

*"And now let us believe in a long year that is given to us, new, untouched, full of things that have never been, full of work that has never been done, full of tasks, claims, and demands; and let us see that we learn to take it without letting fall too much of what it has to bestow upon those who demand of it necessary, serious, and great things."*  
—Rainer Maria Rilke

As we prepare to begin the new academic year, I look forward to joining you, my colleagues, in the wonder of all that is to come as we take on the necessary, serious, and great work of teaching and learning.

Kind regards,  
Laurie

## Center for Teaching Excellence, Distance Learning Host Open Houses

The Center for Teaching Excellence (Main Building, Room 308) and the Distance Learning and Instructional Support Department (Main Building, Room 316) will be hosting an open house on August 24, 25, and 28.

All faculty members are encouraged to come in with any questions, comments, or concerns about their classes, online teaching, instructional technologies, and anything else relating to teaching. The open house will take place during the following hours:

Thursday, August 24, 2017 from 2 p.m.-5 p.m.

Friday, August 25, 2017 from 9 a.m.-noon.

Monday, August 28, 2017 from 9 a.m.-7 p.m.

Drinks and snacks will be available.

## New Opportunity for Faculty Recognition

Last year, several faculty suggested that the College explore ways to recognize outstanding achievements from the Faculty Performance Evaluation system.

In response to this request, in 2017-18 we will be piloting an Award for Outstanding Substantive Projects. The deadline for nominations is March 30, the same day on which FPE Reports are due. Faculty can self-nominate through this link: [grcc.edu/outstandingprojectaward](http://grcc.edu/outstandingprojectaward).

Up to two winners may be selected by the Center for Teaching Excellence Advisory Board, and awards will be presented at the annual Employee Recognition event at the end of the academic year. In addition to the recognition, faculty awardees may choose to receive up to \$2500 towards a conference at which they are accepted to present their work, or they may choose to receive up to two contact hours of EOL in the coming year to share their work with other faculty through the Center for Teaching Excellence.

More information will be forthcoming from the associate deans as the school year and FPE plan season arrive.

## Fall Opening Day

Please join your colleagues on Thursday, August 24, for Opening Day at the Ford Fieldhouse.

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|-----------------------|---|
| 7:30 a.m.:            | Breakfast   |
| 8:30 a.m.:            | Address by President Pink   |
| 9:45 a.m.:            | Update GRCC faculty and staff picture (Olivarez Plaza)  |
| 10 a.m.:              | School meetings (various locations)   |
| 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.: | GRCC Foundation free picnic lunch at Art and Bev's and the Art and Bev's Learning Commons Terrace |
| 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.: | Please take some time to tour the newly renovated Music Center                                    |

## Adjunct On-boarding Event

This event is open to new and returning adjuncts at the Ford Fieldhouse from 2-5 p.m.

During the on-boarding event, adjuncts will have an opportunity to:

- Turn in new hire forms
- Ask questions regarding benefits
- Obtain a Raider card
- Learn about library services
- Receive technical support from IT
- Learn about professional development opportunities
- Obtain a parking assignment, hang tags, office and classroom keys

## Adjunct Dinner, Awards and Meetings

Ford Fieldhouse

- |                 |   |
|-----------------|---|
| 5 p.m.:         | Adjunct Dinner  |
| 6 p.m.:         | Welcome and Presentation of Excellence in Teaching by Adjunct Faculty Award |
| 6:15-7:30 p.m.: | Departmental Meetings (various locations)                                   |

# Open Educational Resources

by Mike Vargo

**Open Educational Resources (OER)** – You may have heard this term used around the GRCC Campus during the last year. OER are freely accessible, openly licensed documents and media used as instructional materials in teaching and learning environments. These are important because commercial textbook prices have more than doubled in the last decade, and textbook and educational materials expenses have become a major barrier to higher education access and student success. What’s more, these costs disproportionately affect students from lower income groups, a large segment of the GRCC student body.

In an attempt to significantly reduce this barrier, a team of GRCC faculty and administrators has embarked on an initiative to bring textbook costs down by introducing Open Educational Resources to the GRCC Campus. The initial roll-out began in fall 2015 and has been developed within a formal institutional partnership with OpenStax College, a grant-funded program within Rice University in Houston, TX. The adoption of OER has produced outstanding outcomes at GRCC.

With great work from GRCC Information Technology, we have also made modifications to help students identify courses using OER materials. In the ClassFinder application on the GRCC homepage, students can now search for sections that have adopted OER textbooks, and can see sections in the schedule that use OER texts. Try it for yourself: [grcc.edu/classfinder](http://grcc.edu/classfinder).

For any of you who have already chosen an OER textbook for your class, thank you for supporting this initiative. Think how excited your students were to learn they did not have to purchase a textbook for your course! This is part of a national movement in higher education, and you are on the leading edge of this effort here at GRCC.

For any of you who would like more information about choosing an OER textbook for your course, please contact Bill Faber in the Center for Teaching Excellence, Garry Brand in Distance Learning and Instructional Technology, Sophia Brewer in the Library and Learning Commons, or Mike Vargo in the School of Arts and Sciences. Any of them would welcome the opportunity to help you learn more about OER!

Open Educational Resources at GRCC					
Semester and Year	Fall 2016	Winter 2017	Summer 2017	2016-17 Total	Fall 2017 (Estimate)
Number of class sections now using OER	97	107	55		135*
Estimated cost savings to students year-to-date	\$604,436	\$658,469	\$312,319	\$1,575,224	\$864,854

There are seven academic areas participating: Biological Sciences, Business, Language and Thought (Philosophy), Mathematics, Physical Sciences (Astronomy, Physics, Chemistry), Social Sciences (History, Anthropology, Economics) and Theater.

\* Two subjects may add OER for fall and would significantly increase number of sections.

# Accelerated Program Development

by Sheila Jones

Members of the Curriculum Operations Support Team (COST) have designed an accelerated process for new program development. This process is intended to offer faculty the opportunity to develop qualified new programs that can be approved, and therefore made available to students, within a shorter amount of time.

In order to qualify for consideration for this expedited curriculum development process, one of the following criteria must be met:

- Accreditation change (MCOLES)
- External regulation change (MTA/MACRAO)
- Grant requirements
- Industry partnerships
- Economic development company recruitment (course or program)
- New Program does not require any additional financial resources (i.e.: new courses, new faculty)
- College-wide initiative

The Accelerated Program Development process will be available in Curriculog. This process is accelerated compared to the regular New Program Development process in that it eliminates the need for the full Deans’ Council approval. It also combines certain systems, updating work into one step instead of multiple ones. This process can be launched at any time, and the deadlines by which new programs would need to be fully developed also allow for more flexibility for faculty to develop new programs. The following

required steps will comprise the Accelerated Program Development process in Curriculog:

1. Launch proposal in Curriculog\* (including rationale for Accelerated Program Development and Institutional Capacity Assessment)
2. Environmental scanning, associate dean, department head approvals
3. Dean approval (includes the approval for an Accelerated Program Development)
4. Financial Aid and Institutional Research approval and curriculum and Student Records Office notifications
5. Curriculum development\*
6. Department review and approval
7. Associate dean approval
8. Curriculum Approval Committee approval\*
9. Provost Office approval
10. Registrar’s Office systems updating
11. Curriculum Office final review

**Deadlines: Steps 1-8** must be completed six weeks prior to the start of the semester in which the new program will be available to students.

**Steps 9-11** must be completed four weeks prior to the start of that semester.

\*Faculty member launching the proposal is responsible for tasks associated with these steps and should consult with his/her dean/associate dean before launching a proposal.

## Bill Knapp Introduction



### New Executive Director of DLIT On Board

Please welcome Bill Knapp as the new Executive Director of our Distance Learning and Instructional Technologies

department. Bill comes to us from Lakeland Community College near Cleveland, Ohio, where he has worked for the past 6½ years as Chief Learning Resources and Academic Technology Officer and Dean of Learning Technologies. Prior to working at Lakeland, he was employed for 12 years at Ferris State University in Big Rapids as the Coordinator of Instructional Technologies with the Faculty Center for Teaching and Learning. Bill earned his Bachelor's degree in Integrative Studies and Master of Science in Career and Technical Education (CTE) with a concentration in workplace training and development from Ferris.

Bill has over 18 years' experience in higher education serving both the community college and the university, supporting faculty and students in the selection, use and application of information and learning technologies.

Bill currently serves on the Board of Directors for the Instructional Technology Council (ITC), which is a non-profit organization and network of e-learning professionals in higher education throughout North America.

Bill is excited to join the GRCC community. Please stop by Main Building, Room 344 to meet Bill.

## Welcome New Academic and Student Affairs Staff

Kali Anderson, Assistant to Preschool Instructor  
Jimmie Baber, Workforce Development, Associate Dean of Faculty Evaluation and Hiring  
Brian Beecher, Library and Learning Commons, Director  
Michael Cooper, Training Solutions, Education and Training Specialist  
William Firn, Student Affairs, Athletic Director  
Giniece Flemming, Assistant to Preschool Instructor  
Thalia Guerra-Flores, Student Life, Assistant Director  
Antoinette Harrington, Library and Learning Commons, Support Professional  
Kenneth Henderson, College Success Center, Student Success Coach  
Kathleen Kelly, Training Solutions, Support Professional  
William Knapp, DLIT, Executive Director  
Kayla Leonard, College Success Center, Student Success Coach  
Azusena Nevares, College Success Center, Student Success Coach  
Lindsay Passenger, Preschool, Assistant to Preschool Instructor  
Cody Robinson, Counseling and Career Center, Support Professional  
Mellisa Ruskey, Preschool, Assistant to Preschool Instructor  
James Setchfield, Jr., College Success Center  
Nena Swanson, Preschool, Assistant to Preschool Instructor  
Sarah VanDeWege, Preschool, Assistant to Preschool Instructor

### Newly Appointed, Elected or Re-elected

Many thanks to GRCC's academic department heads and program directors.

#### School of Workforce Development:

Thomas Street, Applied Technology  
Chad Lodenstein, Automotive  
Felix Pereiro, Business  
Andrew Rozema, CIS  
Nikki Banks, Criminal Justice  
Nathan Spahn, Manufacturing  
Michael Merchant, Mechanical and Architectural Design  
Julie Lackscheide, Radiologic Technology

#### School of Arts and Sciences

Amy Kudrna, Physical Sciences

### New Faculty this Fall:

Carmen Andert, Mathematics  
Michael Bell, Student Success and Retention  
Jacob Brenner, Secchia Institute for Culinary Education  
Heather Klare, Radiologic Technology  
Brandi Miller, Nursing  
Patrick VanOtteren, Electronics

### Congratulations! Faculty and Staff Promoted

#### Received Tenure:

Gayl Beals, Automotive  
Dillon Carr, Anthropology  
Andre Fields, Counseling  
Andrea Hayes, Mathematics  
Mark Jasonowicz, Business  
Vicki Maxa, Advising and Transfer  
Matt Mekkes, Occupational Therapy Assistant  
Libor Ondras, Music  
Sophie Rubin, Psychology  
Julie Sizemore, Preschool  
Ben Smith, Automotive  
Doug Wiersma, Construction Trades  
Andrew Wolinski, Preschool

#### Promoted to Associate Professor:

Megan Coakley, English  
Dan Gendler, Secchia Institute for Culinary Education

#### Promoted to Full Professor:

Audrey Heckwolf, Secchia Institute for Culinary Education  
Tim Heldt, Music  
Katie Kalisz, English  
Mary Lucas, Language and Thought  
Oscar Neal, Mathematics  
Deborah Nordman, Radiologic Technology  
Nan Schichtel, Library and Learning Commons  
Tricia Siegel, Education