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Grand Valley State University

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Forum

A Newsletter for the
GRAND VALLEY
STATE UNIVERSITY
Community

Tuesday, March 6, 2001

Volume 25, Number 30

Selection of GVSU president moves to final stage

Board seeks campus reaction

After completing interviews and campus tours, the search for a new GVSU president nears the final stage with public interviews by Board of Trustees members scheduled for Wednesday, March 14.

Candidates Ronald L. Applbaum, Owen Francis Cargol, and Mark Murray met with the university community and members of the public during separate day-long interviews last week. Each candidate began his day at the Alumni House and Visitor Center for a meeting with staff members. That session was followed by interviews with executive officers and Board of Trustee members, and a campus tour. Lunch and afternoon sessions were conducted with department deans, students, and faculty members. A final meeting at the DeVos

Center included alumni, members of the campus community, and members of the public.

Applbaum, 57, is president of Kean University in New Jersey; Cargol, 50, is president of The University of Maine, Augusta; and Murray, 46, is treasurer for the State of Michigan. Biographical information on each candidate is available on the GVSU Web site and is accessible by clicking on the "Presidential Search" logo, located in the bottom righthand corner of the university's home page.

Comments from faculty and staff members about the candidates can be directed to the office of Patricia Oldt, special assistant to the presi-



Mark Murray, left, speaks to faculty members at the Kirkhof Center on Thursday. At right is session facilitator Patrick Thorpe.

dent for equity and planning; or submitted on the Web site by clicking on the Presidential Search button. Comments can also be made directly to Trustees at an 8 a.m. reception at the Cook-DeWitt Center on March 14. ■



Ronald L. Applbaum speaks to staff members during an interview session at the Alumni House and Visitor Center on Wednesday.



Owen Francis Cargol and wife, Dai-Lih, meet Teri Losey at a reception for staff members on Friday.



FORUM

The GVSU *Forum* is published by the Office of University Communications every Monday when classes are in session and biweekly during the summer. The submission deadline is Tuesday noon. Send publication items to Michele Johnson, editor, c/o the *FORUM* cc:Mail box. From off campus, email forum@gvsu.edu. Telephone: 616-895-2221. Fax: 616-895-2250.

Faculty and staff members can find an online "Sketches" submission form on the Web at www.gvsu.edu/online/forum/form.html

Visit *GVSU Now*, Grand Valley's daily online publication, on the Web at: www.gvnow.gvsu.edu/

gvnow

Across Campus

Departments to show teleconference on teaching strategies

The Pew Faculty Teaching and Learning Center and the Academic Computing/Educational Technologies Department will show a taped teleconference on teaching strategies.

"Making the Most of Teaching, Learning, and Technology in Higher Education: Connected Education, Collaborative Changes, and Compassionate Pioneers" will be shown from 3-5 p.m. on Thursday, April 5, in Padnos Hall, room 207.

The teleconference is hosted by the Virginia Tidewater Consortium for Higher Education and will feature Randy Bass, director of the Center for Electronic Projects in American Culture Studies at Georgetown University. Bass was the keynote speaker at GVSU's Fall Teaching Conference in 1997.

Registration is encouraged and can be completed by accessing Academic Computing's Web site at <http://itweb.gvsu.edu/>. Questions can be directed to Michael Leahy at x3095.

School-based therapy is subject of workshop

GVSU's Occupational Therapy department hosted a workshop on March 2 for school-based therapists, therapists considering moving into school-based practice, and occupational therapy students.

The workshop, "The Occupation of Schools: A Basis for School-Based Practice," was held in the Loosemore Auditorium in the DeVos Center.

The presenter, Barbara Chandler, has more than 24 years of experience as a practitioner, educator, advocate, and author in the occupational therapy field. She is currently an associate professor at James Madison University's department of health sciences. She is also the author of a column, "The Classroom Clinic," published in *Advance for Occupational Therapists*.

GVSU receives state funds for mentoring program

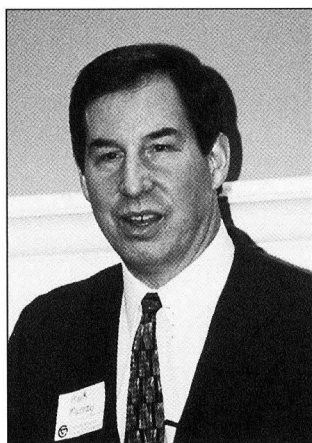
GVSU has been awarded \$43,000 in state funding to further its alcohol- and drug-free mentoring program.

The Passport Social Mentoring Program, now in its third year, matches new freshmen with upperclass students in an effort to increase awareness of opportunities for an alcohol-free college experience. Money from the Department of Community Health — a portion of \$373,000 in funding allocated for similar programs at other state universities — will be used to train upperclass students for Passport, host group events, and continue program evaluation.

Passport has been successful, according to Nancy Harper, director of the Alcohol Education, Research and Training Labs

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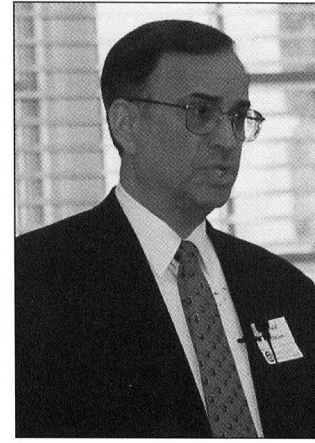
Candidates on Campus



Mark Murray addresses questions during an interview session.



Owen Francis Cargol speaks during a Friday session with staff members.



Ronald L. Applbaum visited the Allendale and Grand Rapids campuses on Wednesday.

Across Campus

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(ALERT). To date, more than 150 upperclass students have participated as mentors to more than 850 freshmen.

"One of the goals of the program is to further create a campus environment that supports students who choose alternatives to drinking, or who choose responsible drinking, by making connections with like-minded students and providing social outlets," Harper said.

Professor has films accepted at national, state festivals

John Harper Philbin will be taking his work on the road over the next two months. The assistant professor of communications has had three of his films accepted at national and state film festivals, and two more will be featured at GVSU events.

Opus 27 will have several screenings at the Durango Film Festival, a new

national festival taking place March 10-18 in Durango, Colorado. The film is a 13-minute period narrative about Ludwig van Beethoven's composition, *Moonlight Sonata*.

Philbin said the film is based on a story he found in his grandmother's book, which recounted how Beethoven happened upon a blind peasant woman playing one of his sonatas on her piano. He sat with her and improvised a song, and through his playing the young woman suddenly realized he was the famous young composer. Beethoven called the music *Piano Opus No. 27*, to be known later as *Moonlight Sonata*.

Philbin, a Beethoven fan, said he long considered making the tale into a movie but tabled the idea until 1995, when he wrote the script, built a set and replica of a 19th century fortepiano, hired three actors, and borrowed costumes and props from a museum. Filming was done at Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, where Philbin earned his master's of fine art degree in film.

Two films Philbin produced in the School of Communication's Summer Film Program were accepted at the East Lansing Film Festival, to be held March 22-25. *My Life Among the Gopis* is a coming-of-age story about three 15-year-old girls who form a secret club around Eastern religion, and *Survival of the Fattest*, is a black comedy about four people shipwrecked on a desert island.

Philbin will be showing and discussing *Last Stand at Black Rock*, based on environmental activist Judi Bari's efforts to save a grove of trees, at GVSU's WGS Festival on Monday, March 19, at 11 a.m. in the Kirkhof Center.

He will then premiere *With You Always*, a "Twilight Zone-ish story" produced in last year's Summer Film Program, at 8 p.m. on Saturday, April 21, at the Loosemore Auditorium on the Pew Grand Rapids Campus.

All events are open to the public. ■

Coming Events

Women and Gender Studies Festival set for March 17-20

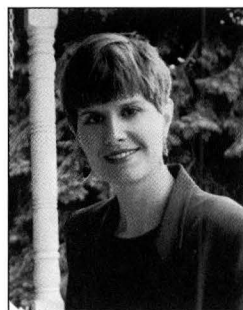
GVSU's Women and Gender Studies Program will explore the theme "Gender and Nature" for its annual WGS Festival, held March 17-20, with events on the Grand Rapids and Allendale campuses.

All events are open to the public, free of charge.

Festival 2001 begins on Saturday, March 17, with the daylong Women's Film Festival, held from 12 noon-9 p.m. at the Loosemore Auditorium in the DeVos Center.

The festival continues on Monday, March 19, in the Grand River Room of the Kirkhof Center with five hour-long presentations and panel discussions on topics of gender as it relates to nature, faith, agriculture, and professionalism.

Cancer survivor, author and ecologist Sandra Steingraber will deliver the festival's keynote address on Tuesday, March 20, at 2:30 p.m. in the Cook-



Sandra Steingraber

DeWitt Center, Allendale campus. Steingraber is author of the highly acclaimed book *Living Downstream: An Ecologist Looks at Cancer and the Environment*, which compares data on toxic

releases with incidences of cancer. She was named one of *Ms. Magazine's* Women of the Year in 1997 and heralded as "the new Rachel Carson" by the Sierra Club in 1999. She will speak on "Gender, Cancer and the Environment."

Other presentations on Tuesday include discussions of women authors, nature writing, and mythology. Festival 2001 will close with the presentation of the Maxine Swanson and Barbara Jordan awards at 5 p.m. at the Cook-DeWitt Center. ■

Faculty and Staff Sketches

Keith Watts, assistant professor of Spanish, presented a paper, titled "Focus on Register Variation in the Spanish Language Classroom," at the 29th annual meeting of the Linguistic Association of the Southwest, in Puebla, Mexico.

Jacqueline Hill, director of the Educational Support Program, presented a paper, titled "Expanding Post Secondary Access in England in Selected Conference Papers," at the National Association for Developmental Education annual conference.

Ruth Ann Brintnall, assistant professor of nursing, and Katherine Kim, professor emerita, co-authored two papers, titled "Smoking Behavior, Knowledge, and Beliefs Among Korean Americans," published in *Cancer Practice*, and "Nutritional Status of Korean Americans: Implications for Cancer Risk," published in *Oncology Nursing Forum*. Both studies were funded by a grant from the National Cancer Institute.

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Calendar of Events

General Events

Arts Hotline: (616) 895-ARTS

Gallery Hours: Mon.-Fri. 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Thurs. 10 a.m.-7 p.m.

Through Fri., Mar. 30

Gallery Hours: "Independent Voices: The Art of Animation."
Films and artworks of five contemporary animators. Art
Gallery, PAC. Call x2564 for more information.

Tues., Mar. 6

8:30-11:30 a.m.: Regional Math & Science Center Workshop.
Battle Creek Science Kit Training. "Senses (Kinder-
garten)." 225 PAD. Call x2267 for more information.

12:30-3:30 p.m.: Regional Math & Science Center Workshop.
Battle Creek Science Kit Training. "Water Works (Grade
1)." 225 PAD. Call x2267 for more information.

Sports

Sports Hotline: (616) 895-3800.

Fri., Mar. 2-Sat., Mar. 10

TBA: Softball. Spring Trip, Ft. Myers, FL.

Sun., Mar. 4-Sun., Mar. 11

TBA: Baseball. Spring Trip, Savannah, GA.

Fri., Mar. 9-Sat., Mar. 10

TBA: Women's Golf at North Illinois University. Sebring, FL. ■

Faculty and Staff Sketches

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Chuck Furman, WGVSU assistant general manager, authored an article, titled "Wealth Transfer: Your Donors Know You," for *The Michigan Broadcaster*.

Elena Lioubimtseva, assistant professor of geography and planning, co-authored a book chapter, titled, "Land Use/Cover Change in Russia," in *Land Use and Cover Change*.

Mitch Kachun, visiting assistant professor of history, presented a paper, titled "Let Children's Children Never Forget: Historical Narratives in African-American Commemorations, 1860s-1890s," at the annual meeting of the American Historical Association in Boston.

Akalu Tefera, assistant professor of mathematics and statistics, presented a paper, titled "MultInt, a Maple Package for Multiple Integration by the WZ Method," at the Joint Mathematics Meetings in New Orleans.

Linda Rynbrandt, assistant professor of sociology, co-authored a book chapter, titled "Corporate Violence Against Women," in *Women, Crime, and Criminal Justice: Original Feminist Readings*.

John Stevenson, associate professor of physical therapy, was appointed to a three-year term as chairman of the Research Committee of the Occupational Health Special Interest Group of the American Physical Therapy Association.

Mark Schaub, assistant professor of English, conducted a workshop, titled "Writing Effective Legal Briefs," with Appeals Court Judge William Murphy for the Grand Rapids Bar Association.

Laurie Gasahl, instructor of geography, was appointed by the Michigan Department of Education as a program reviewer to evaluate geography programs for various Michigan universities and assess student preparedness for teaching geography in the K-12 curriculum.

Deanna Morse, professor of communications, had two films, titled *Sandpaintings* and *Lost Ground*, screened at the Second International Animation Festival of Tehran, Iran. The films were selected because they have contexts of peace, friendship, culture and communication.

Roger Ellis, professor of communications, was invited to present a master class in acting at the Michigan AACT-FEST, the annual statewide theater festival for community theaters, held in Troy.

Nan Schichtel, off-campus library services coordinator, was re-elected to a three-year term as a United States Jaycees Foundation board of trustee member. She was the first female elected to serve on the foundation.

John Harper Philbin, assistant professor of communications, had two films, titled *Survival of the Fattest* and *My Life Among the Gopis*, accepted at the East Lansing Film Festival, held in March. Both films were produced in the GVSU School of Communications Summer Film Program.

Barb Hoogenboom, assistant professor of physical therapy, addressed the American Physical Therapy Association meeting in San Antonio, Texas, speaking on "Youth Musculoskeletal Sport Injury: A Regional Approach."

John Constantelos, assistant professor of political science, authored a chapter, titled "Italy: The Erosion and Demise of Party Dominance," in the book *Political Parties and Interest Groups: Shaping Democratic Governance*.

David Stark, visiting assistant professor of history, presented a paper, titled "The Family Tree Is Not Cut: Marriage Among Slaves in Eighteenth-Century Puerto Rico," at the conference on Hispanic Ancestors, African Roots in New York City.

Faite Mack, professor of education, **Lorraine Alston**, assistant professor of education, **Sherry Collins**, assistant professor of education, and **Abdul Latif**, assistant professor of education, presented papers in a panel presentation, titled "Survival Skills for Faculty Members of Color in Predominantly White Institutions," at the Association of Teacher Educators 2001 Annual Conference in New Orleans.

In the News

John Reifel, professor of economics, was interviewed by WZZM Channel 13 concerning the effect of local layoffs on the local economy and the likelihood that the national economy is heading into a recession. ■