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"Continuing a tradition of success."

College of Education and Human Development



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MTTC LUNCH 'N LEARN PROGRAM COMING SOON

Dec. 5, 2013

Beginning on January 13, 2014, the College of Education and Human Development, the College of Arts and Sciences, and the University's Writing Center announce a new program designed to provide content tutoring and one-on-one mentoring to all students facing any of the Michigan Tests for Teacher Certification.

Modeled after several successful student intervention programs offered in schools in southwest Michigan, the MTTC Lunch 'N Learn Program will run during the Fall and Spring semesters on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 12:00 to 1:30 in 4140 Sangren Hall for content tutoring and mentoring, as well as Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3:30 to 5:00 for study support.

Any and all are welcome to join Lunch 'N Learn! Feel free to contact [Dr. Tracy DeMars](#) for more information, and watch for content tutoring schedules throughout the coming semester.

CEHD DEAN ATTENDS COMMUNITY READING EVENT

Dec. 4, 2013



The Kalamazoo Public Library along with Southwest Michigan Reading Council recently presented the public with “Family Literacy Fun Monday”. The dean of the College of Education and Human Development was able to attend the event and engage in reading activities with children of the Kalamazoo community and their parents. The event, which was held on Monday, November 18, is held a few times throughout the year at the Central Library on Rose Street and includes many activities focused on supporting family literacy.

DEAN WINS AWARD



Nov. 22, 2013

The College of Education and Human Development's new dean, Dr. Ming Li, has been chosen as this year's honoree for an international award honoring outstanding service. Li will receive the North American Society for Sport Management (NASSM)'s Garth Paton Distinguished Service Award during their annual meeting this spring. This award recognizes member's hard working contributions to the organization and will be presented to Dr. Li at the annual conference on May 27 to 31 in Pittsburgh. Dr. Li is an active member of NASSM, the largest international professional association in the field of sport management, and has previously served as president of the organization. Congratulations on this high honor!

STUDENT WINS SCHOLARSHIP

April 29, 2013

College of Education and Human Development student, Lexie Sittsamer, is the recipient of a \$1,000 scholarship from the State of Michigan Chapter of Phi Delta Kappa (PDK) International. Phi Delta Kappa International is the premier professional association for educators. For more than 100 years, it has focused its work on the tenets of service, research, and leadership. Congratulations Lexie!

JOE R. CHAPEL OBITUARY

Dec. 1, 2012



Joe R. Chapel, age 73, passed away on Saturday, December 1, 2012. He initially began his career as a sixth grade teacher for Kalamazoo Public Schools, at Knollwood. Joe was a much-loved and respected professor of Education at Western Michigan University. During various times at the University, he was the Director of the Dorothy J. McGinnis Reading Center and Clinic, Administrator and Site Coordinator of the Michigan Reading Recovery Program, and Associate Professor of Education and Professional Development. Joe was a truly dedicated professional who strived to excel in the education of others. He spent extensive time with university students who were experiencing reading/ learning difficulties. He was a member of the International Reading Association, the Michigan Reading Association, the Michigan College Reading Council, the Homer Carter Reading Council, the Michigan Association of Teacher Educators, the National Reading Recovery Council of North America, the Midwest College Reading Association, and Phi Delta Kappa. Joe was a 1996 recipient of the Crystal Apple Award that was created by the MSU graduate college to honor him for outstanding contributions to the field of education. Most of all, Joe treasured being with his family, especially his three grandchildren. He loved playing golf, listening to beautiful music, reading, and working with his students. Joe liked being at Lake Michigan, taking vacations in Glen Arbor, working in the yard, and driving his John Deere. He is survived by his loving wife, Martha; daughter, Chris (Victor) Pitsch; grandchildren who he loved so dearly, Carly, Joe, and Lucas; brother, Jack (Mary) Chapel; sisters, Janet (Jim) Melcher, and Joyce (David) Beekman; and seven nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents, Earl and Christine (Starks) Chapel, and his sister, Judy (Seymour) Van Deursen. Those planning an expression of sympathy are asked to consider a donation to the Dorothy J. McGinnis Reading Center in Care of Joe Chapel Scholarship Fund, 1903 W. Michigan Ave. Kalamazoo, MI 49008-5258 and Clinic at WMU.

FORMER EDUCATION DEAN, JOHN SANDBERG, DIES IN FLORIDA

Nov. 7, 2012



Dr. John E. Sandberg, who served as dean of Western Michigan University's College of Education for 13 years in the 1970s and 1980s, died Oct. 24 in Viera, Fla. He was 83.

Sandberg came to WMU as dean in 1971 and served in that role until 1983. He retired in 1986 with emeritus status but remained active in teacher evaluation research at the University. Under his guidance as dean, WMU established a doctoral program in educational leadership in Guam, and the college earned full accreditation by the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education. The Merze Tate Center for Research was developed during his tenure.

Prior to taking the lead of WMU's education programs, he served in Oregon for five years as deputy director of the Northwest Regional Educational Laboratory in Portland.

Sandberg earned three degrees from Washington University in 1951, 1952 and 1965. He also was awarded an honorary degree from the University of Guam in recognition of the work he did in that Pacific nation.

In 2005, WMU established a three-year professorship in Sandberg's honor, naming Dr. Jianping Shen of what was then the University's Department of Teaching, Learning and Leadership, to hold the position.

Following his retirement, Sandberg relocated to Bradenton Beach Fla., where he became active in the local community. In 2005 he and his wife Mollie, who survives, moved to Viera, Fla.

BOOK PUBLISHED THAT INCLUDES COLLEGE STAFF AND FACULTY MEMBERS

July 25, 2012



Dr. Katharine Cummings, Associate Dean

Corwin Press has released a new book by a group of authors including Dr. Katharine Cummings, Associate Dean in the College of Education and Human Development, WMU professor emeritus Arlen Gullickson and Lindsay Noakes, current doctoral student and alumna of WMU's secondary education program.

California's Corwin Press released the text, ["Improving Formative Assessment Practice to Empower Student Learning"](#) in February. It is designed for individual teachers or collaboratively as a study guide for a learning community.

The authors describe an effective four-step process for improving teachers' formative assessment practices that provides opportunities to reflect, consider alternative instructional approaches, and apply what they have learned. Case studies provide examples of formative assessment in practice, along with examples of teacher-implemented changes. A companion website includes an array of tools and templates for organizing, gathering, and systematically using information to strengthen formative assessment skills.

ACADEMIC ADVISOR RECEIVES YWCA AWARD

April 4, 2012



The YWCA of Kalamazoo announced Sarah Stangl as one of the winners of the 2012 Women of Achievement awards. Stangl serves as an academic adviser at Western Michigan University. When she served as coordinator of Lesbian, Bisexual, Gay and Transgender Student Services at WMU, she advocated for LGBT students by working with WMU's Office of Residence Life to assist LGBT students living on campus, revamping the Safe On Campus program and developing the Gender Identity Training Program. In 2011, WMU was ranked in the top 25 schools for having a diverse and accepting student body in Newsweek and the Daily Beast. She also volunteers at the Kalamazoo Gay Lesbian Resource Center PRIDE Festival and Kalamazoo Save Our Strays.

ACADEMIC ADVISOR RECEIVES WMU AWARD

March 29, 2012



Congratulations to College of Education and Human Development Academic Advisor Tracy Corstange for receiving the semi-annual WMU Make a Difference award. All recipients will be honored at a reception on April 16 at 2p.m. in room 157 Bernhard Center.

INTERIM DEAN NAMED

Posted Jan. 24, 2012



Van E. Cooley, chair of the Department of Educational Leadership, Research and Technology for Western Michigan University's College of Education and Human Development, has been named interim dean of the college.

Cooley, whose appointment is effective immediately, replaces John J. Wheeler, who left WMU in December to become the Director for the Center of Excellence in Early Childhood Learning and Development at East Tennessee State University. Cooley will serve as the interim dean while the University conducts a nationwide search for a new dean of the college.

Cooley has been a member of the faculty and college administration since 1996. Since his appointment to WMU, he has been the co-principal investigator on nearly 9 million dollars in grants from the Wallace Foundation and the United States Department of Education. Through

grant initiatives, he has worked closely with the Michigan Department of Education, Michigan Association of Secondary Principals, Michigan Elementary and Middle School Principals Association and the Michigan Association of School Administrators. He has also worked with principals in Battle Creek, Benton Harbor, Kalamazoo, Flint, Grand Rapids, Lansing, Muskegon, Oak Park, Saginaw and other Michigan districts. He previously worked as a middle and high school teacher, an assistant superintendent and superintendent. Working with teachers and administrators, he has developed state and national award winning programs ranging from professional development; technology programming and programs to address the needs of at risk students.

Cooley has been a member of WMU Faculty Senate Executive Board for 11 years. He has also been a member of the Research Policies Committee, Campus Planning and Financial Council, Research Policies Council, Academic and Information Technology Council, and the Senate Committee on Extended University Programs.

A graduate of Ball State University, Cooley also served in the United States Navy as a hospital corpsman from 1968-1972 including one year in South Vietnam. Dr. Cooley is married and has two grown children.

2013 News

First annual Department of Educational Leadership, Research and Technology international student welcome reception

Dec. 4—This semester the department welcomed their international students from a variety of countries with a well-attended International Student Welcome reception. This reception was for the department's graduate students and many nationalities were represented on Sept. 12.

The students had the opportunity to talk with one another and meet and mingle with faculty members. This new event is something the department plans to throw for many years to come. The feedback from both students and faculty was very positive both on the event and the food!

Journal publication

Dec. 4—A recent graduate from WMU's educational leadership Ph.D. program, Dr. Ewa Urban, along with her advisor, an educational leadership, research and technology faculty member, Dr. Louann Bierlein Palmer, recently had an article accepted for publication in the Journal of Studies in International Education. This article describes the results from a cross-sectional survey examining the perceptions of undergraduate and graduate international students enrolled at a public university in the Midwest, regarding international students' perspectives on how their university engages them as cultural resources, and how such engagement might impact students' perceptions of the value they receive from U.S. higher education.

This study offers some areas of potential interventions that can help higher education leaders systematically address some contextual factors and ultimately positively impact the learning

outcomes of all students. Adopting a more systemic approach to campus internationalization can enhance international students' perception of the value of their U.S. educational experience. Integrating inter cultural perspectives into classes, purposefully creating multicultural groups and teams for class projects, and encouraging American students to get to know their international peers and learn about their countries and cultures, can do this.

A very important aspect of engaging international students as cultural resources is creating an environment where domestic and international students have abundant opportunities for interactions and feel comfortable sharing information about their respective backgrounds. Reciprocal cultural learning is undoubtedly beneficial for both international and domestic students, but for such learning to take place, meaningful cross-cultural interactions need to be encouraged and supported by higher education institutions. Although cross-cultural interactions occur mostly at the personal and informal level, the institutional level is the most crucial in creating the structures to facilitate increased interactions between international and domestic students.

Such changes can positively affect international students' perceptions of U.S. higher education and increase their professional and personal outcomes. Ultimately, meaningful engagement of international students as equal partners in the internationalization of U.S. campuses can contribute to the recruitment and retention of international talent to positively impact institutional internationalization efforts.

The study identifies multiple areas of opportunities for higher education to facilitate international students' active contributions to the university's strategic goal of global engagement and internationalization while also positively impacting the manner in which international students perceive their higher education experience.

These findings enrich existing literature about international students' professional and personal expectations and outcomes by providing specific examples of the areas in which students benefit the most and the least, as well as suggesting potential areas of students' experiences that can be impacted to increase their personal and professional gains.

Book information: Urban, E. L., and Bierlein Palmer, L. (in press). International Students as a Resource for Internationalization of Higher Education. *Journal of Studies in International Education*.

Alumna named to NASPAA

Nov. 20—An educational leadership graduate, Dr. Barbara Liggett, has recently been named to the Network of Schools of Public Policy, Affairs and Administration's Executive Council. Liggett is an associate professor and director of the School of Public Affairs and Administration here at Western Michigan University.

After leadership positions at WMU since 1980 that include associate vice president of human resources, executive advisor to the president and associate to the vice president of business and finance, she joined the WMU faculty. Her current research and consultation work focuses on

ethical decision-making in public and nonprofit organizations. She has been serving as director of WMU's School of Public Affairs and Administration since 2010, after a one-year interim director position.

Liggett also has the highest certificate of human resources, a senior professional, signifying demonstrated strategic mastery of human resources.

Educational leadership team receives new grant

Nov. 13—On Sept. 27, 2013, the U.S. Department of Education announced a new, nearly \$5 million grant to Western Michigan University's educational leadership team to continue to improve the line of work with school principals, with even a sharper focus on student achievement. The new project will be led by Dr. Jianping Shen, Dr. Nancy Mansberger and Dr. Walter Burt, joined by other faculty members and consultants. The project, supported by the U.S. Department of Education School Leadership Grant Program, will be from 2013 to 2018.

Faculty coordinator awarded grant for research

Oct. 21—Dr. Ramona Lewis was awarded an internally funded grant for \$1,875 for her research on Experiences of African American older adult learners.

Professor selected as peer reviewer for "District Race to the Top" competition

Oct. 17—Dr. Louann Bierlein Palmer has once again been selected by the U.S. Department of Education to serve as a peer reviewer for the second round of the "District Race To The Top" competition. She had also previously served in this role for both rounds of the "State Race To The Top" competition.

Evaluation, measurement and research professor among the most influential education scholars in the nation

July 1—A June 2013 national study of education scholars prepared by EdWeek and the American Enterprise Institute rated Professor Gary Miron, evaluation, measurement and research, among the most influential education scholars in the nation. He was the highest ranked education professor in Michigan and had the second highest ranking in the Midwest. This ranking is based on how often a scholar's body of research is cited by other academics and the national media.

[2013 RHSU Edu-Scholar Public Presence Rankings](#)

Evaluation, measurement and research graduate named principal at Grand Rapids area school

June 18—Dr. Manuel J. Brenes has been named principal of San Juan Diego Academy, a Grand Rapids area K-8 Catholic school that meets the needs of Latino immigrant children. Brenes earned a Ph.D. in evaluation, measurement and research from Western Michigan University in 2012.

ABC News article: [San Juan Diego Academy names new principal](#)

Professor lead editor of new book

April 22—Gary Miron, professor in educational leadership, research and technology, was lead editor of a new book titled "Exploring the School Choice Universe: Evidence and Recommendations." The National Press Club in Washington, D.C., held a symposium in connection with the launch of this new book which was televised by CSPAN.

Higher education and student affairs leadership master's students win case study

March 19—Four master's students in the higher education and student affairs leadership program within the Department of Educational Leadership, Research and Technology won first place in the 12th annual Virtual Case Study Competition from The Journal of Technology in Student Affairs. Jaclyn Rivard, Meredith Atchison, Kira Dow and Emily Lott presented on the topic of using social media.

[View the team's presentation](#)

Organizational leadership and performance students complete capstone

March 19—Last fall, the WMU board of trustees approved changing the name of the human resources development master's program in the Department of Counselor Education and Counseling Psychology to the Master of Arts in leadership for organizational learning and performance. In addition, the program has moved to the Department of Educational Leadership, Research and Technology. The curriculum was refined and the name changed to reflect contemporary practice in the field. December of 2012 was the first graduating class in the new program. The following are capstone projects that OLP students completed this semester.

- A Process Improvement Project: Cross Functional Billing Processes in a Nationally Recognized Insurance Company, Doni B. Robertson, December 2012.

- Implementing Employee Onboarding and Student Orientation Programs: An Analysis of Change Management, Project Planning, and Program Design, Carrie Rhein, December 2012.
- New Hire Orientation Transformation: An evaluation of the New Hire Training Program and Recommendations for Improvement, Britany Depore Levin, December 2012.
- Behavior Based Interviewing: The Key To Selecting Highly Qualified Staff, Gaoqi Hu, December 2012.
- Designing and Implementing an Evaluation Plan for a Physician Leadership Program, Thomas B. Morley, December 2012.

Graduate student and faculty member to present

Feb. 26—Carl Westine, interdisciplinary program in evaluation graduate student, and Dr. Jessaca Spybrook, assistant professor of educational leadership, research and technology, will be presenting a paper at the upcoming meeting for the Society for Research on Educational Effectiveness. The paper, "Improving the Design of Science Intervention Studies: An Empirical Investigation of Design Parameters for Planning Group Randomized Trials," is funded by a grant from the National Science Foundation.

Spybrook to conduct half-day workshop

Feb. 19—Dr. Jessaca Spybrook, assistant professor of educational leadership, research and technology, will be conducting a half-day workshop, "Optimal Design Plus Empirical Evidence," at the annual meeting of the Society for Research on Educational Effectiveness in March. Spybrook is a co-author of the Optimal Design software and documentation that will be featured in the workshop.

Doctoral student and professor to present at conference

Feb. 19—Dr. Dave Louis, assistant professor in the Department of Educational Leadership, Research and Technology, and doctoral student Scott Michel will be presenting at the American Association of Blacks in Higher Education in Atlanta this February. The presentation addresses the experiences of black and white faculty as they mentor students of other ethnicities. The presentation is an extension of their article entitled "Frantz Fanon ambivalence revisited in America's faculty: Narratives of black and white faculty struggles with cross cultural mentoring" which was published in the winter 2013 issue of the National Journal of Urban Education & Practice.

Three educational leadership students' work in press

Jan. 15—Three doctoral students in educational leadership have one journal article and two book chapters in press and three AERA presentations accepted.

Three doctoral students in educational leadership—Mr. Izumi Musashi, who just graduated in December, and Mr. Jiangang Xia and Mr. Xingyuan Gao, who are current doctoral students—have one journal article and two book chapters in press, and three papers accepted for presentation at 2013 AERA.

Izumi, M., Shen, J., Xia, J. (in press). Determinants of graduation rate of public alternative schools. *Education and Urban Society*.

Xia, J., Shen, J. and Cooley, V.E. (in press). Coherent curriculum. In J. Shen & V. E. Cooley (Eds.), *A resource book for improving principals' learning-centered leadership*. New York, N.Y.: Peter Lang Publishing.

Gao, X., Xia, J., Shen, J., Ma, X. (in press). Participation in and reflection on a quality improvement system: Perspectives from practitioners. In Shen, J., Ma, X. et al., *Quality rating and improvement system for early care and education: Development, implementation, evaluation and learning*. New York, N.Y.: Peter Lang.

Xia, J. (accepted). Is educational evaluation a profession yet in China? A brief review. Paper to be presented at the 2013 annual meeting of the American Education Research Association, April 27–May 1, 2013, San Francisco, Calif.

Xia, J., Izumi, M., and Shen, J. (accepted). What influences teacher job satisfaction in public alternative schools? A multi-level study using SASS 2007-08. Paper to be presented at the 2013 annual meeting of the American Education Research Association, April 27–May 1, 2013, San Francisco, Calif.

Gao, X., Shen, J., and Xia, J. (accepted). Is there an association between data-informed school-level improvement efforts and data-informed instruction at the classroom level? A test of the theory "school as a loosely coupled organization." Paper to be presented at the 2013 annual meeting of the American Education Research Association, April 27–May 1, 2013, San Francisco, Calif.