

VOLUME 16 ISSUE 11 • MAY 2026

APSS NEWSLETTER

THE LATEST NEWS & UPDATES FROM GVSU'S APSS UNION & ITS MEMBERS

photo by Kendra Stanley-Mills

ISSUE FEATURES

LEADING LAKERS: ACTIVATE

The next cohort of Leading Lakers: Activate will take place June 18 and 25, on the Valley Campus!
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PARKING UPDATES

Parking Services recently sent out several parking updates. See if any apply to you...
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FISCAL YEAR END DEADLINES

Check out the fiscal year end timeline to ensure everything is completed by the deadline...
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HIGHLIGHTS

Summer vacation plans and more!
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UNION NEWS

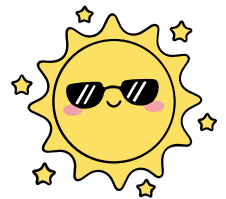


DID YOU KNOW?

ALL APSS members can attend board meetings. Meetings are held the second Thursday of each month from noon to 1 PM. Currently, meetings are held in SER and virtually through Zoom. If you would like to attend and can't make it in person, please email your Building Rep and they'll provide you the Zoom link a day or two before the scheduled meeting.

UNION DUES – SUMMER 2026 SCHEDULE

Union dues will not be deducted from your paycheck for June, July, and August (payroll numbers 11 – 17). Dues deductions will start back up in September, beginning with your 9/8/26 check (payroll number 18).



MOVING OFFICES?

If you change office locations, please notify the APSS Membership Director and your Building Representative so we can ensure your contact information and rep are up to date!



PSS Members,

Thank you for trusting me with your vote to serve as the next Vice President of the APSS union. I am ready to work with the other board members to protect our rights and support our growth.

Knowing how much talent and heart our members have makes me excited to be a champion for this community in a whole new way.

Denise Gross



LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

MICROSOFT E-LEARNING BY INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

[Practical Ways to Enhance your PowerPoint Presentation, 5/20/26, 1 pm - 2 pm](#)

[20 Microsoft 365 Tips To Work Smarter, Not Harder, 5/27/26, 1 pm - 2:30 pm](#)

[Time-Saving Tips In Outlook, 6/3/26, 1-2pm](#)

[Microsoft Excel Formulas & Functions \(Part 1\), 6/17/26, 1 pm - 2 pm](#)

[Microsoft Excel Formulas & Functions \(Part 2\), 6/24/26, 1 pm - 2 pm](#)

Register for these trainings via Workday Learn!

“LEADING LAKERS: ACTIVATE” NEXT COHORT BEGINS JUNE 2026

BY DIVISION OF PEOPLE, EQUITY, AND CULTURE

The next cohort of [Leading Lakers: Activate](#) will take place June 18 and 25, on the Valley Campus!

Leading Lakers: Activate is the first tier of our leadership programming and must be completed to engage in further Leading Lakers trainings. Participation in both days of programming, as well 6-months of monthly pod meetings following the initial two in-person days of learning.

All regular, full-time employees (AP, PSS, Faculty, MGS, POAM, COAM, Security Staff) are eligible and encouraged to submit an interest form. The Activate program is open to any employee who has an interest in growing as a leader regardless of supervisory status. Current leaders with direct reports are strongly encouraged to submit their interest to participate.

[Submit your interest for the upcoming cohort of Activate, due May 10.](#)

INTERFAITH DIMENSIONS OF CAMPUS INCLUSION BY INCLUSION & EQUITY INSTITUTE

Thursday, May 21, 2026, 2-3:30P - Online

This session explores how we at GVSU can create welcoming environments for folks of all religious, spiritual, and secular backgrounds. Hosted by the Kaufman Interfaith Institute at Grand Valley State University, our conversation will emphasize the importance of remaining curious about worldviews other than our own, the challenges that arise as we navigate the meeting point of our various truths and commitments, and the centrality of humility and self-awareness in respectful interactions.

Presenters:

- Liz English (She/Her/Hers) Campus Program Manager, Kaufman Interfaith Institute

[RSVP for this event](#)

INCLUSIVE LEADERSHIP: FROM IDENTITY TO ACTION (2-PART SERIES)

BY INCLUSION & EQUITY INSTITUTE

Friday, May 15: 10A-12P

Friday, May 29: 10A-2P (bring your own lunch)
Location TBD on Pew Campus

This two-part session explores how identity, leadership, and equity intersect. Participants examine the influence of social identity and implicit bias on leadership and reflect on the traits of shared equity leadership. Through case studies and exercises, they apply these concepts to real-world situations and develop personalized action plans. The session concludes with structured inquiry into systemic inequities in education, building skills to design and lead equity-focused change.

[RSVP for this event](#)



CAMPUS NEWS & EVENTS



Institutional Advancement's Development Services, which includes Gift Processing, has physically moved out of Eberhard Building and into the Bicycle Factory. If you need to send us checks and/or other mail, please address it to "Gift Processing, 110 BIK." You can address it to Marguerite Aceto or Annie Valkema.

PARKING UPDATES BY PARKING SERVICES



- City Campus Permit and Payment areas now require **24/7 compliance or a valid permit**.
- The City Campus Parking Office will be **closed for the summer**. All inquiries will be directed to the Valley Parking Office. Email and phone calls can still be sent/ directed to the City Campus for City Campus parking questions.
- **DeVos Parking Lot Access Changes:** Starting Monday, May 11, 2026, Faculty and Staff will be required to scan their GVSU-issued ID in order to enter and exit the DeVos Lot. When approaching the machine, please scan the barcode on the back of your ID on the top right of the machine.
- In preparation for the increased demand for parking needs for the new Acrisure Amphitheater and Amway Stadium, there are some **parking changes that are being implemented on the City Campus**.
 - This will affect the Seward Ramp, Seward Flat Lot, DeVos, Fulton, and Mt. Vernon Lots with the expansion into more lots in the upcoming months.
 - GVSU Event Parking for the affected lots will now **require proper validation to exit** instead of paper permits. Faculty/Staff will still submit an event request as normal; instead of permits being emailed, validation coupons will be delivered. Or your visitor will be prompted to pay on exit.
 - With these parking changes, parking for visitors has gotten easier! **When requesting a visitor permit, you will have 2 options:**
 - Provide a license plate and email for a virtual QR code to be emailed to the visitor to park in the GVSU Lots.
 - Have the visitor bring the ticket to you, and you can now request a validation request through the same portal that you would request a visitor permit, but you would select: "[City Campus Validation Request](#)." Or your visitor will be prompted to pay on exit.
- Faculty and Staff parking permits are still active and will expire **August 31, 2026**.

Please visit the parking website at www.gvsu.edu/parking for additional information, or contact Parking Services with any question.



CAMPUS NEWS & EVENTS

MAY TGIF: COOPERSVILLE BREWING CO.
BY UNIVERSITY CLUB

HAPPY WEEKEND

Let the weekend therapy begin! Take a break, breathe, and enjoy friends and colleagues.

COOPERSVILLE
Brewing Co.

Friday, May 8th at 4:30 PM
Coopersville Brewing Co.
1275 West Randall Street
Coopersville, MI 49404

All university staff invited. [RSVP to attend](#) no later than 4:30P on May 7.



Are you a new(ish) employee at GVSU? Human Resources has a great website with a lot of great information and resources.

<https://www.gvsu.edu/onboarding/>

This site is a helpful reference, even if you aren't new. Bookmark it today!

HARMONY IN BLOOM

BY DIVISION OF PEOPLE, EQUITY, AND CULTURE

Monday, May 11, 11:30 a.m.–1:30 p.m., Haas Performing Arts Center Lobby, Valley Campus

Join us in celebration of AAPI Heritage Month for lunch and a hands-on ikebana activity. Ikebana, the traditional Japanese art of flower arranging, will invite us to slow down, connect with nature, and explore cultural expression through design. Come build community and celebrate Asian culture together.

Lunch will be available throughout the event, with ikebana making beginning at 12:30 p.m.

Presented in partnership by the Division of People, Equity, and Culture and the Asian Faculty & Staff Association.

[RSVP for Harmony in Bloom.](#)





CAMPUS NEWS & EVENTS



FINANCE FISCAL YEAR END DEADLINES BY GVSU PROCUREMENT SERVICES

TECHNOLOGY ACQUISITION

DATE	DESCRIPTION
JUN 8, 2026	Last day to submit Tech Acquisition quote orders Internal Service Deliveries for Technology Acquisition quote orders must be submitted and approved by your cost center manager no later than 12:00 p.m.(noon) on Monday, June 8, 2026. If the items ordered have not arrived at campus by June 30, the ISD will be moved and billed in the next fiscal year.
JUN 22, 2026	Last day to submit Tech Acquisition orders for catalog/stock orders Internal Service Deliveries for Technology Acquisition catalog/stock orders must be submitted and approved by your cost center manager no later than 12:00 p.m. (noon) on Monday, June 22, 2026. Pending stock availability, catalog/stock items ordered before Monday, June 22 at 12:00 pm (noon) will be billed in the current 2025-2026 fiscal year.

Orders for fiscal year 2026-2027 will be accepted on July 1, 2026. Please visit the [Technology Acquisition website](#) for guidelines and policies.

PURCHASING AND INVOICING

DATE	DESCRIPTION
JUNE 1, 2026	Requisitions for future dated purchases open for FY 2026-2027
JUNE 30, 2026	FY 2025-2026 requisition deadline. All requisitions for FY 2025-2026 will be closed at 5:00pm on June 30, 2026 regardless of status. ALL purchase orders with inactivity of 13 months (inactivity as of 5/31/2025) will be closed (regardless of obligation balance remaining) on June 30, 2026.
JULY 2, 2026	Last day to submit invoices with a purchase order number to Accounts Payable for FY 2025-2026
JULY 14, 2026	Last day to approve invoices in Workday for FY 2025-2026
JULY 15, 2026	FY 2025-2026 purchase orders with remaining balances will be rolled to FY 2026-2027

Visit the Fiscal Year End site at <https://www.gvsu.edu/purchasing/fiscal-year-end-181.htm> for additional information and reminders.



HIGHLIGHTS

Annie Parada, University Libraries. “Every summer, my mom’s side of the family gets together for our family week. We did this for a while when I was young, stopped for a time, and now we’ve been going strong for at least fifteen years. The family rents a place on the water somewhere in Michigan. We’ve been in the UP, down in the thumb, outside of Traverse City when my uncle had a house on an island lake, on Drummond Island, and the past few years we’ve been in Topinabee.

The size of my family has changed as well, with family members lost and gained. Not everyone can come or stay the whole week, but sometimes we have up to twenty-five family members around, which takes a house with a guest house and sometimes an additional rental. That’s the setup for the house in Topinabee this year. The main house also has an outdoor pool, and my parents bring their boat. Family groups sign up to cook one dinner, which covers most of the week. We have a chore chart, people bring games, and my aunt brings some crafts to do. It’s always a great week to relax and catch up with my family.”



“Fairy houses we made two years ago.”



“My cousin bought a paella pan, and he’s been doing that on the shore the past few years.”

“So many beautiful sunsets!”



Michelle Holstege, Facilities Services. “Our summer plans are to take a road trip to South Dakota this summer! It has always been a bucket list item for my mom to see Mt Rushmore. We hope to see Badlands, Custer, Crazy Horse, Wall Drug and a number of other things! If anyone has a must see place let me know – we are trying not to plan out every minute so we get to experience the state!”



Erin Braginton, Financial Aid. “I am turning 50 this July 7th and my husband and I are doing an 18-day trip out west to Yellowstone, Grand Tetons area with our travel trailer. Neither one of us have seen that part of the country so we are really excited for the adventure and all that we have planned for the time out there.”

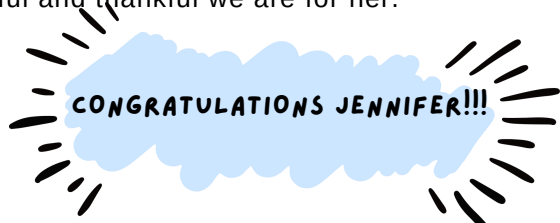
Natalie Day, Kirkhof College of Nursing. “My best friend lives across the country so we don’t get to see each other very often, but we are taking TWO trips together this summer! We are going to Portland in May, and then New York in June. I’m very much looking forward to getting my steps in at those bookstores and hiking trails in Portland as well as throughout the city in New York. But even more excited to spend time with a friend!”



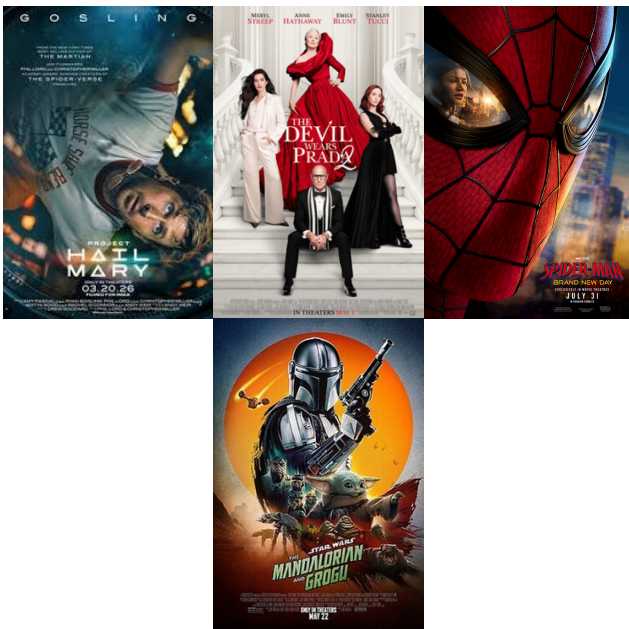
HIGHLIGHTS



Meghan Prindle, Chemistry Department. “I just wanted to share some good news in our department. **Jennifer Glaab** has been awarded the PSS Service Award. She brings over 20 years’ experience to GVSU, and we want to let everyone know how grateful and thankful we are for her. ”



Movie Recommendations by **Natalie Day, Kirkhof College of Nursing.** “If people haven’t seen Project Hail Mary yet, they should! This summer is also a great time for movies. The Devil Wears Prada 2, Spider-Man: Brand New Day, Supergirl, The Odyssey, Star Wars: The Mandalorian and Grogu, and so many others are coming to theaters in the coming months!”



Marisa Naylor, Public Safety. “Fun shoutout to **Grand Rapids Glassblowing Studio**, hidden between Megabev and Wash & Wags down LMD. My husband and I did the ‘Fresh-Squeezed Ornament’ workshop recently, and the results were absolutely beautiful! They don’t advertise as they are a very small family-owned business, but if you sign up for their emails, they send out workshop information. They do close during the summer as it is too hot to run their equipment. They open back up again in the fall and will be hosting a ‘pump up a glass pumpkin’ workshop.

Also, peep the outfits because we’re hardcore Laker fans.”





2025-2026 EXECUTIVE BOARD

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AH, CUB, SER

TREENA GILBERT

BIK, CEC, IDC, KEN, WAT

CAMPUS DATES

1ST-2ND - COMMENCEMENT
11TH - SUMMER SESSION CLASSES BEGIN
19TH - GVSU CORNHOLE TOURNAMENT
GVSU.EDU/EVENTS

BIRTHDAYS

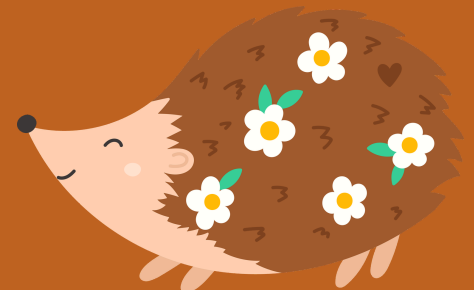
21ST - CHERILYN DENOMME
14TH - MELISSA KUREK

GVSU ANNIVERSARY

7TH - MELISSA KUREK
29TH - TERRI KENNEY
29TH - BRIAN DENUYL

WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

7TH - KIMBERLY REEVES-JORGENSEN
16TH - ERICA BAKER-BRINGEDAHL
23RD - JAY ZINK



SHARE YOUR GRADUATION PHOTOS AND STORIES FOR THE JUNE NEWSLETTER

THIS NEWSLETTER IS PUBLISHED MONTHLY. FOR SUBMISSION INFORMATION, CONTACT THE COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR.