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Grand Valley State University

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# FORUM

A NEWSLETTER FOR THE GRAND VALLEY STATE UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY

Published by University Communications



## Two additional provost candidates selected

Two additional candidates will interview on campus for the position of provost and executive vice president for Academic and Student Affairs.

They are James E. Hinterlong, special assistant to the provost for Virginia Commonwealth University, and Ian R. Davison, dean of the College of Science and Engineering at Central Michigan University.

This follows the withdrawal of one of the candidates, and a request from President Thomas J. Haas to provide a full complement of candidates to the campus community.

• Hinterlong will give a public presentation followed by a Q&A session from 2-3:30 p.m. on Tuesday, January 31, in the Kirkhof Center, Pere Marquette Room (room 2204); simulcast locations will be in the DeVos Center, room 107D, and Cook-DeVos Center for Health Sciences, room 115.

He will be available on Wednesday, February 1, from 10:30-11:30 a.m. for an open meeting at

the DeVos Center, Regency Room.

• Davison will give a public presentation followed by a Q&A session from 2-3:30 p.m. on Monday, February 6, in the Kirkhof Center, Pere Marquette Room (room 2204); simulcast locations will be the DeVos Center, room 111D, and Cook-DeVos Center for Health Sciences, room 140.

He will be available on Tuesday, February 7, from 10:30-11:30 a.m. for an open meeting at the DeVos Center, Regency Room.

Hinterlong was named special assistant



James E. Hinterlong

to the provost in 2016. From 2010-2016 he served as professor and dean of VCU's School of Social Work. He worked at Florida State University from 2008-2010 as director of the College of Social Work, then as associate dean for research.



Ian R. Davison

Hinterlong earned a master's degree and doctorate in social work from Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri; and a bachelor's degree in psychology from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

Davison has worked at CMU since 2008 and

*continues on page 4*

## Across Campus

### Economist predicts slower growth for 2017

Paul Isely, professor of economics and associate dean in the Seidman College of Business, said the area's economic outlook is positive but will have unique challenges.

Isely revealed his predictions for the West



Photo by Amanda Pitts

Paul Isely, professor of economics, reveals predictions and challenges for the area at the West Michigan Economic and Commercial Real Estate Forecast at DeVos Place in Grand Rapids January 26.

Michigan economy January 26, during the 2017 Colliers Annual West Michigan Economic and Commercial Real Estate Forecast event held at DeVos Place in Grand Rapids.

"The economic outlook for West Michigan is positive and steady with some unique challenges to overcome," he said.

His survey of the greater Grand Rapids economy (Kent, Ottawa, Muskegon, and Allegan counties) was conducted in November and December of 2016.

Isely said the local economy will continue to grow in 2017, but at a slower pace. "Employment growth will slow to about 2 percent growth from running at 3, 4 or 5 percent during the last few years," he said. "Sales growth will improve to about 3 percent, but business leaders said while they see sales going up this year, they will need fewer workers to handle it."

Isely said unique challenges for the local economy include the need for skilled labor, growth in the auto and furniture industries hitting a plateau, and strong national policy changes expected from the new administration.

Isely added that construction has been strong for West Michigan, but there will be a shift to single-family from multifamily

residential in the upcoming years; he also said he expects the next recession to hit in two-to-three years.

Overall findings for 2017:

- The Current Business Confidence Index for 2016 is 78.3%, a small improvement from 2015;
- The Forecast Business Confidence Index for 2017 is 80.7%;
- Employment is expected to grow by 2-2.2% in 2017;
- Overall nominal sales are expected to increase by 2.8-3.2% for 2017;
- All indicators signal the 2017 economy will continue to grow, but the pace, particularly in employment, will be slower than in 2016.

### Faculty will be recognized at convocation

Faculty members will be recognized for their teaching, scholarship, work with students and work in the community during the annual Faculty Awards Convocation, set for Thursday, February 2.

*continues on page 2*

# Across Campus

continued from page 1

The event will begin at 4 p.m. in the DeVos Center, Loosemore Auditorium; a reception will follow. William Ryan, professor of music and director of the New Music Ensemble, will give the convocation address, Provost Gayle R. Davis will give the welcome, and the University Brass Quintet and a student soloist from Opera Theatre will perform.



The Faculty Awards Convocation will be held February 2 at the DeVos Center. Pictured, Provost Gayle R. Davis speaks at the 2016 event.

University Awards for Excellence will be presented to the following people.

- Carol Sanchez, professor of management, Internationalization Award
- Brian Johnson, affiliate faculty of education, Outstanding Advising and Student Services Award
- Charlene Beckmann, professor of mathematics, Outstanding Community Service Award
- Donald Mitchell Jr., assistant professor of education, Outstanding University Service Award
- William Ryan, professor of music, Distinguished Contribution in a Discipline Award
- Mary Bair, associate professor of education, University Outstanding Teacher Award
- Wendy Burns-Ardolino, professor of liberal studies, and Robert Franciosi, professor of English, Glenn A. Niemeyer Awards

Pew Awards for Excellence will be presented to the following people.

- Susan Carson, professor of education, Burch, Jacobs & Moore Diversity Teaching Excellence Award
- Tyler Klaskow, part-time instructor of philosophy, Pew Teaching Excellence Award for Part-time Faculty
- Erica Hamilton, assistant professor of education, and Sr. Lucia Treanor, senior affiliate of writing, Pew Teaching with Technology Award
- Hazel McClure, associate librarian, Pew Excellence Award for Library Faculty
- Tara Cornelius-Reece associate professor of psychology; Mayra Fortes Gonzalez, associate professor of Spanish; Laurence José, associate professor of writing; Andrew Lantz, associate professor of chemistry; and Marilyn Preston, assistant professor of liberal studies: Pew Teaching Excellence Awards

The Center for Scholarly and Creative Excellence will present awards to the following people.

- Alexander Nesterenko, professor of communications, Distinguished Graduate Mentoring Award
- Wolfgang Friedlmeier, professor of psychology, and Roderick Morgan, professor of biology, Distinguished Undergraduate Mentoring Award
- Paul Cook, assistant professor of chemistry; Daniel Graser, assistant professor of music; Danielle Lake, assistant professor of liberal studies; and Melissa Tallman, assistant professor of biomedical sciences: Distinguished Early-Career Scholar Awards

Faculty members will also be recognized for 25, 30, 35 and 40 years of service to the university.

## Correction: students do need to pay for flu vaccines

An article in the January 23 *Forum* incorrectly stated that students do not need to pay for flu vaccines at the GVSU Family Health Center.

The center, 72 Sheldon Blvd. SE in Grand Rapids, still has flu vaccines available, at no charge for faculty and staff members, their dependents and retirees. Students can have the cost of the vaccine billed to their insurance at the center.

For more information, call the GVSU Family Health Center at (616) 988-8774 or visit [www.gvsu.edu/fhc](http://www.gvsu.edu/fhc).

## FORUM Volume 41, Number 18

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Faculty and staff members can find an online "Sketches" submission form on the Web at [www.gvsu.edu/forum](http://www.gvsu.edu/forum).

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Other publications by University Communications include:

*Grand Valley Magazine*, published quarterly; visit its website at [www.gvsu.edu/gvmagazine](http://www.gvsu.edu/gvmagazine).

Visit Grand Valley's online publication, *GVNow*, at [www.gvsu.edu/gvnow](http://www.gvsu.edu/gvnow), for daily news updates and video features.

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



## 1,100 people attend Teach-In sessions

More than 1,100 people attended the January 19 Teach-In, which was centered around the theme of "Power, Privilege and Difficult Dialogues."

Karen Gipson, chair of University Academic Senate and professor of physics, said although attendance was down from the 2016 event (1,450), she said it presented opportunities to learn, share and grow.

"The intimacy of many of the sessions allowed for more personal interactions," Gipson said. "I witnessed and experienced a number of meaningful exchanges where participants came away with new understanding of challenging topics."

The fourth annual event was sponsored by UAS and Student Senate. Student Senate President Ella Fritzeimer said she enjoyed the depth of presentations, and cited a few examples including the meaning of rape culture, bias in the news, and first-generation students speaking about their experiences.

Fritzeimer and another student senator gave a presentation with Inclusion and Equity and Dean of Students staff members that focused



Photo by Amanda Pitts

MarcQuis Wright, director of TRIO Student Support Services, speaks during a presentation about first-generation students at the Teach-In on January 19 in the Kirkhof Center. More than 1,000 people attended, and more than 60 sessions were held.

on framing and negotiating campus issues.

"We related organizational theories to the musical 'Hamilton' on how difficult decisions are made as well as gave personal examples," she said.

# What's Ahead

## Writers series begins with faculty showcase

The Grand Valley Writers Series continues for the winter season with a showcase of works by two Grand Valley faculty members: Amarak Huey and Caitlin Horrocks.

Huey and Horrocks will read from selected works on Tuesday, January 31, from 6-8 p.m., in the Cook-DeWitt Center.



Amarak Huey

Huey, assistant professor of writing at Grand Valley, is the author of the poetry collection *Ha Ha Thump* (2015) and the chapbook *The Insomniac Circus* (2014). His poetry and essays have appeared in *The Best American Poetry 2012*, *The Southern Review*, *Brevity*, *Poet Lore*, *The Collagist*, *The Cincinnati Review*, and many other print and digital journals. Huey recently received a Creative Writing Fellowship in poetry from the National Endowment of the Arts.

Horrocks, associate professor of writing, is a writer of fiction and creative nonfiction. Her debut story collection, *This Is Not Your City*, was named a *New York Times Book Review* Editor's Choice, a Barnes and Noble Discover Great New Writers selection, and one of the best books of the year by the *San Francisco Chronicle*. Her stories and essays have appeared in anthologies, such as *The Best American Short Stories*, *The PEN/O*, *Henry Prize Stories*, and *True Stories*, among others.



Caitlin Horrocks

Below is a list of remaining Grand Valley Writers Series events. All presentations are free and open to the public.

- **Vievee Francis and Matthew Olzmann, February 27:** craft talk: 6-7 p.m., DeVos Center, room 203E, reading and book signing: 7:30-8:50 p.m., DeVos Center, University Club

- **A Conversation and Reading with Bich Minh Nguyen, March 23:** reading and book signing: 4-5:15 p.m., Kirkhof Center, room 0072

- **Austin Bunn, April 13:** craft talk: 4-5:15 p.m., Kirkhof Center, rooms 2215/2216, reading and book signing: 6-7:30 p.m., Cook-DeWitt Center

For more information, visit [www.gvsu.edu/writing](http://www.gvsu.edu/writing).

## Events celebrate Black History Month

African American traditions, a community service trip to Mel Trotter Ministries and a film screening will be featured throughout February to celebrate Black History Month at Grand Valley.

Sponsored by the Office of Multicultural Affairs, all events are free and open to the public. Some events are highlighted below; see a complete schedule at [www.gvsu.edu/oma](http://www.gvsu.edu/oma).

- **"Grand Rapids and Social Activism in Today's Political Climate,"** February 1, noon-1:15 p.m., Mary Idema Pew Library, multipurpose room

Louis Moore, associate professor of history, will examine how the national movement and actions towards social justice impacts the local experience of those living in West Michigan.

- **"Remaking History: The Civil Rights Movement in the Age of Trump,"** February 2, 4-5:15 p.m., Cook-DeWitt Center

Hasan Kwame Jeffries, associate professor of history at Ohio State University, will discuss the potential pitfalls and promises of grassroots activism that addresses racial and economic inequality in the Age of Trump.

- **"History and Culture of Historically Black Colleges and Universities,"** February 8, 6-8:30 p.m., DeVos Center, room 136E

Donald Mitchell Jr., assistant professor of education, will lead an interactive discussion about HBCUs.

- **A Taste of Soul,** February 17, noon-1 p.m., Kirkhof Center

Participants will taste test and learn about traditional African American soul food.

- **"The Fannie Louie Hamer Story" (play),** February 28, 4-5 p.m., Cook-DeWitt Center

The performance will feature video and songs to raise awareness about civil rights icon Fannie Louie Hamer, whose activism led to the passage of the Voting Rights Act of 1965.

## Health Forum will focus on aging in place

Helping senior citizens "age in place" longer and successfully will be the topic of the February Health Forum of West Michigan held at Grand Valley's Pew Grand Rapids Campus.

"Aging in Place" is set for Friday, February 3, from 8-9:30 a.m. in the DeVos Center, Loosemore Auditorium. A light breakfast will begin at 7:30 a.m.

Panelists are Julie Alicki, social work consultant with West Michigan Area Agency on Aging, and Dementia Friendly Grand Rapids; Dr. Iris Boettcher, geriatrics, Spectrum Health Medical Group; Mina Breuker, CEO and president of Holland Home; and Richard Kline, senior deputy director of the State of Michigan Aging and Adult Services Agency. Rebecca Davis, professor of nursing, Kirkhof College of Nursing, will serve as moderator.

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

## World Affairs Council lectures free to campus community

The campus community is invited to attend the World Affairs Council of Western Michigan lecture series, which runs Mondays from February 6-April 3.

Grand Valley is a World Affairs Council institutional member, allowing students, faculty and staff members to attend the "Great Decisions" series free of charge. All events will begin at 6 p.m. at the Aquinas College Performing Arts Center. Visit [www.worldmichigan.org](http://www.worldmichigan.org) for details.

- **February 6:** "Rx: Prescription for Latin America" by Jason Beaubien, NPR global health/development correspondent.

- **February 13:** "New Rules of the Game: The World's Water, Food, and Energy Choke Points" with Keith Schneider, senior editor of Circle of Blue, and Jennifer Turner, Wilson Center.

- **February 20:** "Nuclear Insecurity: Next Steps?" by Jack Segal, former National Security Council director for nonproliferation.

*continues on page 4*

## Opera Theatre will perform 'Sweeney Todd'

People often ask children, "What do you want to be when you grow up?" Many kids answer occupations like firefighter, police officer, Hollywood actress, singer, veterinarian or professional athlete.

Max Elkiss, a junior majoring in vocal performance, said one of his answers to that question was "The Demon Barber."

Elkiss' childhood dream becomes a reality February 3-12 when he portrays the character of Sweeney Todd during productions of "Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street," presented by GVSU Opera Theatre.

A Broadway hit in 1979, the musical depicts Benjamin Barker, also known as Sweeney Todd, as a man unjustly imprisoned for years by a corrupt judge. He returns to London to establish a barber shop as the basis for a sinister partnership with his fellow tenant Mrs. Lovett. Todd's plot for revenge quickly turns darkly hilarious and indiscriminately dangerous.

Elkiss said one of the biggest challenges of adopting the role was grasping the idea that while Sweeney Todd is a dark individual with murderous tendencies, he is not what some would label a "psychopath."

"There is a lot of humanity in Sweeney that is vital for the audience to understand," said Elkiss, from West Bloomfield. "Sweeney is a decent human being who is reacting to the world around him. It's only after everything is stolen from him that he decides to become this Demon

Barber. He is more focused on his desire for revenge rather than a lust for blood."

Dale Schriemer, Opera Theatre director, said "Sweeney Todd" is a treat for audiences because of its hybrid characteristics of both Broadway and opera.

"It's a masterpiece of music theater," said Schriemer. "Sweeney is a gruesome thriller that embraces both comedy and tragedy. You will be scared, as I was when I saw the original on Broadway, and will laugh at some of the quirky hijinks that go on."

Performances of "Sweeney Todd" will take place February 3, 4, 10 and 11, at 7:30 p.m., and February 5 and 12, at 2 p.m., in Louis Armstrong Theatre.

Tickets are \$14 for adults, \$12 for seniors and Grand Valley faculty and staff, and \$6 for students, alumni and groups. To purchase tickets, call the Louis Armstrong Theatre Box Office at x12300.



Photo by Caitlin Cusack

Max Elkiss portrays Sweeney Todd in the upcoming performances by Opera Theatre.

# FACULTY AND STAFF SKETCHES

## In the News

### HTM professor named visiting scholar

**Lorie Tuma**, assistant professor of hospitality and tourism management, was named a visiting scholar at Vancouver Island University.

Tuma will spend two weeks in October at VIU to team-teach a graduate course in the Sustainable and Leisure Management program and give a public lecture, "Sustainable Tourism & Social Media," as part of the World VIU Speaking Series.

The program is designed to bring local and international leaders to VIU to engage with students, faculty, and the Vancouver Island region.

## Sketches

**Jeremiah Cataldo**, associate professor, Honors College, wrote an article, "Building of the Second Temple in Jerusalem (516 B.C.)," published in *Great Events in Religion: An Encyclopedia of Pivotal Events in Religious History*.

**Darren Walhof**, professor of political science, wrote a book, *The Democratic Theory of Hans-Georg Gadamer*, published by Palgrave Macmillan.

**Sok Kean Khoo**, associate professor of cell and molecular biology, was a co-author for an article, "Chromosome Instability Drives Phenotypic Switching to Metastasis," published in the *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*.

**John Kilbourne**, professor of movement science, gave a presentation, "Traditional Arctic Games: Peace and Sustainability in the North," at the American Geophysical Union Conference in San Francisco, California. He was also invited to participate in the Study of Environmental Arctic Change Town Hall Meeting, organized by AGU.

**Faite Mack**, professor of education, gave a presentation, "Rural Thai Teacher Perceptions of the Educational Needs of Gender Non-Conforming Students," at the Hawaii International Conference on Education.

**Roger Ellis**, professor of communications, produced and directed "The Zoo Story" by playwright Edward Albee. The production featured Grand Valley alumni and current students at Grand Rapids' Dog Story Theater.

## What's Ahead

*continued from page 3*

- **February 27:** "South China Sea: Clash of Strategies" by retired Brig. Gen. John Adams, American Security Project.
- **March 13:** "Afghanistan: to Fight ... or Run?" by Ronald Neumann, former ambassador to Afghanistan.
- **March 20:** "Is It All Politics? Trade and U.S. Jobs" by Jeremy Haft, Georgetown University and CEO of SafeSource Trading.
- **March 27:** "The EU: An Uncertain Future" by John McCormick, professor of European Union politics, Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis.
- **April 3:** "Shifts in the Sand: U.S.-Saudi Relations" by Simon Henderson, Washington Institute for Near East Policy.

### Symposium will honor 50th anniversary of Apollo 1 tragedy

Roger B. Chaffee, an astronaut and Grand Rapids native who died during testing on Apollo 1 in 1967, will be honored during a two-day

symposium hosted by Grand Valley and Grand Rapids Public Museum.

A free conference, "Roger That! A Celebration of Space Exploration in Honor of Roger B. Chaffee," will take place February 10 at Eberhard Center. It is open to the public and Grand Valley faculty and students are encouraged to attend. The deadline to register is February 3 at [gvsu.edu/rogerthat](http://gvsu.edu/rogerthat).

Brother Guy Consolmagno will be the keynote speaker. The Detroit native is director of the Vatican Observatory in Italy, one of the oldest astronomical institutions in the world. His presentation, "Why Do We Look Up at the Heavens," will take place February 10 at 12:30 p.m. The conference will include breakout sessions featuring a variety of science, art and society topics related to space exploration.

On January 27, 1967, Chaffee was among three astronauts who died in an electrical fire that broke out during pre-flight tests on Apollo 1. Grand Rapids Public Museum renamed its planetarium to the Roger B. Chaffee Planetarium the same year.

Additional events:

- Chaffee's wife, Martha Horn Chaffee, and his daughter, Sheryl Lynn Chaffee, will give a presentation February 10 at 7 p.m. Tickets

are \$35; dinner is included and a portion of sales will be donated to the Roger B. Chaffee Scholarship Fund.

- GVSU Art Gallery will host a photo exhibit, "The Life of Astronaut Roger B. Chaffee," on the West Wall Gallery in the Eberhard Center from January 9-March 31.

- Students from Grand Rapids area schools will take field trips to Grand Valley and GRPM February 10. Contact Tracy Bacigal at [tbacigal@grpm.org](mailto:tbacigal@grpm.org) to arrange field trips.

GRPM will host several events February 11, including another presentation by Consolmagno and an opportunity to see real lunar material on display from the NASA travel collections. Space-themed activities will be available for kids and adults.

For more information about the conference, visit [www.gvsu.edu/rogerthat](http://www.gvsu.edu/rogerthat) or email [rogerthat@gvsu.edu](mailto:rogerthat@gvsu.edu). For more information about GRPM events, visit [www.grpm.org](http://www.grpm.org).

### Interviews set for provost candidates

*continued from page 1*

served one year as dean of the College of Science and Engineering, then was appointed to that position again in 2011. He also served as interim vice president for research and dean of Graduate Studies from 2014-2015, and interim vice provost for research from 2009-2011.

Davison earned a doctorate in biological studies from the University of Dundee in Scotland and a bachelor's degree in biological studies from the University of London.

Two other candidates, Denise Cobb and Stephen L. Esquith, interviewed for the position earlier this month and remain under consideration; a third candidate, Jann Joseph, withdrew her candidacy.

Information about all candidates, and public meeting schedules are posted online at [www.gvsu.edu/provost-search/](http://www.gvsu.edu/provost-search/). Evaluation forms will be available via Survey Monkey with links provided on the website. Questions regarding these meetings can be sent via email to [GVSUProvostSearch@gvsu.edu](mailto:GVSUProvostSearch@gvsu.edu).