

APSS NEWSLETTER

The latest news & updates from GVSU's APSS Union & its Members

IN THIS ISSUE:

MEMBER SHARES	P. 1
UNION NEWS	P. 2-3
BENEFITS & WELLNESS	P. 4
HR WORKSHOPS	P. 5
DATES	P. 6

2020-2021 EXECUTIVE BOARD

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MEGAN KOEMAN-EDING

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Visit our website:

apssgvsu.org

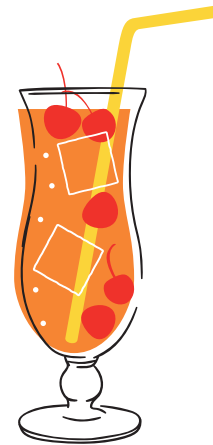
The taste of summer!

(Summer isn't over until we say it's over!)

Fun summer "cocktail"

Sprite
Lemonade
Pineapple juice
Sherbet chunks

Measurements depend on what your heart feels is right.



Fresh Strawberry Spinach Salad

<https://www.acouplecooks.com/strawberry-spinach-salad/>

75 Easy Summer Dinner Ideas

<https://www.delish.com/cooking/recipe-ideas/g2801/summer-dinner-recipes/?slide=1>



UNION NEWS



Shawn Evans - Your Bargaining Team worked diligently in virtual environments from March into July with the hope of being able to negotiate the terms of the next contractual agreement between the APSS and Grand Valley State University. As the summer waned, it became clear that our ability - as well as our employer's ability - to bargain in good faith, particularly on financial matters, was increasingly in doubt. On July 13, 2020, the Bargaining Team agreed to a tentative agreement to extend our current contract by one year, through September 30, 2021.

Zoom ratification meetings to discuss and consider ratification of our current contractual agreement through September 30, 2021 will take place:

- **Tuesday, September 8 at 2:00 p.m.**
- **Wednesday, September 9 at 9:00 a.m.**

Each meeting is scheduled for one hour, and we ask that you make it a priority to attend one of these virtual meetings. Calendar invitations were sent by Michelle Holstege on Wednesday, August 26. The GVSU Zoom license allows for 300 participants to attend each meeting - if 300 people are already in attendance at one meeting, it will not let you into the meeting. We scheduled two meetings to accommodate both the number of APSS members, as well as everyone's varied schedules. We will plan to present the exact same information at each meeting, allowing time for discussion, questions, and answers.

The ratification vote will take place electronically on Thursday, September 10 from 7 a.m. - midnight.

Deb Sanders, Director of Staff Relations, will reach out to all supervisors to inform them of these meetings, your need to attend one of them, and a request that they work with their staff/office to allow this to happen.

Please do not hesitate to connect with any Bargaining Team member directly if you have any questions or concerns related to bargaining in advance of these ratification meetings. You can also reach all of us directly at apssbargaining@gmail.com

We look forward to meeting with you virtually to discuss all of the details and attend to any contractual questions or concerns that you may have.

On behalf of your Bargaining Team,
sme

2019-2020 BARGAINING TEAM

CHAIR

SHAWN EVANS

EX OFFICIO

BECKY BAKALE

MEMBERS

CHERYL FISCHER

MICHELLE HOLSTEGE

TAMI JOHN

RHONDA LEMIEUX

LEGAL COUNCIL

JOHN KARAFKA

EMAIL

apssbargaining@gmail.com

UNION NEWS, CON'T

Get to know your APSS Executive Board

For the next several months, we'll be featuring members of our APSS Executive Board, to help everyone get to know us a bit better and put faces to names! This month, we've put the spotlight on Becky Bakale, our APSS President.

Becky Bakale, APSS President
Key Shop Department Coordinator

Hello Members!

I am Becky Bakale. I have enjoyed serving as your President of the Alliance Professional Support Staff since 2015. I began getting involved as a building rep, then was elected as the Vice-President and now I have had the privilege to serve as your President. I began my employment at GVSU in 2006 in the student accounts office as a secretary, then I moved to the Records Office where I worked as a lead cashier at the customer service windows. In May of 2018 I moved to the Key Department as the office coordinator. So, if you have a brass key or an access card for a building or an office on the Allendale campus, that would have been processed by our office.

I have been married to my husband John for 37 years. 🥰
 We have 5 grandchildren who give us MUCH joy and keep us young (or OLD depending on the activity we are doing with them).

This year we put in a garden! What fun it is to go pick something for dinner-Corn, Zucchini, tomatoes, peppers, pickles or melons-YUM! Nothing like home grown. 😊

I look forward to the day we can have everyone back on campus and being able to have our meetings/luncheons together and actually see each other un-masked.

Thank you for your support and I look forward to many years together. 😊



BENEFITS AND WELLNESS

New Mental Health and Well-Being Index for GVSU Services

During uncertain times, many people experience a wide range of emotions and behaviors. Many factors contribute to how you may be feeling, including social, financial, interpersonal and systemic stressors that can negatively impact your mental and emotional well-being. GVSU has created an easy-to-use index of resources for all manner of wellness and mental health needs. [Try out the mental health and well-being tool.](#)

Encompass EAP Virtual Scavenger Hunt

Did you know as a faculty or staff member of GVSU, you have access to a network of expertly crafted resources and support networks to help you with personal, financial, medical, and professional challenges? Encompass Employee Assistant Program (EAP) has a wide variety of resources just for you as a part of your benefits package, and this semester we want to help you get to know them better with a scavenger hunt. [Learn more about how to participate in the Scavenger Hunt.](#)



Get Moving Team Challenge 2020 Registration Now Open

You may have noticed that you've been spending much more time on the good ol' World Wide Web lately. With COVID-19 separating us physically, our computers and phones have been more important than ever to keep us connected at work and at home, but they may also be working to distract us from our healthy life goals. Thankfully, the Get Moving Team Challenge is here to help you step away from your computer and get active to meet your wellness goals! [Learn more about the challenge.](#)

HR WORKSHOPS

GVSU Dad's Network (all campuses)

Thursday, September 10

12:00PM - 1:00PM - Zoom Meeting

Topic: What are you doing to care of yourself?
How do you help your kids during this difficult time?

When you sign up in [Sprout](#), you'll receive the Zoom link.

GVSU Allendale Mom's Network

Tuesday, September 22

12:00PM - 1:00PM - Zoom Meeting

Bring your lunch and we hope you enjoy an open discussion about parenting.

Zoom link: <https://gvsu.edu.zoom.us/j/96077479271?pwd=a1Ewdi9SMkphQ21YcGxqM2FLNktlZz09>

Meeting ID: 960 7747 9271
Passcode: 127304



The following workshop has been approved for PSS Development Credit:

1) Interfaith 101

Presented by Kevin McIntosh
Approved for **Non-Technical** credit



In 2015, the Interfaith Youth Core and the Association of American Colleges and Universities put out nine practices for interfaith excellence and included in them “building interfaith competence and capacity among staff and faculty members.” This session will attempt to help with this competency and will explore what interfaith is and how participants can become interfaith leaders. This session will explore key interfaith concepts such as pluralism, religious literacy, and others.

At the end of the session participants will:

- Be able to define key terms around interfaith
- Learn more about religious literacy
- Think about when their identity around religion is the most salient

Tuesday, September 15 10:30AM - 12:00PM Virtual
Monday, November 9 10:30AM - 12:00PM Virtual

[Register on Sprout](#)

2020-2021
BUILDING REPS

CHERYL BRONNER	X13327
STU, 1ST FLOOR	
TAMI JOHN	X12350
CAC & KC	
VACANT POSITION	
AH, CUB, & SER	
MATT COLLVER	X15583
CHS & RFH	
BARB ELLIS	X18611
KHS & LMP	
LINDSEY BURNS	X12186
MAK & NLC	
DEB ROTMAN	X12297
AGS, LHH, LSH, & PAC	
VACANT POSITION	
FH & MAN	
HOLLIE RAGO	X13426
CON, JHZ, LMH, & NMH	
KATIE HAYNES	X13006
HHLC, HRY, & PAD	
JOYCE SULLIVAN	X13730
ASH	
AUTUMN DEROO	X15936
EC, KEN	
PATTI MCCARTHY	X16751
DEV, 1ST & 2ND FLOORS	
VACANT POSITION	
BICYCLE FACTORY & SCB	
VICKI HELGESON	X12630
LIB	
LINDSAY BOGI	X13585
STU, 2ND & 3RD FLOORS	
VICKI WENGER	X13898
LOH	
PATRICK PERRY	X16202
DEV, 3RD & 4TH FLOORS	
VACANT POSITION	
HOLLAND, MUSKEGON, & TRAVERSE CITY	

MEMBER RELATIONS
TEAM

RHONDA LEMIEUX	X13268
CHAIR	
CHERYL FISCHER	X13000

IMPORTANT DATES

Labor Day Recess - September 7

UPCOMING ISSUE

Share first day of school pictures with **Megan** at edingme@gvsu.edu by 5:00PM on Friday, September 25.

SEPTEMBER DATES

BIRTHDAYS	GVSU ANNIVERSARY
1 - Amanda Reader	3 - Michelle Hodde
2 - Terry Kenney	26 - Patti Eisen
5 - Darlene Roper	27 - Irene Fountain
15 - Michelle Hodde	Deb Barko
15 - Shelly Micho	Tina Lee
19 - Angie Ryan	Hollie Rago
24 - Roxanne Mol	Leah Thomas
25 - Deb Barko	
27 - Julie Carbine	
WEDDING ANNIVERSARY	Thinking of You Cards:
3 - Darlene Roper (44 yrs)	Do you know someone who is off work because of surgery, illness, or accident? Please let Deb Barko know at barkod@gvsu.edu . She will send a card from our Association.
11 - Carrie Shoup (21 yrs)	
14 - Pat Cox (30 yrs)	
21 - Jalyn Kamp (18 yrs)	
27 - Mary VanPopering (23 yrs)	

If you would like your birthday, GVSU anniversary, wedding anniversary, and/or retirement notice published in the newsletter, or if you have suggestions for an upcoming issue, email **Megan Koeman-Eding** at edingme@gvsu.edu.