

APSS NEWSLETTER

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

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This newsletter is published monthly. For submission information contact

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Visit our website:

apssgvsu.org

It's the holiday season!

MEMBER SHARES

Megan Koeman-Eding - My family doesn't really like turkey or any of the traditional Thanksgiving foods, so we do "surf and turf!" The carrots, mashed butternut squash, and spaghetti squash all came from my husband's vegetable garden!



MEMBER SHARES, CON'T

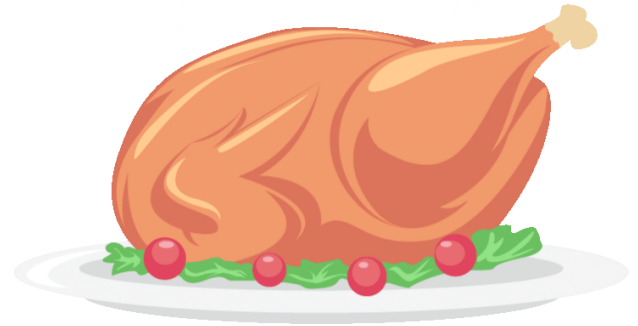


Sarah Kozminski - Heather Noah shared this with me back in 2003. She has since passed away so it's sentimental to me, when I do this each year. There are others that would remember so she deserves the props. I omit the sugar and it's amazing! Best turkey ever!

Brined Roast Turkey

Ingredients:

- 2 gallons water
- 2 cups kosher salt
- 1 cup sugar
- 2 medium carrots -- peeled and thinly sliced
- 1 large onion -- thinly sliced
- 1 tablespoon peppercorns -- coarsely cracked
- 6 bay leaves
- 1 10-12 lb turkey -- thawed
- 1/4 cup unsweetened apple juice or water
- 2 tablespoons unsalted butter -- melted



Preparation:

To brine the turkey (up to 2 days ahead). Heat 4 cups of the water in a saucepan; stir in the salt and sugar until dissolved. Pour into a large stockpot or clean bucket (large enough to hold the turkey), and stir in the remaining water and the carrots, onion, peppercorns, and bay leaves. Remove the giblets, neck, and any other packets from the turkey's neck and body cavities; reserve for another use. Rinse the turkey under cold running water. Immerse the turkey completely in the brine solution and refrigerate at least 6 hours or overnight.

Jenn Palm - After nearly 17 years with Grand Valley, I have decided to take the next step in my career and educational journey. My last day as a staff member in the Graduate School at GVSU will be January 7, after which I will be pursuing a Ph.D. in Communication. I will continue to teach undergraduate courses for the School of Communications, so I'll still be around campus.

Irene Fountain - You're Invited! Please stop in the UClub on Wednesday, December 15 between 3:00-5:00 PM to say "farewell" and offer Jenn your best wishes. Light refreshments will be served.



Tami John - After seven years in the Event Services office, I will be moving over to the Facilities Services office.

HR WORKSHOPS



With the ratification of the 2021-2025 APSS contract, Professional Development credits are no longer needed for wage advancements. However, our newsletter will continue to feature trainings that are beneficial to our members.

Queer and Trans 101: A Virtual Training for Allies

Presented by Inclusion & Equity

In this training, participants will explore terminology and concepts related to gender and sexual diversity, learn about issues impacting the LGBTQIA+ community, and review practical strategies for creating more inclusive interpersonal interactions and spaces.



Friday, December 3

11:00AM - 1:00PM

Virtual

True Inclusion is Revolutionary: Practicing Disability Justice

Presented by Inclusion & Equity

This social justice training will center the experiences of people with disabilities, but will also cover issues of race, class, and gender, particularly as they intersect with disability experience - Featuring special presenter, Dessa Cosma, Executive Director of Detroit Disability Power

Monday, December 6

1:00PM - 3:00PM

Virtual

Banner & OnBase Finance Users Training

Presented by Business and Finance

This training is designed for faculty and staff who are responsible for processing invoices, transfer requests, department deposits, check requests and other OnBase functions, and who are responsible for management and oversight of departmental budgets using Banner. This is a hands-on training, so please ensure that prior to the training, you have access to both OnBase and Banner, with permissions to view and work with the FOAP's you will be managing. This will be a virtual training, but I do have a Binder you will need. Please reach out to me to arrange pickup or mailing of the binder.

Wednesday, December 8

1:00PM - 3:00PM

Virtual

HR WORKSHOPS, CON'T



Service Portal Training for PSS & Department Coordinators

Presented by IT

Do you need support with an application or email? Do you need support for a course or organization in Bb? Do you need help with a computer or printer? These, plus many other IT services, are available from GVSU's new service portal. In this webinar, learn how to navigate the service portal, submit tickets to report incidents or request services, and search the knowledge base to find information to meet your needs.



Friday, December 10

10:30AM - 12:00PM

Virtual

Blackboard Essentials

Presented by eLearning Technologies

This seminar is recommended for faculty/staff who want to learn the most commonly used features of Blackboard. This seminar is a badge-eligible event. More information about earning this badge can be found on our Faculty Badges @ GVSU website.

Learning Objectives

After completing this workshop, the user will be able to:

- Access Bb and make their course available to their students
- Identify and be able to use important Bb communication features (Announcements, Email, Discussion Board, etc.)
- Customize their Bb course menu
- Upload, edit or delete files in their Bb course
- Create and understand the differences between a folder or a learning module
- Organize content within a folder or a learning module
- Add an external web link in their Bb course
- Add a mash-up or other multimedia content (YouTube, Flickr, SlideShare, Panopto video, etc.)
- Create an online assignment
- Access the Grade Center and have a basic understanding of how to navigate the Grade Center, as well as grade an online assignment

Thursday, December 16

Tuesday, January 4

1:00PM - 2:00PM

10:00AM - 11:00AM

Virtual

Virtual

HR WORKSHOPS, CON'T

Register today for these workshops in [Sprout!](#)

Concur Trainings

Concur Travel and Expense Training

Presented by Business and Finance

This is an overview of requesting travel, booking travel, setting up a travel profile, and creating expense reports.

Tuesday, December 7	2:00PM - 3:30PM	Virtual
Thursday, January 13	9:00AM - 10:30AM	Virtual
Tuesday, February 8	1:00PM - 2:30PM	Virtual

Concur Training Q&A

Presented by Business and Finance

This is a general open forum for questions about Concur.

Wednesday, December 15	2:00PM - 3:00PM	Virtual
Wednesday, January 5	10:00AM - 11:00AM	Virtual
Thursday, January 20	11:00AM - 12:00PM	Virtual

Concur Approval Training

Presented by Business and Finance

This is an overview of the approval process for both delegates and approvers.

Thursday, December 16	9:00AM - 10:00AM	Virtual
Wednesday, January 19	2:00PM - 3:00PM	Virtual
Tuesday, February 22	2:00PM - 3:00PM	Virtual



BENEFITS & WELLNESS



THRIVE @ GVSU Wellness Program

Increase confidence to achieve your goals. Effectively manage stress. Improve your health.

Grand Valley employees who engage with a wellness coach through THRIVE @ GVSU report increased levels of confidence in achieving personal wellness goals and the ability to effectively manage stress. They also report improved states of health after participating in the three-month program.*

THRIVE @ GVSU is a voluntary, confidential and free program:

- Trained coaches provide a confidential sounding board for a variety of physical, emotional, social, and other hurdles and help you reach goals.
- The three-month program is open to all medical benefit eligible faculty and staff and covered spouses/household members.
- Investing in your wellness helps improve your life now and in the future.

NEW IN 2022

Priority Health has made the decision to partner with Virgin Pulse to provide a larger coaching service team. What does this mean? The new partnership will allow for the same level of coaching quality and standards and more coaches. This provides the opportunity for increased capacity, breadth and depth of knowledge and demographics among the coaches to serve GVSU faculty, staff and partners. The Thrive @ GVSU program format and rewards are not changing. Members will continue to have the opportunity to connect with certified wellness coaches to set and reach wellness goals.

GVSU members have the opportunity to start the program with a Priority Health coach through January 2022 or to engage with a coach beginning in the new year with the Virgin Pulse coaching team. If you have not signed up already during Open Enrollment, you can still email or call to get started: PH-HealthCoachTeam@PriorityHealth.com or 1-800-998-1037 option 7.

*Priority Health Annual Wellness Report, GVSU 2020

myStrength Spotlight

Have you been feeling on edge lately? You're not alone. It's normal to feel a little off as the season changes and the holidays roll around.

One way you can stay resilient is by understanding your emotions. When you know how to accurately name your emotions, it's easier to adjust and respond to challenges.

Learn more with our activity, "[Recognizing emotion patterns.](#)" [Try the activity.](#)

BENEFITS & WELLNESS, CON'T

The Moms Network

Tuesday, November 7

12:00PM- 1:00PM

The Moms Network is a network of support for working mothers and caretakers who are employed at GVSU. This group provides a casual space to check-in, share resources, talk about feelings and experiences, and take off the “professional hat” to connect as moms on a monthly* basis. All meetings are currently virtual. Zoom link in Sprout.



The Dads Network

Wednesday, December 8

12:00PM- 1:00PM

The Dads Network is a space for fathers and caretakers who are employed at GVSU to connect and share resources. We each have our own set of stressors and programs to deal with on a daily basis, and that can be overwhelming (to say the least). But when you attend the Dads Network, one thing becomes incredibly clear: you are not alone and many of us are handling similar issues. Join fellow GVSU dads,* grandfathers and caretakers for interesting, lively, and humorous discussions around being a father.

Lean-In 2.0: Professional Development & Things that Matter to us

Thursday, December 16

12:00PM - 1:00PM

This Community of Practice is a place for sharing ideas, gaining skills, seeking advice and showing solidarity. Most of all it's a place where we help each other become our very best selves. Meets virtually on the 3rd Thursday of the month at noon. Zoom link in Sprout.



UNION NEWS



Contractual Considerations - Vacancies

Shawn Evans - From 7.1 Vacancies: All vacancies will be posted for a minimum of seven working days unless filled by organizational advancement, transfer, reassignment, or recall of a laid off staff member. Notice of vacancies will be given to the Alliance President and Chief Alliance Steward at the time they are posted on the University's applicant tracking system.

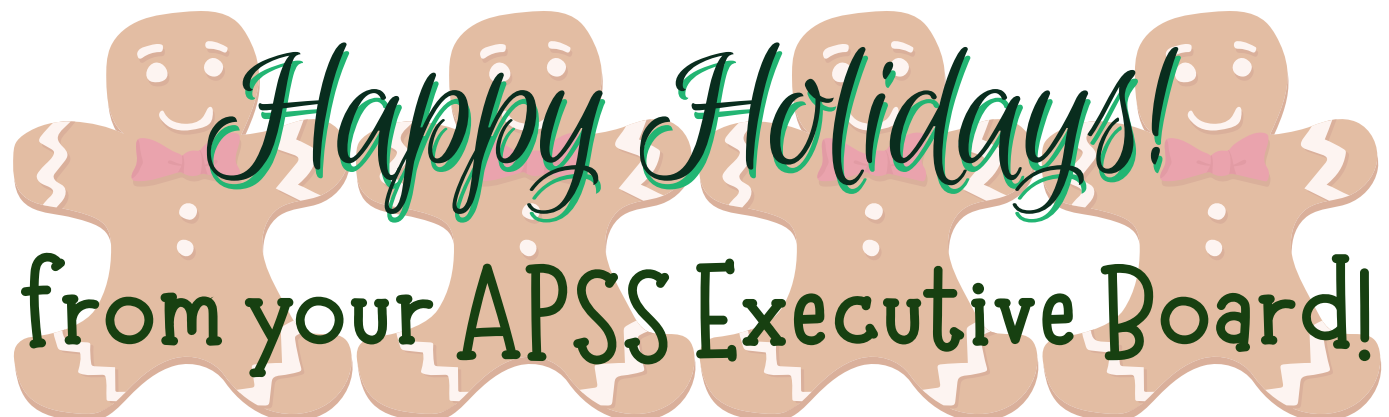
Our previous contractual agreement required the Human Resources office to post vacancies to the GVSU Business Board. While our current contractual agreement requires the Human Resources office to provide notification of vacancies to the Alliance President and Chief Alliance Steward at the time the vacancy is posted to PageUp, the University's applicant tracking system, these vacancies are no longer posted by default to the GVSU Business Board, although the hiring unit may opt to share the position vacancy on the GVSU Business Board.

If you are interested in perusing vacant PSS positions, please do so via PageUp:

<https://jobs.gvsu.edu/en-us/listing/>

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Shawn Evans, APSS Bargaining Chairperson
 e. evanssha@gvsu.edu
 p. (616) 331-2093



2021-2022 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	
TRACY LONDON	X12252
CON, JHZ, LMH	
KATIE HAYNES	X13006
HHLC, HRY, LIB, & PAD	
JOYCE SULLIVAN	X13730
ASH	
AUTUMN DEROO	X15936
EC, IDC, KEN	
RAYSHENA WILSON	X17130
DEV, 1ST & 2ND FLOORS	
PATRICK MURDOCK	X19188
BIK & SCB	
VICKI WENGER	X13898
LOH	
PATRICK PERRY	X16202
DEV, 3RD & 4TH FLOORS	
IRINA GROUGAN	X17606
TC REGIONAL CENTER, HOLLAND, & MUSKEGON	
BRIAN DENUYL	X12025
AH, CUB, SER	
KATE KNOPP	X12685
FH, MAN	
VACANT POSITIONS	
DCIH, STU 2ND & 3RD	

MEMBER RELATIONS TEAM

RHONDA LEMIEUX	X12557
CHAIR	
VACANT	

IMPORTANT DATES

Holiday Break - December 23 - January 3

UPCOMING ISSUE

Looking to share new year's resolutions, goals or plans for 2022? If you have anything to share, email Megan at edingme@gvsu.edu by 5:00PM on Tuesday, December 21.

DECEMBER DATES

BIRTHDAYS

4 - Veda Hodges
5 - Irene Fountain
5 - Lisa Morningstar
12 - Tracie Samdal
18 - Craig Hammerlind
18 - Barbie Young
22 - Tina Lee
31 - Darrhonda Scott-Jones

GVSU ANNIVERSARY

14 - Robyn Toth
20 - Mary VanPopering

WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

26 - Robyn Toth (23 yrs)

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.