

Governor appoints two business leaders as trustees to GVSU board

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ALLENALE, Mich. – Gov. Gretchen Whitmer named Shelley Padnos, a former chair of the board of trustees and long-time university donor, and Ronald E. Hall, a Southeast Michigan businesses leader and attorney, to the Grand Valley State University Board of Trustees. Padnos and Hall begin their eight-year terms February 2, 2023.

Padnos is an attorney and the current executive vice president of PADNOS, a company known for its innovative recycling process. Hall, of Bloomfield Township, is the president and chief executive officer of Bridgewater Interiors, L.L.C., an automotive interiors manufacturing firm, located in Detroit.

Before his time at Bridgewater, Hall served as a captain in the U.S. Army and then worked as an associate attorney at Dykema and corporate attorney at Johnson Controls. Mr. Hall serves on several executive boards, including the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago – Detroit Branch, Corewell Health, the Skillman Foundation, the Detroit Regional Chamber, Business Leaders for Michigan, Motor & Equipment Manufacturers Association – Original Equipment division, and Detroit PAL’s advisory board. He earned his Bachelor of Science from the United States Military Academy at West Point and his Juris Doctorate from the University of Michigan Law School.

Hall said he is impressed with the innovative efforts of Grand Valley and is optimistic about its positive trajectory and the role he can play in its future.

“I am honored by this appointment and humbled by the confidence being placed in me by Governor Whitmer. Educational opportunity expansion is a personal passion of mine, and I have supported various entities in the space my entire career. GVSU is doing great work educating and preparing future leaders and citizens for Michigan, and I look forward to joining their efforts.”

Padnos, of Fennville, formerly served on the GVSU board from 2007-2014 and received an honorary doctorate from the university in 2017. In addition to her role at PADNOS, she has served as the president of the Institute of Scrap Recycling Industries, the national trade association representing scrap processors and recyclers across North America. She has a long history of supporting the university, and she and Carol Sarosik created the Padnos/Sarosik Center for Civil Discourse Center, which is housed in the Brooks College of Interdisciplinary Studies. She has been a Grand Valley University Foundation director for three decades. Padnos said she is eager to rejoin the board and continue to invest in the future of GVSU.

PADNOS QUOTE HERE

Padnos earned her bachelor’s degree from Michigan State University and her Juris Doctorate from Thomas Cooley Law School.

Padnos and Hall will replace Megan Rydecki and Victor Cardenas whose terms expired at the end of last year. Their appointments are subject to the advice and consent of the Michigan State Senate.

About Grand Valley State University:

Grand Valley State University attracts more than 21,000 students with high-quality programs and state-of-the-art facilities. Grand Valley is a comprehensive university serving students from all across Michigan and dozens of other states and foreign countries. Grand Valley offers 100 undergraduate and 45 graduate degree programs and has campuses in Allendale, Grand Rapids and Holland. The university offers programming and classes from outreach centers in Battle Creek, Detroit and Traverse City; the Robert B. Annis Water Resources Institute and the Muskegon Innovation Hub are located in Muskegon. The university is dedicated to individual student achievement, going beyond the traditional classroom experience, with research opportunities and business partnerships.