDS306.01 (Instructional Methods and Inclusive Practices for Students with Disabilities), EDS323.03 (Teaching Students with Language and Literacy Learning Difficulties), and EDS332.02a (Methods and Strategies of Special Education Teaching)

Note that the five-star recognition is not a list of all courses with high student satisfaction, nor is it a formal teaching evaluation. Rather it is equivalent to a "student choice" award and thus is intentionally a statistical rarity.

Thank you to Alexis, Duane, and Richard for keeping your students so happy.



Cecipalooza

This summer, there are over 200 free concerts in parks and squares across West Michigan. (See our [free concert list](#) compiled from local government and chamber of commerce websites.) They occur on all days of the week with start times usually between 6 and 7 pm. Concerts last for about 90 minutes. Musical styles range from alt country to zydeco. Venues are family-friendly with guests bringing their own chairs and food. Most also have food trucks on site and some allow or serve wine and beer.

These concerts present an opportunity for us to mingle with each other and introduce our family and friends to colleagues.

Would you, as an individual, department, or group, like to invite your CECI colleagues to visit one of these concerts-in-the-park? If so, please pick one and investigate the venue a bit (e.g., food choices, alcohol policy, ease of access for baby strollers and wheelchairs). Every venue is a little different. Send your invitation and venue information to cecidean@gvsu.edu. Also, please suggest where we might meet before the venue. We will post the invitation and information to [our Cecipalooza web page](#) and share on our social media.

To launch the 2024 Cecipalooza, the Dean's Office is inviting everyone to these two:

Friday, May 31, 5pm – [Looking Back](#) (Bob Seager tribute) and [Allentown](#) (Billy Joel tribute)
Muskegon Parties in the Park (venue [FAQs](#))
Hackley Park, 350 W Webster Ave, 49440 (40 minutes northwest, downtown Muskegon)
Note: No outside food or beverages. On-site food and beer sales benefit Muskegon Rotary Club.

Thursday, June 6, 7 pm – [Nathan Walton and the Remedy](#) (soulful rock)
Kentwood Summer Concert Series (venue [website](#))
4900 Breton Ave. SE (20 minutes south, behind Kentwood City Hall)
Note: Next to Farmers' Market which is open 4:30-7:30 on Thursdays. Attendees are welcomed to bring their own food, beer, wine, strollers, and dogs on leashes. On-site food trucks are PizzaMI, Kool Breze, El Jalapeno, and Lazy Man BBQ.

May 15 - [Groundswell Student Project Showcase](#) - 5:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m., DeVos Courtyard
May 23 - CECI Check-in Meeting with Provost Mili and Dean Soman - 1:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.
TBD
May 29 - [Faculty Sabbatical Proposal Workshops](#) - 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
June 18 - 19 - Examinations: 1st 6 Weeks
June 24 - Classes Begin: 2nd 6 Weeks
August 5 - August 6 - Examinations: 2nd 6 and 12 Weeks

Important Dates

WINTER PERSONNEL ACTIONS

January 8 - Winter Personnel Portfolios due to Unit Heads
February 23 - Unit Heads submit appropriate winter personnel documents to Dean
February 29 - Dean forwards winter personnel documents to CPC
March 29 - CPC submits winter personnel recommendations to Dean
April 19 - Dean submits winter personnel recommendations to Provost
June 1 - Provost makes winter personnel decisions and notifies all appropriate people

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 May edition of CECI Connections:
Dean Sherril Soman, Associate Dean Mark Hoffman, A. Scott Rood, Kel Nemetz, and Lorie Tuma.

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

cecidean@gvsu.edu | (616) 331-6821 | gvsu.edu/ceci

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