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Grand Valley State University

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# Forum

A Newsletter for the  
GRAND VALLEY  
STATE UNIVERSITY  
Community

Monday, August 17, 1998

Volume 23, Number 4

## Engineering Students Make Integrity Pledge During 'Iron Ring' Ceremony

Nearly 50 Grand Valley Engineering students graduated July 31 in a special "Iron Ring" ceremony at the Eberhard Center.

"We literally place an iron ring on the little finger of the working hand," says Paul Plotkowski, director of the Padnos School of Engineering. "The practice started in Canada and is getting more well-known in the United States."

The Order of the Engineer "Iron Ring" Ceremony is a commencement ritual for Engineering students, who graduate later in the year than the traditional spring ceremony because they must complete a mandatory co-operative program in a local business. During the ceremony, graduates sign an "Obligation of an Engineer" statement, where they pledge to practice integrity, fairness, and honesty in their profession.

Projects required of students in their senior year were displayed in the Eberhard Center throughout the day.

All of the projects were designed to address actual problems and needs of area companies where students were assigned for their co-op programs.

"Students ask companies for something they can work on and then we help them solve a problem," Plotkowski says. "The companies act as customers and pay all the bills. At the end they get to keep the system that was designed and the students gain a real-world experience working on a real situation for a real company."



*Engineering graduate Kimberly Beute is presented with her iron ring by Assistant Professor Hugh Jack.*

## Accounting Prof Appointed to IRS Committee Implementing Electronic Tax Return Filing

Susan Martin, professor of Accounting and Taxation, has been appointed by the U.S. Internal Revenue Service to the Electronic Tax Administration Advisory Committee.

The committee, which was created by the IRS Restructuring Act signed last month by President Clinton, is charged with developing a strategic plan to have 80 percent of all tax returns filed electronically by 2007. The

project is part of the IRS objective to modernize its tax administration through technology and to create a nearly paperless system.

The committee's first meeting is September 28 in Washington, D.C. The committee will meet frequently, hold public hearings, and report to Congress annually.

Martin is one of 17 members on the committee, which will meet for two years. She was nominated by the American Institute of Certified Public

Accountants to represent the profession's 330,000 members.

Martin says the appointment is an exciting professional opportunity, but will also add excitement to her Grand Valley classes.

"I teach undergraduate courses in individual income tax and government accounting, and graduate courses in federal tax theory," Martin says. "So this appointment will provide current and interesting material for all of the courses that I teach."



# 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 Kathleen Adams, editor, c/o the *FORUM* cc:Mail box. From off campus, email [forum@gvsu.edu](mailto:forum@gvsu.edu). Telephone: 616-895-2221. Fax: 616-895-2250. Visit FORUM ONLINE on the World Wide Web at: [www.gvsu.edu/](http://www.gvsu.edu/)

Faculty and staff members can find an online "Sketches" submission form on the Web Site.

## Across Campus

### Police Academy Grads Receive Diplomas

A group of 28 prospective police officers graduated from Grand Valley's annual summer police academy on July 30 at the Eberhard Center.

The students in the Criminal Justice program wrapped up their degree requirements with the 14-week police academy. Upon receiving their diplomas, most hope to receive a badge and go to work for municipal police departments throughout the state.

"We're placing 80 to 90 percent of our students in police departments around the state," says Terry Fisk, Criminal Justice training director. "It's a very good job market right now because of the federal government money to hire more police officers and because my generation that came up in the 1960s and 1970s are starting to retire from police forces."

Fisk says there are 22 police training programs in the state, graduating between 1,500 and 1,800 people every year. Of the 600 Criminal Justice majors at GVSU currently, about one-third of them go on to law



*The summer police academy training included practicing driving techniques on a specially marked course.*

enforcement in police departments. Other students pursue careers in juvenile justice, adult corrections, and private security. Only those hoping to become police officers are required to complete police academy training.

### GVSU Golf Pro Gives Lessons For Gilda's Club

Patti Butcher, the golf pro at The Meadows Golf Club, gave 24 hours of golf lessons in a benefit for Gilda's Club Grand Rapids. Butcher began her marathon at 7 a.m. on Thursday, July 30. She gave golf lessons every half hour for 24 hours straight. Each \$75 lesson fee went to Gilda's Club Grand Rapids. The club is named for comedienne Gilda Radner, who died of cancer. The organization provides a free, non-residential support community for cancer patients and their families and friends.

### New Criminal Justice Master's Program Fills Need

A new master's program in Criminal Justice beginning this fall at Grand Valley will help meet the need for criminal justice and law enforcement managers and administrators.

In preparing the program, the School of Criminal Justice responded to an expressed need in west Michigan for a program that would give employees in the field the tools they need to move up into management positions. The proposal for the program, approved by GVSU's Board of Control in June, pointed out that one in four Michigan State employees work for the Department of Corrections.

"If any individual wants to move up in the hierarchy in criminal justice, they need management and administrative skills and knowledge," explains Dave Kalinich, director of the School of Criminal Justice. "That's exactly what our program will give them."

The curriculum will focus on applied concepts of ethics, political and social justice, historical analysis of institutions and policy, research use, as well as leadership and management theories. In addition to a core of criminal justice courses, students will take a concentration of courses in another area, such as social work, public administration, labor relations, or policy formation.

Kalinich says that nearly 30 students have already enrolled for the program this fall. The students represent the area police and sheriff departments as well as probation officers and juvenile justice professionals.

## Coming Events

### Convocation Marks Start Of New Academic Year

The Fall Convocation will be held on Friday, August 28, at 10:30 a.m. in the Louis Armstrong Theatre in the Performing Arts Center. President Lubbers, Academic Senate Chair Patrick Thorpe, and Student Senate President Victor Cardenas will offer special greetings.

Lubbers will also present the Outstanding Teacher Award and introduce new student scholars. Twelve faculty members will be recognized for 25 years of academic service to Grand Valley. They include: Carl Arendsen, professor of Mathematics and Statistics; David A. Bernstein, professor of Psychology; Barry Castro, professor of Management; Milton E. Ford, professor of English; Bruce J. Klein, associate professor of Computer Science and Information Systems; Donald J. Klein, professor of Accounting and Taxation; Donna Larson, professor of Nursing and

associate dean of Science and Mathematics; Daleene T. Menning, professor of Art and Design; Bennett L. Rudolph, professor of Marketing; Theodore Sundstrom, professor of Mathematics and Statistics; Norman W. Ten Brink, professor of Geology; and Allan Ten Eyck, professor of Education.

Paul Conn, president of Lee University, will deliver the convocation address, titled "Inspiring Teaching," which is also the title of one of his books.

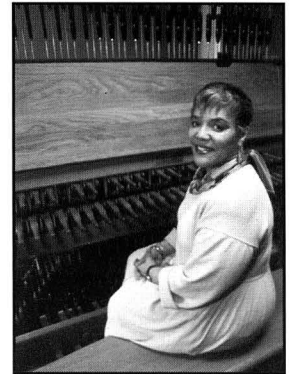
Prior to the ceremony, all faculty and staff members are invited to a 9 a.m. reception in the atrium area of Henry Hall. All individuals who plan to process will robe in Henry Hall's north atrium area and then process at 10:15 to the Louis Armstrong Theatre for the convocation.

Following the convocation ceremony, faculty and staff members are invited to attend an art exhibit by Art and Design faculty in the Calder Gallery.

### Carillon Performance Wraps Up Summer Series

Julianne Vanden Wyngaard, associate professor of Music and university carillonist, will play the Cook Carillon for the final concert of the 1998 International Carillon Concert Series on Sunday, August 23, at 8 p.m.

Vanden Wyngaard, a noted concert pianist, has been a Grand Valley faculty member since 1967 and principal performer on the Cook Carillon since its 1994 dedication.



## Faculty and Staff Sketches

**Sue Davis**, assistant professor of Political Science, received a Teaching and Learning Center grant to run roundtables and attend panels on teaching about post-Soviet nationalities at the annual conference of the Association for the Study of Nationalities conference in New York. Davis presented a paper on "Teaching Undergraduates about Nationalism in Russia and Ukraine" and chaired and organized the session.

**Ran Sivron**, visiting assistant professor of Physics, is the author of a paper, titled "Self Organized Criticality in Compact Sources," which was published in the main astrophysics publication, *Astrophysical Journal Letters*, August 10 issue.

**Cliff Welch**, associate professor of History, published "China Syndrome: Sand Pebbles Revisited," the first article of the new "World Watch" column in the August 1998 *Freeman Magazine*.

**Deanna Morse**, professor of Communications, was a juror and media spokesperson for the "Touchware" Art Show at the 25th annual SIGGRAPH computer graphics conference and exhibition in Orlando. Morse wrote a review of the conference, which will be published in the fall issue of *Frame by Frame*, the quarterly publication of ASIFA/Central, the midwest association of independent animators.

**Kathleen Blumreich**, associate professor of English, presented a paper, titled "Legal Technicalities in the 'Roman de Silence,'" at the International Courtly Literature Society meeting in Vancouver, British Columbia.

**Susan Allaben**, assistant professor and academic coordinator of clinical education in Physical Therapy, conducted a presentation and discussion on "Effective Use of Behavioral Criteria to Encourage Professional Behaviors in the Clinic Setting" at the University of North Carolina Hospitals in Chapel Hill.

**Jodee Hunt**, assistant professor of Biology, presented a paper, titled "Nest Sites Matter: Nesting Habitat, Parental Behavior and Brood Predators," at the recent Evolutionary and Ecological Ethology of Fishes meeting held at the University of Washington in Seattle. The paper was co-authored by GVSU graduate Elaine Polaske.

**Martha Golensky**, assistant professor of Public and Nonprofit Administration, presented a paper, titled "Contextual Relativism in Nonprofit Management Education: Using Interactive Teaching Methods to Stimulate Critical Thinking," at the World Association for Case Method Research and Application conference in Marseilles, France.

**Emily Jean McFadden**, professor of Social Work, was the commencement speaker for the Eastern Michigan University School of Social Work, where she addressed 150 students on the topic "Professional Commitment."

*continued on page 4*

# Calendar of Events

Sun., Aug. 23

8 p.m.: 1998 Summer Carillon Series.  
Julianne VandenWyngaard, carillanist.

Mon., Aug. 24-Fri., Oct. 2

Gallery hours: Art Exhibit. Faculty Show. Calder Gallery,  
Performing Arts Center.

Wed., Aug. 26

9 a.m.-4 p.m.: Fall teaching conference, "The Scholarship of  
Teaching: Fostering Critical Thinking and Mature Valuing  
Across the Curriculum." Louis Armstrong Theatre,  
Performing Arts Center.

11:30 a.m.: Meijer Campus in Holland Dedication.

Fri., Aug. 28-Sat., Aug. 29

TBA: Volleyball at North Alabama Invitational. Florence, AL.

Fri., Aug. 28

9 a.m.: Reception prior to convocation. Henry Hall Atrium.  
10:30 a.m.: Convocation. Louis Armstrong Theatre,  
Performing Arts Center.

Sat., Aug. 29-Sun., Aug. 30

Student Orientation. Various locations on campus.

Sat., Aug. 29

11 a.m.: The 1998 Annual Tee-Up "4" Tots Golf Benefit.  
The Meadows. Sponsored by Sigma Sigma Sigma.

# Faculty and Staff Sketches

*continued from page 3*

**Katherine Kim**, professor of Nursing, presented a paper, titled "Cancer Screening Knowledge and Practices among Korean Americans," at a meeting of Cancer Concerns for Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders in San Francisco.

## In the News

On the July 20 *WGVU Morning Show*, **David McGee**, chair of the Art and Design Department, was interviewed about the centennial celebration of Alexander Calder's birth and the public showing of Calder art works on the Allendale campus.

**Kent Fisher**, Alumni Relations associate director, was interviewed on the *WGVU Morning Show* on July 30, regarding the Grand Haven Coast Guard Festival origins.

**John Philbin**, assistant professor of Communications, reviews films each month for West Michigan's new political

journal, *Freeman Magazine*. Philbin was also interviewed on the *WGVU Morning Show* on August 6, about the GVSU summer film project "My Life Among the Gopis."

**Erika King**, professor and chair, Political Science, was interviewed by WOOD TV-8 on July 28, about the Monica Lewinsky immunity agreement, and on August 3, about the Michigan primary election. On August 5 she interviewed with WOOD TV-8 about the results of the Michigan gubernatorial primaries, and with WGVU Radio about contemporary election campaigns.

**Joe Godwin**, associate professor of Accounting and Taxation, and **Susan Martin**, professor of Accounting and Taxation were interviewed on the *WGVU Morning Show* on August 11, about their respective upcoming work in Washington, D.C.

# New Grand Valley Associates

**Beth Biederstedt**, assistant director of Admissions. Former position: admissions counselor at Ohio Northern University. Degree earned: B.A. from Ohio Northern University.

**Thomas Droog**, data center manager, Office for Economic Expansion. Degree earned: B.S. from GVSU.

**Leigh Brownley**, undergraduate student services coordinator, Seidman School of Business. Former positions: program administrator for Traverse City Center of Central Michigan University; marketing executive for Distribution Solutions International. Degree earned: B.S. from Central Michigan University.

**Beth Miller**, promotions assistant, West Michigan Public Broadcasting. Former position: residential instructor at Residential Treatment of West Michigan. Degrees earned: A.A. from Grand Rapids Community College; B.A. from Evergreen State College in Olympia, Washington.

**Julie Zibble**, secretary, Continuing Education in Holland. Former position: personnel assistant at Harper Community College in Palatine, Illinois. Degree earned: A.A. from W.R. Harper College.

**Todd Jager**, head athletic trainer. Former positions: athletic trainer and adjunct lecturer at the University of Michigan; athletic trainer and lecturer at Kent University. Degrees earned: B.S. from Central Michigan University; M.A. from Western Michigan University.

**Marty Litherland**, academic program coordinator, Continuing Education in Traverse City. Former position: visiting assistant professor of Education at GVSU. Degrees earned: B.S. from Miami University; M.Ed. from Bowling Green State University; Ph.D. from Michigan State University.

**Tracey James-Heer**, adjunct admissions counselor. Degree earned: B.A. from GVSU.