

APSS NEWSLETTER

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

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2020-2021 EXECUTIVE BOARD

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MEGAN KOEMAN-EDING

This newsletter is published monthly. For submission information contact

Megan Koeman-Eding at
edingme@gvsu.edu.



Visit our website:

apssgvsu.org

Season's Greetings

MEMBER SHARES

Kay Hart - I have some happy news; my daughter (Casey) moved back to GR after having lived in Florida for a little over 3 years. I've been able to spend so much more time with her and to have her back home is awesome!! Makes this Momma's heart happy!!



MEMBER SHARES, CON'T

Jenna Stehouwer - My happiness in this crazy year is that I got engaged on Oct. 10th!! After many years together, my better half proposed at the Omni Pine Grove Inn in Asheville, NC with the mountain sunset behind us! It was such a beautiful moment in this pretty terrible year!



Christine Adams - Our holiday traditions are doing gingerbread houses with our family best friends and having a cookie/beer exchange every year (the guys got mad they didn't have anything, so we started the beer exchange).



MEMBER SHARES, CON'T

Happy retirement!

Donna Oster - I am taking the VRIP voluntary retirement incentive package that GVSU offered this year and am retiring on 12/31/2020. I have loved my job at GVSU Libraries and enjoyed working everyday with the students, faculty & staff, the College of Education, community teachers, as well as, all of our GVSU community. I am grateful for the officers and building representatives of the Alliance of Professional Support Staff who represent the GVSU support staff so well. Thanks for all your hard work. These 11 years have gone by so fast. I leave GVSU with fond memories, but am ready and excited to start a new phase of my life.

June 1, 2009 – Dec. 31, 2020

11 years as the Library Specialist for the Curriculum Materials Library on the downtown Pew Campus.

Theresa Maycroft - I'm taking the VRIP package that GVSU offered and I will be retiring on 12/31/2020.

My 20 years at the GVSU Libraries has been a GRAND adventure! I will treasure the friendships and memories I have made over the years. I look forward to starting the next chapter of my life!

Darlene Roper - On December 11, 2020 I will be retiring after working here in the Library for 25 years. I want to say Thank You to all of the APSS Officer's and the bargaining committee who have worked so hard for us over the years. It has been a wonderful place to work, and I miss seeing my friends and co-workers. I am excited about the next chapter in my life. I want to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Blessing's to everyone,

Darlene Roper - Senior Library Associate - MIP Library



MEMBER SHARES, CON'T

Happy retirement!

Sandee Snyder - I'm retiring from the Math Department after 12 years of service. I started my career at GVSU in the Psychology department in November 2008 (academic year position); May of 2014, I moved to Math. During the summer of 2009 I worked in Art and Design; summer of 2010 - Anthropology and Geography, Summers of 2011 & 2012 worked with the Kirkhof College of Nursing. My academic year position gave me the wonderful opportunity of meeting and working with different departments, faculty, and profession support staff.
Thanks GVSU!



Kim Busman - I'm taking the VRIP package that GVSU offered and I will be retiring on 12/31/2020. I started working here in the College of Education in April of 2000.

Marlene Hall - 21 years of service. Retiring on Dec 31

Best wishes on your
next adventures!

If you'd like to have your retirement or job change announcement in the APSS newsletter, please send it to Megan Koeman-Eding at edingme@gvsu.edu.

BENEFITS AND WELLNESS

Beware of phishing and spam attacks related to retirement benefits

Many employees are receiving emails from companies with names like “relaxedretirements.com,” “yourretiring.com” and “appreciationnetwork.com.” These emails indicate that it is time to set up an appointment to discuss your retirement benefits, or that they are available to help “public” employees understand their retirement plans or benefits. These entities are not authorized by GVSU and you should treat their message as spam.

Beware of attempts to gain financial information via unsolicited emails, texts, and phone calls from outside “companies” who offer to meet with you to advise on your retirement plans, accounts, or benefits.

Your HR Benefits team is here to help you with your employee benefits, including your retirement plan. Legitimate emails regarding your benefits will come from benefitsandwellness@gvsu.edu, hro@gvsu.edu, or individually from one of the members of the Benefits and Wellness Team. You will also receive information from our retirement plan investment providers, Fidelity Investments, and TIAA.

2021
Trek 100

NEW YEAR, NEW GOALS.
STILL #GVLAKERSTRONG.

Trek 100 is BACK! Are you up for the challenge?

One hundred miles. Eight weeks. Can you do it? This challenge, brought to you by [GVSU Recreation & Wellness](#), allows you to track mileage through running, walking, biking, swimming, rowing, taking a group exercise class, playing an Intramural Sports game, using the upper body ergometer, and other various activities. We challenge you to just keep moving, now and always. Take the 100-mile journey with us and [register today](#). Your trek starts January 1, 2021.





HR WORKSHOPS

GVSU Dad's Network

Thursday, December 10

12:00PM - 1:00PM

[Register on Sprout!](#)

A Dads Group is a great place for finding resources. We each have our own set of issues, stressors, and problems to survive daily. Sometimes it can all be overwhelming, to say the least. But when you attend a dads support group, one thing does become incredibly clear...You are not alone, all of us have similar issues to deal with. Join other GVSU dads or grandfathers for interesting, lively, and humorous discussions on being a father! This meeting's topic: What have you learned during this time of uncertainty?

The following workshop has been approved for PSS Development Credit:

1) Student Employment+ Supervisor Trainings

Presented by Student Employment

Approved for PSS Development credit

GVSU remains steadfast in our commitment to providing students with seamless learning opportunities, while giving them the ability to earn income and stay enrolled. As part of our dedication and quality learning, we are intentionally seeking staff and faculty who are willing to hire and supervise students for enhanced experiential learning opportunities through Student Employment+ jobs. Join our supervisor training via Zoom to learn more about posting, hiring, and supervising SE+ experiences. Find out more here: www.gvsu.edu/studentjobs/seplus

Friday, December 4	10:00AM - 11:00AM	Virtual
Friday, December 4	2:00PM - 3:00PM	Virtual
Monday, December 7	10:00AM - 11:00AM	Virtual
Tuesday, December 8	1:00PM - 2:00PM	Virtual
Thursday, December 10	10:00AM - 11:00AM	Virtual

2) Queer and Trans 101: A Training for Allies

Presented by Jen Hsu-Bishop

Approved for **non-technical** credit

Are you interested in learning how you can grow as an ally to the LGBTQIA+ community? Join us for this informative and interactive virtual training. Participants will explore the concepts of gender, sex and sexual orientation; learn about systems of oppression impacting LGBTQIA+ people; and, learn practical strategies to create more inclusive spaces.

Join us and learn more about your own power to create positive change on our campus, in the community, and in the world.

Friday, December 4	1:00PM - 3:00PM	Virtual
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**UNION NEWS****APSS**
Alliance of Professional Support Staff

Megan Koeman-Eding - Are you looking for a past issue of the newsletter? Curious about our monthly meetings? Have a question, but aren't sure who to ask? Take a look at our website! apssgvsu.org has helpful information such as past newsletters, meeting agendas and minutes, campus building representatives, and our contract.



**Happy Holidays
from your
APSS Executive Board**



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 Hollie Rago, APSS Business and Finance Director

Hollie Rago, APSS Business and Finance Director

Accounting Assistant - Business and Finance Office

Hi, my name is Hollie Rago and I have been at GVSU since 1985. I started out working in the Records and Admissions Office and I currently work in the Business and Finance Office as an Accounting Assistant. I took advantage of our Academic Participation benefit when I first started here at GVSU and eventually received my Bachelor's Degree in Sociology with a minor in WGS. I grew up in Grand Rapids but I kept moving west toward Lake Michigan until I ended up in Muskegon, where I have been living for the past 20 years or so. I like many outdoor activities such as, camping, hiking, kayaking and boating and I enjoy all the beautiful beaches, lakes and rivers located in and around Muskegon.

I have been involved in the union for around 15 years, I started out as a building rep and was elected as the treasurer in 2010.

In 2014 we disassociated from the MEA and became the APSS as an independent labor organization. At that time my role changed to Business & Finance director which involved laying the initial groundwork to become a non-profit, tax-exempt organization.

This year I am celebrating my 35-year Anniversary at GVSU, I have seen a lot of changes in that time but 2020 has proven to be the most difficult and challenging. I miss seeing my friends, co-workers, and APSS members around campus, at luncheons, development classes, and other GV events. I look forward to the time when we can all see each other again.



I hope you have a safe and Happy Holiday season and a Happy and Healthy 2021.

2020-2021
BUILDING REPS

CHERYL BRONNER	X13327
STU, 1ST FLOOR	
TAMI JOHN	X12350
CAC & KC	
MATT COLLVER	X15583
CHS & RFH	
BARB ELLIS	X18611
KHS & LMP	
LINDSEY BURNS	X12186
MAK & NLC	
DEB ROTMAN	X12297
AGS, LHH, LSH, & PAC	
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	
PATRICK MURDOCK	X19188
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	
IRINA GROUGAN	X17606
TC REGIONAL CENTER, HOLLAND, & MUSKEGON	
VACANT POSITIONS	
AH, CUB, FH, MAN, SER	

MEMBER RELATIONS
TEAM

RHONDA LEMIEUX	X13268
CHAIR	
CHERYL FISCHER	X13000

IMPORTANT DATES

Classes End - December 12

Semester Ends - December 19

University closed - December 23 - January 4

UPCOMING ISSUE

Share your New Year's Resolutions with **Megan** at edingme@gvsu.edu by 5:00PM on Wednesday, December 23.

DECEMBER DATES

BIRTHDAYS

- 4 - Veda Hodges
- 5 - Jacquelyn Abeyta
- 5 - Irene Fountain
- 12 - Tracie Samdal
- 18 - Craig Hammerlind
- 18 - Barbie Young
- 22 - Tina Lee
- 31 - Darrhonda Scott-Jones
- 31 - Krystal Vanden Bosch

GVSU ANNIVERSARY

- 14 - Robyn Toth
- 20 - Mary VanPopering

WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

- 12 - Dori Runyon (33 yrs)
- 26 - Robyn Toth (22 yrs)

Thinking of You Cards:

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.

If you would like your birthday, GVSU anniversary, wedding anniversary, job change, 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.