Prism

Volume 60, February 2012

Western Michigan University's Newsletter for Academic Affairs

College of Fine Arts

Student and Alumni Accolades

Cast of Like a Butterfly, choreographed by Katie Matar (photo credit: John Lacko)

More than 1,300 attended the 2012 Winter Gala Dance Concert held February 2-12 in the D. Terry Williams Theatre of the Gilmore Theatre Complex. The concert featured the choreography of **Lauren Edson**, winner of the first Great Works Dance Project National Choreography Competition. Her contemporary dance Foreground boasted athleticism, elegant partnering and detailed gestural phrases. Foreground will represent WMU at the east central conference of the American College Dance Festival Association at Grand Valley State University in early March. Fifteen students performed Nelly van Bommel's Addio Amore, a 22-minute tour de force that captured the playful and communal spirit of traditional Mediterranean folk music. This dance was the result of a ground breaking residency with Ms. van Bommel and professional dance company DanceWorks Chicago. Members of the Western Dance Project performed a dance titled PiDgeon by Chicago-based choreographer

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Eddy Ocampo. This quirky dance, with movement inspired by observing pigeons, showcases the technical talent of the company. Antony Tudor's ballet entitled Fandango was also presented in the concert. This dance for five women on pointe had its premiere in 1963 at the Metropolitan Opera Ballet Studio. The department performed Dark Elegies by Mr. Tudor in 2008. Faculty member Megan Slayter and her research partner Jessica Lindberg Coxe reconstructed their third Loïe Fuller work titled La Mer. La Mer is Loïe Fuller's grand interpretation of Debussy's sweeping musical score. Department of Dance students performed Fuller's Fire Dance and Lily in previous Winter Gala Dance Concerts. The dances by Tudor, Fuller, Edson and van Bommel were presented under the auspices of the Great Works Dance Project, a program designed to bring the artistic work of influential choreographers to WMU students and faculty and west Michigan audiences. The 2012 gala dance concert marked the 16th year of this unique program. Associate Professor David Curwen premiered his multi-dimensional interdisciplinary dance titled Jinsha. The dance was based on Curwen's visit to the Chinese archeological site of the same name. Assistant Professor **Kirsten Harvey** premiered a jazz dance titled Black Iris. Like a Butterfly was choreographed by junior BFA dance major **Katie Mattar**. The dance premiered in the December Orchesis Dance Concert and will also represent WMU at the east central conference of the American College Dance Festival Association.

Katie Matar in Addio Amore (photo credit: John Lacko)

Eric Bowman, senior music major, has been named a finalist in the J.J. Johnson Jazz Trombone Competition for jazz players up to age 25. The recognition comes after Bowman learned he was named a finalist in the Frank Smith Trombone Solo Competition, which also includes students to age 25. Bowman will compete against students from the countries of France and the United Kingdom, with alternates and honorable mention recognitions to students from Berklee College of Music, The Paris Conservatory, New York University, The Juilliard School and the University of Illinois.

Quincy Davis (BM, 1999), highly regarded performer and professor at the University of Manitoba, returned to campus for an artistic residency in the distinguished Alumni Suites. Quincy taught masters classes and performed with faculty and student musicians.

Faculty and Staff Accolades

Professor **Al LaVergne**, Frostic School of Art, is currently working as an artist and lecturer in Nigeria. In celebration of Obafemi Auwolos University's 50th anniversary, LaVergne is building a ten-foot sculpture. He is also designing a new metals facility for the institution.

Upcoming Events

The Annual Frostic School of Art Student exhibition runs from April 5 to 19, in the Monroe-Brown Gallery of the Richmond Center for Visual Art. Eric Gleason, Juror. For more information visit www.wmich.edu/art.

Tony 'N Tina's Wedding: Get Yourself Invited to the World's #1 Dinner Comedy!! Directed by Mark Liermann, March 29 - April 15 Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Vitale cordially invite you to Tony and Tina's Wedding! After all, the next coolest thing to do after high school is get married. With as many laughs as there are Italian stereotypes, this big fat Italian wedding will have you feeling like you are a member of the family and thankful that you're not! Tickets are $45 and include the ceremony and reception with a delicious Italian dinner & wedding cake provided by Millennium Restaurant Group. Season pass holders will be charged an additional $25 when reserving tickets. For more information visit www.wich.edu/theatre.

College of Arts and Sciences

Items of Academic Interest

Area Brain Bee participants competing at WMU.

Western Michigan University and the Department of Biological Sciences held the Second Annual Southwest Michigan Brain Bee on Saturday, Feb. 4. The event was a smashing success for one student in the Kalamazoo community. **Alec Sullivan** from Portage Northern High School in Portage, MI. was the big winner and will attend the prestigious National Brain Bee in Baltimore, MD. According to Professor of Biological Sciences, **John Spitsbergen**, "The local competition hosted students from four school districts in the area. The winner received a $500 travel award from the Michigan Chapter of the Society for Neuroscience to travel to the National Brain Bee in Baltimore." The Society for Neurosciences sponsors the International Brain Bee program, a neuroscience competition for high school students. The event runs in coordination with Brain Awareness Week (BAW) activities sponsored by the Society for Neuroscience and the Dana Alliance for Brain Initiatives. The Brain Bee is an attempt to motivate students to learn about the brain, capture their imaginations, and inspire them to pursue careers in biomedical brain research. "The International Brain Bee motivates youths to learn more about the brain. We need their energy and their passion to help find cures for Autism, Parkinson's disease, multiple sclerosis, spinal cord injury and other brain disorders," said Brain Bee founder Dr. Norbert Myslinski of the Department of Biomedical Sciences at University of Maryland Dental School, Baltimore, MD. Any high school student in grades 9 through 12 is eligible to compete in the local Brain Bees. Students who participate in the Bees are eligible to win prizes like cash, research internships, and trips to other Brain Bee competitions.

Three nationally and internationally recognized scholars will give campus presentations at WMU during the spring 2012 Distinguished Lectures on Africa series hosted by WMU's Center for African Development Policy Research. **Dr. Bilinda Straight**, a WMU associate professor of anthropology, presented "Health Outcomes of Inter-community Violence in Three Northern Kenyan Pastoralist Communities" on Monday, March 12, in Brown Hall. Straight works with Samburu pastoralists in Northern Kenya, examining consciousness, cosmology, material culture, gender, health, and violence. Dr. Theodore Vestal, professor emeritus of political science at Oklahoma State University, will present "Ethiopian-American Relations during the Reign of Emperor Haile Selassie, 1930-1974" from 3 to 4:30 p.m., Wednesday, March 28, in Brown Hall, room 2028. Vestal has served as an expert witness in more than 115 political asylum cases of Ethiopians and Eritreans since 1996. Dr. David Wiley, professor of sociology and former director of the African Studies Center at Michigan State University will present "Africa After 9/11: Rethinking U.S. Definitions and Policies" from 3 to 4:30 p.m., Wednesday, April 11, in Brown Hall, room 1025. Wiley served as director of the African Studies Centers at MSU from 1978-2008 and at the University of Wisconsin-Madison from 1972-1977. The Distinguished Lectures on Africa Series CADPR is co-sponsored by WMU's Haenicke Institute for Global Education, Departments of Anthropology, Economics, Foreign Languages, History, Political Science, Sociology, Spanish, Timothy Light Center for Chinese Studies, Office of VP for Diversity and Inclusion, the University Center for the Humanities, and the Walker Institute for Race and Ethnic Relations. For more information, contact: **Dr. Sisay Asefa**, CADPR director and professor of economics, sisay.asefa@wmich.edu

Kyoto, Japan.

The Department of Foreign Languages has begun offering a major in Japanese to allow interested students to pursue their Japanese education to the highest level possible as an undergraduate. "Those who choose to major in Japanese will complete their courses with a level of proficiency that is high enough that they should be able to communicate complex ideas in culturally appropriate ways," notes **Jeffrey Angles**, professor of foreign languages and advisor for the new major. The major will help students develop a high-level proficiency in the four skills of speaking, listening, reading, and writing. A Japanese minor also will be available and will provide a basic working knowledge of Japanese language and culture, basic proficiency in speaking, listening, reading, and writing. In addition to declaring Japanese their major, students are strongly encouraged to take advantage of study abroad opportunities through WMU's exchange institutions in Japan. Study abroad opportunities exist for: Keiō University (Tokyo); Rikkyō University (Tokyo); Daitō Bunka University (Saitama); Ritsumeikan (Kyoto); Otaru University of Commerce (Hokkaido); and Japan Center for Michigan Universities (Hikone). Shorter, semester-long programs are offered at: Nihon University (Tokyo), and Japan Center for Michigan Universities (Hikone). A two-week study abroad Japan Religion and Culture tour also is offered. "We believe that it is only through spending a significant amount of time in Japan that students will have enough knowledge about the language and culture to make Japanese useful in their future career plans," says Angles. "Students whose primary goal is to develop high-level knowledge about Japan and its language should consider the new major in Japanese." A variety of scholarship opportunities are available to help students study abroad. http://homepages.wmich.edu/~jangles/studyabroadinjapan.htm

WMU's Medieval Institute now offers a minor in Medieval Studies-- many undergraduate classes offered in Medieval language, literature, history and religion, may be combined to form a minor. Students with an undergraduate minor must complete 24 hours of coursework and these courses must be approved by an instructor. Director of the Medieval Institute, **James M. Murray**, is developing specific courses for the program, and oversees the operation of classes in the Medieval Studies curriculum. According to Murray, involvement in Medieval culture has set the precedent for modern times, and that, despite cynicism, these studies are not antiquated or impractical. "I have sought to understand how urban economies organized finance and trade in the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries, and how changes in economic structures shape, and are shaped by, political and social change," he said. "Our present is deeply rooted in our past." Undergraduate students are also welcome to attend the International Congress on Medieval Studies held annually at WMU. The Congress, according to the website, is an annual gathering of more than 3,000 scholars interested in Medieval Studies.

Dr. Joseph P. Stoltman

Dr. Joseph P. Stoltman, professor of Geography and Science Education, received the Gilbert M. Grosvenor Award from the Association of American Geographers for 2011 at its annual conference in Seattle. The award is in recognition of Stoltman's contributions to the field of geography and specifically geographical education. The award is given in honor of Gilbert M. Grosvenor, past president and CEO of the National Geographic Society and Chairman of the NGS Board of Directors. Among Stoltman's noted achievements, were leadership in the National Council for Geographic Education, chair and member of the Commission on Geographical Education of the International Geographical Union for 24 years, and service to the AAG as well as a number of other state, national, and international organizations as a member of committees and research projects. In its citation the AAG noted that Stoltman's name is one of the most widely cited and recognized by geographers whose professional and academic career has focused on geographical education.

Dr. Kevin Wanner, associate professor of comparative religion, has been approved as a candidate for the Fulbright Specialists Roster by the J. William Fulbright Foreign Scholarship Board, the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Education and Cultural Affairs, and the Council for International Exchange of Scholars. The roster is a list of all approved candidates, eligible to be matched with incoming program requests for Fulbright Specialists from overseas academic institutions. As a candidate, Wanner will be considered a potential match for program requests in his area of specialty--Medieval Christianity, with a particular focus on the pre- and post-conversion religion and culture of Scandinavia. Wanner teaches REL 2000: Introduction to Religion, REL 3050: The Christian Tradition, and, at the graduate level, REL 5000: Medieval Christianity. He also participates in a faculty team-taught section of REL 1000 called Religions of the World. Wanner received a bachelor's degree in psychology and religious studies from Indiana University of Pennsylvania in 1995, with a minor in sociology, followed by a master's degree in religion in 1998, and a Ph.D. in the history of religions at the University of Chicago. Between 1999 and 2009, Wanner published several scholarly articles, including "Off-Center: Considering Spatial Valences in Norse Cosmography" in Speculum: A Journal of Medieval Studies, and "God on the Margins: Dislocation and Transience in the Myths of Óðinn in History of Religions. Known for his forum style, Wanner has been described by students as "open and encouraging." "I wasn't sure going into the class but it has turned out to be one of my favorite classes I've taken so far," said a former student. "He's very willing to take questions and explain things more clearly. It keeps class interesting. I learned to speak up in class during discussions."

Faculty and Staff Accolades

Each year, the College of Arts and Sciences presents Faculty Achievement Awards to its members who have made outstanding contributions to disciplinary and interdisciplinary teaching; research, scholarly and creative activity; and university, professional and community service. Receiving the Achievement Award in Teaching were **Dr. John Geiser**, biological sciences; **Dr. Kathleen Propp**, communication; and **Dr. Michael Millar**, Spanish. Receiving the Achievement Award in Research and Creative Activity were **Dr. Yirong Mo**, chemistry; **Dr. Eve Salisbury**, English and the Medieval Institute; and **Dr. Robert Anemone**, anthropology. Receiving the Achievement Award in Professional and Community Service were **Dr. Howard Dooley**, history; **Dr. Sherine Obare**, chemistry; and **Dr. John Jellies**, biological sciences.

Bioarchaeologist **Jacqueline Eng** was featured recently on PBS when her work was part of a National Geographic special, "Cave People of the Himalaya." The PBS special features research she has been doing in Nepal over the past two years. Beginning in 2010, Eng joined a team of archaeologists, historians, linguists, and other specialists in the anthropological exploration of the settlement history of the Upper Mustang region of Nepal. Some of the preliminary results include evidence of de-fleshing in an ancient burial practice. Eng's research interests are in the health of ancient human populations as revealed by their skeletal and dental remains. Through this bioarchaeological perspective, she has conducted osteological research on hunter-gatherer populations in California, Viking Age and Conversion Age inhabitants of Iceland, post-medieval peasants from Transylvania, nomadic pastoralists of Mongolia, and numerous societies from China's northern frontier that date from the Neolithic age to the Mongolian Dynasty. Eng's major regional focus is in health and disease found among these nomadic pastoralists and settled farmers during major shifts in health and disease and socioeconomic landscape as the ancient Chinese empire and pastoral cultures developed and interacted with each other. Also, as a member of the Global History of Health Project, she has contributed to this NSF- and NIH-funded investigation of the history of human health over the past 10,000 years. "Cave People of the Himalaya" first aired on PBS, Wednesday February 15, at 10 p.m. EST. Check local listings for additional showings.

Jackie Eng in Nepal.

CAS Staff Excellence Awards recognize the exceptional work done over the past year by recipients who have performed well beyond the call of duty to help students and staff of the College. The recipients are: **Mary Lou Brooks** (geography); **Patty DeLoach** (gender & women's studies); **Kerrie Jo Harvey** (CAS Undergraduate Advising Office); **Barbara Peacock** (psychology); and **Colleen Sante** (Spanish). Quipping about her award, Sante said, "Receiving the CAS Staff Excellence Award is tangible proof that the people in the Spanish Department think I am doing a good job. It doesn't get better than that."

Dr. Joseph McKean of the Department of Statistics has just had published (with R. V. Hogg) their new edition of Hogg, McKean and Craig, "Introduction to Mathematical Statistics" 7th Ed (2013), Boston: Pearson. Over the years, many courses for which this text is appropriate have been referred to as: courses at the level of Hogg-McKean-Craig. This is true internationally, as well as nationally. It is translated into several foreign languages, including Chinese and Japanese.

Professor Blaine Auer.

Blaine Auer, professor of Islamic Studies in the Department of Comparative Religion, recently posted an article for Religion Dispatches magazine titled "Neither Radical Nor Secular: The West Struggles with the New Islamism." This essay addresses the Western world's common misconceptions about Middle Eastern politics in terms of the religion. Auer earned his Ph.D. in Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations from Harvard University in 2009. Auer generally focuses on the religious, cultural, and historical dimensions of Islamic societies, especially in the context of South Asia. A second area of research focuses on modern ritual, pilgrimage, and relics connected with burial places in Islam. Auer said that his favorite class to teach is his Introduction to Islam class, because it allows students to truly become engaged in the fundamentals of Islam in a greater world context. "They're learning to uncover some of the mysteries in our communication with the Islamic world," he said.

Dr. Nicolas Witschi

WMU professor **Dr. Nicolas Witschi** reveals in his latest book that the history of the American West is far richer and more complex than the world of "Gunsmoke" and "Bonanza." Witschi, professor of English at WMU, recently edited and released a book titled "A Companion to the Literature and Culture of the American West" (Wiley-Blackwell, 2011). The book has been named by Choice--a literary magazine that selects and publishes 7,000 reviews of literary and academic works annually--as an Outstanding Academic Title for 2011. "A Companion to the Literature and Culture of the American West" features essays written by leading scholars in western American cultural studies. The book offers a comprehensive approach to cultural expressions originating in the west, and focuses on the challenges found within and between the different historical and cultural groups that define the west's distinctive regions. It examines the familiar icons and ideas about the west (such as cowboys, wide-open spaces, and violence) and their intersections with urbanization and other regional complexities. According to the Choice announcement, "Every year, Choice subject editors single out for recognition the most significant print and electronic works reviewed in Choice during the previous calendar year. Appearing annually in Choice's January issue, this prestigious list of publications reflects the best in scholarly titles and attracts extraordinary attention from the academic library community." Composed of more than 35,000 librarians, faculty, and key decision makers, Choice was recommended in an independent survey as "the best short critical evaluations of new titles available anywhere." It is also worth noting that Witchi's companion book is far and away the only major text to reflect the current state of scholarship on the American West.

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Student and Alumni Accolades

Sonya Bernard-Hollins

Sonya Bernard-Hollins has taken her Bachelor's in Journalism ('93) and found a spot where she can do the most good...as editor and publisher of "Community Voices," a free quarterly publication, available at several locations throughout West Michigan, highlighting the people, places, and events in the Kalamazoo community. Bernard-Hollins is scheduled to speak at the WMU Center for the Humanities on "Discovering Merze Tate: How to Uncover the Hidden Treasures in Your Archives and Bring Them to Life." The event takes place March 22 at 4 p.m. in Knauss Hall. Bernard-Hollins will talk about her search for information on African American graduates of WMU and how she discovered Merze Tate, a 1927 graduate of WMU and donor to the University. After graduation Bernard-Hollins held internships at Kalamazoo Gazette and the Akron Beacon Journal before becoming a reporter for the Battle Creek Enquirer, where a colleague complimented both her quality of writing and her warm demeanor. "Sonya didn't just report the news but left the individual that was interviewed with the feeling of not [being] just another story, but an important individual that was part of the greater good; her strengths are empathy, compassion, and strength in putting the story together the way the interviewee [intended]," said the colleague. The Merze Tate exhibit, which consists of photographs, letters and tickets that document her travels and accomplishments, will be on view at the University Center for the Humanities March 1-30, 2012, and Bernard-Hollins' talk will be held March 22 at 4 p.m. in the Humanities Center in Knauss Hall. Bernard-Hollins also is the author of "Here I Stand: A Musical History of African Americans in Battle Creek, Michigan."

Department of English Alumna Bonnie Jo Campbell

Bonnie Jo Campbell (Department of English 2011 Distinguished Alumna) will return to Kalamazoo for a special speaking engagement as part of the Gwen Frostic Reading Series, on Friday, March 23 at 8 p.m. in 105-107 Bernhard Center. Campbell received her B.A. ('92), M.A. ('95), and MFA ('98) from Western Michigan University and lives in Kalamazoo, MI. She is the author of the novel "Once Upon a River" (W.W Norton) and a 2011 Guggenheim Fellow. She was 2009 National Book Award Finalist and National Book Critics Circle Award finalist for her collection of stories, American Salvage, which won the Foreward Book of the Year award for short fiction. Campbell also is author of the novel "Q Road" and the story collection "Women & Other Animals." She has received the AWP Award for Short Fiction, a Pushcart Prize, and the Eudora Welty Prize. Her poetry collection "Love Letters to Sons of Bitches" won the 2009 CBA Letterpress Chapbook award.

Three Department of English playwrights are national finalists in the John F. Kennedy Center's American College Theatre Festival's National Playwriting Program Awards. They will have their plays awarded and presented in Washington, D.C. The Kennedy Center Festival is a national theatre program that gives college playwrights the chance to present their work professionally, and to showcase the excellent work done in American colleges and universities. This marks the fourth year that WMU has had five or more playwrights out of 12 selected to present their plays at the Kennedy Center. Two of the three finalists were honored for their 10-minute plays; **Micaelaya Moses** (MFA), and **Adam Pasen** (Ph.D.). **Jason Lenz**, (MFA '11) also will go to the capitol with his one-act play, "Cherries and Cream." "The National Playwriting Program serves as an extremely valuable part of the development of these playwrights," says Dr. Steve Feffer, a playwright and associate professor of English who serves as the chair of the program for the Great Lakes region. "This is not only because of the recognition that such an award brings, but because they are able to learn from some of the finest playwrights in the field, as well as the best of their fellow playwriting students from the around the region and country." WMU has had playwrights selected for Washington, D.C. the last three years, including current Ph.D. student **G. William Zorn**, who won the Kennedy Center's Mark Twain National Award for Comic Playwriting in 2010, and **Mikala Hansen** (MFA '11) who won the Kennedy Center's National Award for Playwriting given by the National Association for the Partners of American Theatre. In 2009, **K. Frithjof Peterson** (MFA '09) was a national runner-up in the 10-minute play award and had his work presented in Washington, D.C.

Twenty College of Arts and Sciences students have been awarded $1000 to help fund their participation in a WMU-approved study abroad program. The new International Study Scholarship program is a demonstration of the College's commitment to

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international education. The students represent a range of majors, including anthropology, biology, communication, English, global and international studies, political science, and Spanish. They will head to a variety of locations this summer and during the next academic year, including Belize, Ecuador, Spain, Canada, Japan, The Czech Republic, Russia, and Chile. The scholarships were made possible by a generous contribution to the Dean's Excellence Fund.

Upcoming Events

Wednesday, Mar. 21 CAS Faculty Achievement Award Open House, Humanities Center, 4:30 p.m.

Thursday, Mar. 22

Convergence of Cultures Series, "Discovering Merze Tate: How to Uncover the Hidden Treasures in Your Archives and Bring them to Life," Sonyha Bernard-Hollins, journalist and freelance writer and publisher of Community Voice. Humanities Center, 4 p.m.

Philosophy Lecture, "Simple Views of Brutal People," Sam Cowling. 3014 Moore Hall, 4 to 5 p.m.

Samuel I. Clark Lecture Series, "Liberating Libya, Strangling Syria: Intervening for Human Rights and Protection," George A. Lopez, Theodore M. Hesburgh Professor of Peace Studies, Joan Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies, Notre Dame University. Fetzer Center, 7 p.m.

Friday, Mar. 23

Geography Colloquium, "Mercator's Dilemma Redux: Insights from the Neuroscience of Spatial Reasoning," Phil Gersmehl, Central Michigan University. 2722 Wood Hall, 2 to 3 p.m.

Biological Sciences Seminar Series, "TBA," **Dr. Kevin Padian**. 1718 Wood Hall, 3:30 to 4:30 p.m.

Math Lecture, "Introduction to Dynamical Systems,"**Dr. Frank Severance**. Alavi Commons, Everett Tower 4 p.m.

Gwen Frostic Reading Series, "WMU Department of English Distinguished Alumna Reading," **Bonnie Jo Campbell**, 105-107 WMU Bernhard Center, 8 p.m. Monday, Mar. 25 History Lecture Series, "Judge Tait and His Grand Jury Charges: Law and Lawlessness in Antebellum Alabama," **Sally Hadden**, Department of History, Dean's Conference Room (2302 Friedmann), Noon.

Monday, Mar. 26 Ethics Lecture Series, "Ethical Leadership in Education," **Dr. Timothy J. Greene**, WMU Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, and **Dr. Alex Enyedi**, Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, 2008 Richmond Center, 3:30 p.m.

Wednesday, Mar. 28

Convergence of Cultures Series, "Small Infinities--Emily Dickinson's Manuscripts," **Jen Bervin**. Meader Rare Book Room, 4 p.m.

Africa Lecture Series, "Ethiopian-American Relations during the Reign of Emperor Haile Selassie, 1930-1974," Dr. Theodore Vestal, Professor Emeritus of Political Science, Oklahoma State University. 2028 Brown Hall, 3 to 4:30 p.m.

Friday, Mar. 30

Michigan Finals of the National Geographic Bee, Fetzer Center, 2:30 to 4:30 p.m..

Economics Seminar Series, Marcus Casey, University of Illinois-Chicago 2212 Dunbar, 3 p.m.

Biological Sciences Seminar Series, "Testing the H+ Hypothesis of Feedback Inhibition from Horizontal Cells to Vertebrate Photoreceptors: a Tale of Two Techniques," Dr. Paul Malchow, University of Illinois, Chicago 1718 Wood Hall, 3:30 to 4:30 p.m.

Math Lecture, "Math and the Geosciences: Numerical Simulation Models," Earl Yetman. Alavi Commons, Everett Tower 4 p.m.

Monday, Apr. 2 Communication and Community Distinguished Lecture Series, Steve Roberts Kirsch Auditorium, Fetzer Center 6 p.m.

Thursday, Apr. 5 Gwen Frostic Reading Series, Barbara Cully, 157-158 Bernhard Center, 8 p.m.

Friday, Apr. 6 Biological Sciences Seminar Series, "TBA," Dr. Kent Keyser, University of Alabama. 1718 Wood Hall, 3:30 to 4:30 p.m.

Monday, Apr. 9

History Lecture Series, "The Muslims as Others in Early Medieval Southern Italy," **Andrea Berto**, Department of History. Dean's Conference Room (2302 Friedmann), Noon.

Ethics Lecture Series, "Teaching as Ethical Quest: Pitfalls and Possibilities," Chris Higgins, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. 2008 Richmond Center, 7 p.m. Participants attending on April 9, will also meet on Feb. 3, Feb. 17, March 16, and April 13 in the Humanities Center.

Wednesday, Apr. 11

Werner Sichel Seminar Series, "Health Care Reform Legislation...The Employer's Perspective," Anne Crumlish, FSM, MAAA, Aon Hewitt Health and Benefits Practice. Brown Bag Lunch Lecture: 2208 Dunbar, Noon to 1:30 p.m.; Lecture: 3210 Brown Hall, 3 to 4:30 p.m.

Africa Lecture Series, "Africa After 9/11: Rethinking U.S. Definitions and Policies," Dr. David Wiley, Professor of Sociology, Michigan State University. 2028 Brown Hall, 3 to 4:30 p.m.

Friday, Apr. 13 Biological Sciences Seminar Series, "Brains Have Bodies: Peripheral Translation of Central Neural Commands," Dr. John Jellies. 1718 Wood Hall, 3:30 to 4:30 p.m.

College of Engineering and Applied Sciences

Items of Academic Interest

High school students from Harper Creek High School in Battle Creek, recently participated in the "Marble Siege" competition at CEAS. The challenge was to build a structure that launched a marble off the table and into a cup located on the floor. The objective was to use only the materials provided to transport the marble from the table top as far as possible and land in the cup on the floor. Materials included were rubber bands, playing cards, pencils, tennis balls, string, duct tape, and clothes pins. Each team had 30 minutes to build their launcher and then three chances to launch the marble into the cup. The team with the farthest distance was the winner. According to the students the hardest part of the competition was getting a consistent launch of the marble so it could land in the same spot every time. The winning team had a distance of eleven feet and three inches.

Winning student group from Harper Creek High School.

CEAS Dean, **Dr. Anthony Vizzini** spoke to a large group of MATHCOUNTS competition students who gathered recently at the Bernhard Center. This is the first time WMU hosted this event and with a very enthusiastic and sizable turnout, it may turn out to be an annual event. The program promotes mathematics achievement through a series of fun and engaging "bee" style contests. The program exists in all 50 states plus U.S. territories and is supported by the National Society of Professional Engineers at the state and local levels. Public, private, religious and home schools alike are eligible to participate, as long as students are in the sixth, seventh and/or eighth grade.

Dean Vizzini speaking to middle school student competition participants

Faculty and Staff Accolades

The 2012 FLEXI Awards celebrate and recognize people, companies and organizations that are leading the development of this emerging industry with innovative and commercially viable technologies. Western Michigan University was one of four who were recognized for significant contributions to innovation, research and development, and leadership in education. The Center for the Advancement of Printed Electronics (CAPE) at Western Michigan University was the recipient of the FLEXI R&D Award. World-class research, technologically extraordinary and innovative product development, and new noteworthy commercial capacity for application into flexible or printed electronics were the basis for the entries for this award. The entrants had the opportunity to show their ability to identify and solve a real problem, and their resolve to bring it to reality. CAPE is an application driven research group comprised of Ph.D.'s in chemical, electrical, mechanical, paper and material engineering. For printing and deposition, CAPE offers a variety of roll to roll and sheet techniques including: gravure, inkjet, screen, flexography, spin coating and various CVD techniques. Their research groups are also actively building analytic tools to model the printed electronics world. The award was accepted by **Dr. Erika Rebrosova**, assistant professor from the Department of Paper and Chemical Engineering and Imaging at Western Michigan University.

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Student and Alumni Accolades

PCI's PhD student, **Dania AlSaid** *also received a second place award for student poster at the FLEXI Awards. L-R:* **Veronika Husovska** *(PhD student at PCI), Michael Ciesinski (CEO of FlexTech Alliance), Dania Alsaid (PhD student at PCI), and* **Dr. Erika Rebrosova**.

Members of the Education Scholarship Committee at the Michigan Section of Institute of Transportation Engineers (ITE) selected two WMU students to receive a $2,000 scholarship. There are four winners annually and CCE students **Chelsea Griffith** and **Omar Kanaan** were two of the four recipients. Chelsea Griffith received her Bachelor's Degree from Western Michigan University in Civil Engineering and is currently pursuing a Master's Degree in Civil Engineering specializing in Transportation and Structures. Chelsea is a member of WMU's traffic bowl team and competed in the district and international competitions last year. Omar Kanaan is working on his Master's Degree specializing in Transportation with a focus on Bridge Management. He received his Bachelor's Degree in Civil Engineering also from WMU. Omar is an active member of ITE. He participated in the traffic bowl competition, volunteered at last year's educational fund golf outing, and has attended various technical sessions and Great Lake meetings.

Chelsea Griffith

Omar Kanaan

Assessment of Student Learning

The TAPPI/PIMA held a successful 2012 Student Summit with record numbers. The event was geared toward advanced undergraduate and graduate students and was designed to provide those interested in pulp, paper, packaging, and allied industries and opportunity for direct contact with industry leaders. Participants were given a chance to gain valuable information about employment and career development within the industry. The summit offered an excellent setting for students to learn about opportunities after graduation as well as some of the key challenges and prospects that are present in the industry. There were 23 students that represented WMU at the event. For more information visit: www.tappi.org

WMU student summit group.

College of Health and Human Services

Items of Academic Interest

The WMU Bronson School of Nursing's B.S.N. and R.N to B.S.N. programs have been endorsed--with no stipulations--for the next five years by The Board of Directors of the American Holistic Nurses' Certification Corporation. This endorsement, which is a renewal for BSON, enables graduates of the program to be exempt from prerequisites should they choose to sit for the National Certification Examination in Holistic Nursing. This is an important advantage for BSON students and graduates. It also expresses BSON's mission to meet holistic care needs and its belief that nursing care is holistic, respecting the spiritual, cultural, physiological, and psychosocial dimensions of each client. BSON Master Faculty Specialist **Eva Jerome**, who is board-certified as a Holistic Health Nurse, submitted the re-

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endorsement with BSON Director **Dr. Linda Zoeller**. For more information, visit www.ahncc.org.

Dr. Linda Zoeller

Eva Jerome

Introducing the CHHS Diversity and Inclusion Electronic Toolkit. The goal of the College of Health and Human Services (CHHS) Committee on Diversity and Inclusion (CDI) is to support the inclusion of diversity of all types, particularly within CHHS. This includes (but is not limited to) ability levels, cultural diversity, age, gender, race, sexual orientation, political persuasion, and religion. In working toward that goal, CDI members developed a toolkit where users will find ideas to facilitate the inclusion of diversity and global issues in their daily work. The toolkit contains electronic (videos, DVDs, and interactive kits), print (books, articles), and internet (websites) media in the following categories: diversity awareness, technology and disability, health policy resources, instructional ideas, diversity and inclusion in education, research resources, global education, resources on workplace, inclusive practices in clinical settings, and CEUs and training in diversity and inclusion. These tools can be accessed in the CHHS Learning Resource Center or on the Internet. As the primary audience, CHHS faculty and staff can access an electronic version of this toolkit through a Desire 2 Learn (D2L) web page, but the list of materials is accessible to the University community on the CDI web page: http://www.wmich.edu/hhs/committees/diversity. CDI members hope that this will be a dynamic resource, changing as additional resources are located. CDI members are: **Yvette D. Hyter** (Chair), **Sarah Anderson** (Advising), **David Areaux** (PA), **Paula Armstrong** (SPPA), **Ben Atchison** (OT), **Barbara Barton** (SW), **Gerald Brooks** (graduate student), **Anne Disney** (undergraduate student), **Eva Jerome** (Nursing), **Kristina Ledlow** (Advising), **Richard Long** (CHHS), **Patricia Pettinga** (CHHS), **Doris Ravotas** (IHS and BLVS), **Jill Svinicki** (CDS), and **Ineke Way** (SSWK).

Committee on Diversity and Inclusion

Last December, OT in Grand Rapids celebrated the graduation of its first cohort of 24 master's degree students, all of those admitted in the fall of 2009. Congratulations to these graduates, who--with main campus graduates--have been diligently preparing for their national exam through NBCOT. OT at WMU continues to grow through this program, which admitted 27 students in 2010 and 32 in 2011.

OT Graduates

Faculty and Staff Accolades

Blindness and Low Vision Studies Assistant Professor **Dae Shik Kim**, Ph.D. and Professor **Robert Wall Emerson**, Ph.D. published a research report, Effect of Cane Length on Drop-off Detection Performance, in the January 2012 Journal of Visual Impairment and Blindness (JVIB), a publication of the American Foundation for the Blind.

Dr. Dae Kim

Dr. Robert Wall Emerson

Dr. Janet Hahn

Assistant Professor and Center for Gerontology Coordinator **Janet Hahn**, Ph.D., has been elected President of the Board of Directors for the Ecumenical Senior Center in Kalamazoo.

Speech Pathology and Audiology Associate Professor **Stephen M. Tasko**, Ph.D. has accepted a position as an Associate Editor of the Journal of Fluency Disorders.

Dr. Barbara Barton

School of Social Work Assistant Professor **Barbara Barton**, Ph.D. has had a paper on sexual health in brain injury survivors excepted for presentation at the "International Congress on Qualitative Inquiry" in May 2012. Barton has also had two monograph manuscripts--Lifelong Living Following Brain Injury and Sexual Health in Adolescents with Brain Injury.

Tom Moore

Specialty Program in Alcohol and Drug Abuse (SPADA) Adjunct Assistant Professor **Tom Moore**, LMSW, LLP, CCS, is a contributing author of Developing Helping Skills: A Step-by-Step Approach to Competency, 2nd Edition, Valerie Chang, Sheryn Scott, Carol Decker. Cengage Learning, February 2012. Mr. Moore has also presented several seminars for Cherry Street Health Services, the Grand Rapids Housing Commission and Network180 in Kent County, Michigan. His topics include Ethics in Clinical Practice, Welcoming Co-occurring Clientele into Behavioral Health Services, Building Recovery Capital, Substance Use Disorder 101, and Compassion Fatigue and Vicarious Traumatization.

Student and Alumni Accolades

Dr. Kellie D. Cody Jr.

Interdisciplinary Health Sciences Ph.D. program alumnus **Kellie D. Cody, Jr**. has been accepted as a reviewer for the British Medical Journal and is a member of the Campbell Collaboration Social Welfare Committee. Dr. Cody is an assistant professor with the Carver School of Social Work at Campbellsville University in Campbellsville, Kentucky.

Bronson School of Nursing (BSON) students **Trevor J Barnum**, **Casey Bernhard**, **Jaime Zinsmaster** and **Rebecca Heidarisafa** have had posters reviewed by peers and accepted for presentation at the Midwest Nursing Research Society's (MNRS) Annual Research Conference in Dearborn, Michigan, April 12-15 this year. BSON faculty members **Elizabeth Phillips** and **Juanita Manning-Walsh** will also present posters at the conference. MNRS is one of the largest and most influential nursing research organizations in the country, serving individuals in a 13-state Midwest region. It promotes, disseminates, and uses nursing research, while encouraging, supporting, and connecting the next generation of nurse scientists.

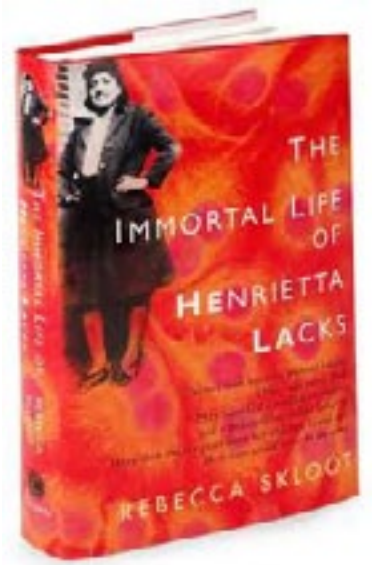
Midwest Nursing Research Society

Tara Way

Physician Assistant student **Tara Way** has been awarded the WMU PA Gibbens Physician Assistant Scholarship, which was established to honor Helen Elizabeth Gibbens, a former Sindecuse Health Center nurse. Ms. Way has also won a Bureau of Clinician Recruitment and Service (BCRS) National Health Service Corps (NHSC) scholarship, which will pay back her tuition and provide a stipend while she is in school. In exchange, she will work in primary care in an area of health disparity for a minimum of two years. BCRS addresses the nationwide shortage of health care providers through scholarship and loan repayment programs that help underserved communities and shortage facilities recruit and retain qualified health professionals. (NHSC) assists Health Professional Shortage Areas (HPSAs) in every U.S. state and territory to meet their need for primary care medical, dental, and mental and behavioral health clinicians.

School of Social Work junior **Natalie Amacarelli** chaired the Office of Service Learning's First Annual Summit on Service Learning on February 10, 2012. She also served on a select student panel on service learning projects, speaking about the "Night Without a Home" campout, a collaboration between **Dr. Barbara Barton's** SWRK 2100 class and Ministry with Community. The event raised awareness about homelessness in Kalamazoo, while raising $3,000 and collecting three van-loads of clothing for use at Ministry with Community.

Upcoming Events



CHHS 2012 Book Read: The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks by Rebecca Skloot

The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks by Rebecca Skloot has been selected for the fifth annual College of Health and Human Services (CHHS) Book Read. Activities will kick-off on March 16, with a 12:15 reception with a light lunch and snacks in the CHHS first floor Atrium, and a 1 p.m. panel discussion in CHHS Room 1010. Henrietta Lacks, known to scientists as HeLa, was a vivacious 31-year-old African-American tobacco farmer whose cells--taken without her knowledge in 1951--became one of the most important tools in medicine, vital for developing the polio vaccine, cloning, gene mapping and more. Henrietta's cells have been bought and sold by the billions, yet she remains virtually unknown, and her family can't afford health insurance. The March 16 panel will include discussion of the contribution of HeLa to scientific progress and the ethical and social implications of Henrietta's story. WMU English Department Associate Professor **Dr. Jil Larson** will moderate the discussion. WMU faculty serving on the panel will be School of Social Work Director **Dr. Linwood Cousins**; Gwen Frostic Professor of Biological Sciences and Director of the Great Lakes Environmental and Molecular Sciences Center **Dr. Charles Ide**; and Bronson School of Nursing Professor **Dr. Mary Lagerwey**. The CHHS Book Read provides an opportunity for faculty, staff, students, alumni and community members to use a common reading experience to foster discussion of key issues that impact health and human services. For more information about the book and events, visit http://www.wmich.edu/hhs/book-read/index.html . CHHS Associate Dean **Dr. Richard Long** is the contact for the event: richard.long@wmich.edu or (269) 387-2540.

College of Aviation

Items of Academic Interest

A new agreement between Western Michigan University's College of Aviation and two closely allied commercial air carriers will put WMU students on a clear pathway to careers as commercial airline pilots. The WMU/ExpressJet Airline Pilot Pathway Program--AP3--will allow WMU aviation students to begin a pilot screening process early in their WMU careers that will prepare them for, and guarantee jobs as, first officers with ExpressJet. Successfully meeting all the screening requirements will also guarantee participating students an interview for a position as a pilot with Delta Air Lines. Atlanta-based Atlantic Southeast Airlines merged with ExpressJet Airlines in 2011. The new ExpressJet is the world's largest regional airline, operating an average of 2,200 daily flights as Delta Connection, Continental Express and United Express. The agreement makes WMU just the fourth collegiate aviation program in the nation selected to participate in the AP3 program that is designed to provide the airline with a reliable source of top-quality pilots in the years to come. Airline officials have indicated they are reaching out to college programs that already have an established track record for producing top-quality pilots. The agreement will benefit both students and the airline sponsors of the effort who are looking at a skyrocketing demand for new pilots in the next decade. After a period of slow industry personnel growth, it is now faced with such factors as a wave of pilot retirements, growing international travel routes, proposed changes to FAA rules about the time pilots must rest between flights, and an improving U.S. economy. The first WMU students have already begun the process. Students involved will be monitored throughout their academic careers, and they must pass six screening measures and complete WMU's Advanced Jet Training course.

The curriculum committee of the College of Aviation has approved a new course called Safety Management Systems in Aviation. According to **Dr. William Rantz**, this elective course demonstrates the latest in proactive, high risk, safety management. International airlines are currently mandated by the International Civil Aviation Organization to have and use a safety management system (SMS) within their organization. The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) is currently working with many aviation providers within the USA to initiate and monitor voluntary SMSs. At present the FAA does not mandate SMSs for the general aviation population. Professor Rantz states, "Many collegiate programs teach basic aviation safety, however we are one of the first programs to have a dedicated SMS course to offer our students. We want to give our students at WMU the knowledge, skills and abilities needed for leading edge processes long before they are mandated by the FAA. We also plan to examine new and innovative ways to use an SMS by researching safety techniques and processes using our training fleet and safety committee currently established at the college". Along with the college flight department Dr. Rantz has established industry relationships with Duncan Aviation in Battle Creek and Northern Air in Grand Rapids to provide a practicum locality for students to experience more hands on applications of safety and safety assessment. Dr Rantz says, "We are so lucky to have these wonderful businesses providing our students a peek at their futures in safety management. We see the safety partnership as a win-win for both students and clients". This course is not limited to aviation students and many industrial/organizational psychology students have already enrolled.

Student and Alumni Accolades

SkyBroncos Precision Flight Team members **Kyle Mallory** *and* **Andrew Seguin** *show off the Air Zoo's North American T-28 Trojan to a visiting family.*

The WMU SkyBroncos Precision Flight Team was recently recognized during an intermission of the WMU Men's Basketball game vs. Akron on February 8, held at University Arena. The team was honored on the court for the National Intercollegiate Flying Association (NIFA) Region III Championship title they earned in October, 2011 while competing at Ohio University in Athens, OH. The students defeated teams from The Ohio State University, Kent State University, Ohio University and the University of Cincinnati to claim the regional title. The winning effort qualified the SkyBroncos to compete in

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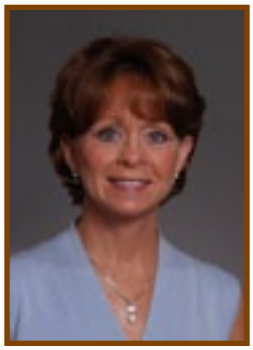
the NIFA national competition being held this coming May hosted by Kansas State University in Salina, KS. On the weekend of February 18 - 19, the SkyBroncos volunteered at the Air Zoo aviation history museum in Portage, MI to assist with the museum's open cockpit month. The Air Zoo needed additional help to be able to allow museum patrons to sit in the cockpit of some of their historic aircraft. Members of the flight team instructed patrons of the museum on how to safely board and disembark from the vintage aircraft without hurting themselves or damaging the airplane. The students worked in pairs to showcase the museum's Douglas AD-4NA Skyraider, North American AT-6 Texan and North American T-28 Trojan. The event included patrons both young and old and allowed the SkyBroncos to share not only the history of the aircraft, but their own knowledge of flight training and the basics of how to fly an airplane with the museum guests. The SkyBroncos had a great time volunteering at the Air Zoo and getting to share their passion of aviation with the public.

Upcoming Events

The 2nd Annual WMU Aviation Golf Outing will be held on June 16, 2012 at the Cedar Creek Golf Course in Battle Creek, MI. Registration will begin at 12:30pm at the golf course with a shotgun start at 1:30pm. A BBQ style dinner will follow the golfing including an awards ceremony and raffle prizes. The College of Aviation would like to invite all alumni, students, faculty, staff, friends and supporters of aviation at WMU to participate in this fun social event. It is a great opportunity to catch up with old friends and meet some new ones that all share a passion for WMU aviation. The cost is $75 per golfer which includes 18 holes of golf with a cart and the dinner afterwards. The format will be a 4 person scramble with numerous contests and awards. You may register as a foursome or as an individual and we will pair you up with another group. All proceeds from this year's outing will go to support two of our aviation student organizations at WMU, the Multi-Cultural Association of Aviation Professionals (MAAP) and the SkyBroncos Precision Flight Team. Numerous individual and corporate sponsorships opportunities are also available for the event. For more information about registration or sponsorship please contact - **Beth Beaudin-Seiler** at beth.seiler@wmich.edu or (269)964-4579.

College of Education and Human Development

Faculty and Staff Accolades



Dr. Elizabeth Whitten

RTI: Success authored by **Elizabeth Whitten**, **Kelli J. Esteves**, **Alice Woodrow** and published by Free Spirit Publishing has sold over 15,000 copies. Recently in 2011, Free Spirit sold the international rights to Cheneliére Éducation to translate the book into French. The book will be sold in the Quebec market. Response to Intervention (RTI) is an instructional method that enables educators to assess and meet the needs of struggling students before they have fallen too far behind. RTI: Success provides answers to frequent questions such as: What are the three tiers of intervention? How do screening and progress monitoring work? Is there funding available to support RTI? RTI Success answers these and other questions while providing educators with practical tools to simplify the process. The book includes guidelines for implementing RTI in schools and provides hundreds of pragmatic, research-based instructional strategies for classroom teachers to target specific skill deficits in their students. Vignettes and school profiles demonstrate RTI techniques in diverse settings, and reproducible forms streamline assessment and documentation procedures.

Gretchen Mohney

Gretchen Mohney, Instructor in Human Performance and Health Education, was invited to be a presenter at the Women in Sports Leadership Conference in Lansing on February 5, 2012. This conference is held once every two years by the MHSAA (Michigan High School Athletic Association). Approximately 640 female high school student athletes across the state of Michigan were in attendance. Mohney presented 4 modules on two separate topics, Speed and Agility for the Female Athlete and Nutrition for the Female Athlete. Mohney will also be the Michigan Athletic Trainers Society Public Relations Committee representative at the Michigan Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association state conference in March.

Dr. Michael Miller

Dr. Michael Miller, professor in Human Performance and Health Education, was involved as contributing author for the recently released National Athletic Trainers' Association Position Statement: Preventing Sudden Death in Sports. This document will be used as a reference nationwide to promote safe sport participation and preparation.

Student and Alumni Accolades

Allison Buller

Counselor Education doctoral student, **Allison Buller**, has received three grants (two external and one internal) to support her dissertation research. The award grants are as follows: NCACES Research Grant 2011, $1000.00; WMU Research Grant 2011, $1000.00; and CACREP Research Grant 2012, $522.00. The title of Allison's dissertation is: "Exploring the Experiences of Counselor Educators Recognized for Their Excellence in Teaching." This dissertation will engage counselor educators identified as "excellent" teachers in an examination of the meaningful experiences that contributed to their development as faculty in counselor education.

The Epsilon Alpha Chapter of Phi Epsilon Kappa hosted the Western Michigan University Girls and Women in Sport Day on Saturday, February 4, at the Fetzer Center. The National Girls and Women in Sport Day, commemorated by an Act of Congress in 1988, was officially celebrated across the country on February 1. Twenty-one local athletes, nominated by their athletic directors and coaches, were recognized at the breakfast event along with their parents. The theme this year was Title IX Turns 40: In It For the Long Run. **Dr. Deb Berkey**, PEK adviser, served as host for the event. The keynote speaker was Ms. Jeanne Hess, Professor of Physical Education at Kalamazoo College.

2012 Girls and Women in Sports Day

Upcoming Events

Phi Epsilon Kappa (PEK) will host Hoops for Heart (HFH), a national fundraising program sponsored jointly by AAHPERD and AHA. HFH is a valuable program that promotes physical activity, heart healthy living, and community service. HFH helps fund research and educational programs that impact your community. The event will be held April 15, at 1pm on the 3rd floor of the Student Recreation Center. PEK is looking for people to help raise money and join in on the event with some physical activity. Contact **trey.s.conner**@wmich.edu for more information.

Evaluation Center

Faculty and Staff Accolades

Dr. Stephen Magura

Evaluation Center Director **Dr. Stephen Magura**, along with six coauthors, published "Buprenorphine-naloxone maintenance following release from jail" in Substance Abuse (Vol. 33, No. 1).

Upcoming Events

Following spring break, the first Evaluation Café event in March will be on the 13th, featuring Interdisciplinary Ph.D in Evaluation (IDPE) alumnus **Willis Thomas** on the application of project management standards to evaluation projects. On March 20, IDPE student **Lee Balcom** will discuss

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processes for determining evaluation questions. On March 27, researchers from WMU's SAMPI (Science and Mathematics Program Improvement) Center--**Mary Anne Sydlik**, **Bob Ruhf**, and **Kristin Everett**--will share their perspectives and experiences regarding challenges that often arise throughout the lifecycle of an evaluation. For more information about the Evaluation Café series and a complete schedule of events, go to www.wmich.edu/evalctr/evaluation-cafe/upcoming-events/

EvaluATE, the National Science Foundation-funded evaluation resource center for Advanced Technological Education located at The Evaluation Center, will offer a free webinar on March 21: "Reducing the Outcomes Angst: A Step-by-Step Approach to Identify What to Measure." The webinar will feature Dr. Lana Rucks of the Rucks Group, a research and consulting firm out of Dayton, Ohio. To learn more and register, go to evalu-ate.org/events/

Graduate College

Faculty and Staff Accolades

Two of our staff members were nominated for Supervisor of the Year, as part of the weeklong Student Employment Appreciation Week celebration. **Dr. Julie Nemire**, Director , Special Awards and Programs, has two student assistants: **Mr. Jason Hui**, Evaluation, Measurement and Research and **Mr. Stefan King**, Manufacturing Engineering. **Dr. Marianne Di Pierro**, has three student assistants: **Mr. Julian Kouame**, Evaluation, Measurement and Research, **Mr. Lincoln Jiang**, Statistics and **Mr. Jordan McQueen**, Statistics. Student Employment Appreciation Week is sponsored by the Office of Career and Student Employment Services and seeks to recognize the incredible contributions nominees make daily by training, nurturing and providing an outstanding example to the many student employees that they influence. Nominees and their nominators attended a reception in their honor on Thursday, February 23. **Dr. Diane Anderson**, Vice President of Student Affairs, was keynote speaker. All nominees were honored and the student and supervisor of the year was announced.

Upcoming Events

The Graduate College announces the Spring 2012 competition for the Gwen Frostic Doctoral Fellowships and the **Patricia L. Thompson** Dissertation Award. Funding for the Frostic Fellowships originates in an endowment generously made by the late poet, artist, and naturalist **Gwen Frostic**, Western Michigan University Class of 1929. The Patricia L. Thompson Dissertation Awards are made possible by a gift from **Dr. Donald Thompson**, former vice president for research and dean of the Graduate College; the awards are to assist doctoral students with expenses associated with the dissertation. Nominations will be received on behalf of doctoral students in all fields who have filed an approved dissertation proposal with the Graduate College. It is expected that recipients will be in good standing academically and will have met the residency requirement, where applicable, and making good progress toward the doctoral degree. Frostic Doctoral Fellowships of up to $4,000, and one Thompson Dissertation Award of up to $1,500, will be disbursed to recipients for defraying or reimbursing education expenses, including tuition and fees, cost of research materials, and travel. Recipients must be registered as a graduate student at WMU to receive a reimbursement. Funds must be spent in the year following conferral of the award. The award terminates when the doctoral degree has been conferred upon an award recipient. Students must be nominated by their dissertation advisor or the department graduate advisor, with a letter of transmission from the department chair or program head. These letters should indicate the significance of the dissertation research, the accomplishments of the student, and the scholarly or scientific promise of the student.

A statistics workshop for graduate students titled "Statistics Methods: The Next Level" will be held on Wednesday, March 14, from 9 a.m. to noon in the Computer Laboratory, Room 1416 of the College of Health and Human Services. Students will learn the diagnostics of regression model, how to check methods assumptions, and non-parametric methods. Advance registration forms can be found at www.wmich.edu/grad. The workshop will be conducted by **Mr. Lincoln Jiang**, doctoral student in the statistics department who is also a doctoral associate for the Graduate Center for Research and Retention through the Graduate College. If you have questions or wish to register, please visit our home page or call (269) 387-8212.

Paul Knudstrup, president of Midwest Consulting Group, will be presenting a time management workshop for graduate students on Wednesday, March 21, from 1 p.m to 4 p.m. in the Walwood Commons, East

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Entrance, Walwood Hall. "Learning to Manage Time: A Special Seminar for Graduate Students" requires advance registration by no later than Monday, March 19, 2012. Attendees will understand the key components of effectively managing time and tasks, as well as understand how commonly used project and task management techniques can help maintain a successful academic focus and lead to timely completion of tasks. Participants will learn a set of skills to track, manage, and complete commitments and assignments and practice those skills within the time constraints of the session. They will also plan a major academic project during the session, such as a peer-reviewed article or dissertation, or add details to an existing plan. Please come prepared with some ideas or an outline for your project. Register online at www.wmich.edu/grad. Need additional information or have questions? Please call **Dr. Marianne Di Pierro** at (269) 387-8249.

Haworth College of Business

Items of Academic Interest

Ethical challenges of leadership, shopper engagement and changes in consumer behavior will be among the hot topics at Western Michigan University's 47th Annual Food Marketing Conference on Monday and Tuesday, March 26 and 27 at the Radisson Plaza Hotel in downtown Kalamazoo. Featured speakers include Susan O'Malley, former president of National Basketball Association's Washington Wizards Sports & Entertainment, who will share insights on leadership in a talk titled "Connecting People, Issues and Solutions" on Monday evening. Bill Dankworth, vice president of grocery merchandising for The Kroger Company will give his views on environmental and economic factors consumers are facing today in a talk titled "Engaging Customers in a Rapidly Changing World" the following Tuesday afternoon. The conference annually draws more than 500 industry executives from around the nation to Kalamazoo. With the theme "Connecting People, Issues and Solutions," the conference kicks off at 4 p.m. Monday with John Phillips, senior vice president of Customer Supply Chain & Logistics at PepsiCo, Inc. His presentation and the follow-up executive forum at 4:30 p.m. will examine the 12 global mega trends and what it takes to win in today's changing world. Moderated by Trudy Bourgeois, president, founder and author of the Center for Workforce Excellence, the panel will include Monica Hysell, vice president of Abbott Nutrition; Rob Bartles, president and chief executive officer of Martins Supermarkets; Darcey Macken, senior vice president at Kellogg's; JK Symancyk, executive vice president of Meijer; and Carla Cooper, president and chief executive officer of Daymon Worldwide. The Annual Food Marketing Conference is presented by WMU's Food and Consumer Package Goods Marketing Program in the Haworth College of Business. Proceeds from the conference support food and CPG marketing scholarships and related program operations. For more conference information, including the entire list of featured speakers, cost and registration details, call the event hotline at (269) 387-2132 or visit wmich.edu/foodmarketing/fmc.

Two WMU students were first place winners in a financial services industry competition in Phoenix, AZ, each receiving a $3,000 scholarship, and placing over teams from Texas Tech and William Paterson Universities. The team of **Alison Huey**, accountancy major of Canton, MI, and **Joshua Kallen**, advertising and promotion major of Muskegon, MI, took first place in the first Financial Services National Industry Issues Competition held in late January. The competition sponsored by the Society of Financial Service Professionals, provided student teams from universities around the country with the opportunity to provide practical insights and recommendations to a selected real world financial services industry issue. This year's topic focused on the use of social media. "In their project, Josh and Alison identified the ways social media can be used to develop long-term client relationships within the financial services industry," says **Dr. Devrim Yaman**, associate professor of finance. "With this award they have demonstrated that they can use what they learn in class to solve real world issues. Josh and Alison make a great team and they are willing to take initiative. It was through their creativity and hard work that this interdisciplinary team earned this prestigious award." Huey says she learned a great deal about the financial services industry through the experience. "We did an analysis of social media and how it benefits financial service professionals through maintaining long-term relationships with their clients, which is so vital to their business," says Huey. "However, social media has been a difficult process to utilize within the financial services industry due to many regulations and restrictions that create barriers. The idea behind our paper and presentation was to inform leading financial services professionals the importance of staying current

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with technology, while also preserving the personal connections that they have with their customers." "The experience of winning the national competition in Phoenix was unparalleled in our academic careers," says Kallen. "When we first discussed the topic for our paper, we knew we had to try our hardest to make it to the top. Receiving the phone call that we were finalists was an exciting moment, but even more exciting was the conference and the trip to Phoenix, where we climbed a mountain and enjoyed the weather." Colleges and universities actively participate in a variety of ways in the Society of FSP's University Partners Program (UPP). The Industry Issues Competition represents an excellent way for students to research a timely topic with the opportunity to earn scholarship funds for their schools. The competition centered on a submitted paper judged by a panel of esteemed financial professionals to determine three finalist teams. Finalist teams then made an oral presentation in Phoenix before a panel of judges drawn from attendees at FSP's prestigious Arizona Institute. Scholarship awards were made to the universities of the finalist teams based on their combined paper and oral presentations. The WMU team was sponsored by the Southwest Michigan Chapter of the SFSP; making it possible for the students to compete.

From left is Clif Berg, Chair of the Foundation for FSP, pictured with WMU's Joshua Kallen and Alison Huey, winners of the national financial services competition.

Five teams of Western Michigan University students have won over $30,000 in micro grants and category awards in the Michigan Clean Energy Venture Challenge at the statewide competition in Ann Arbor, MI, on Friday, February 17. The Challenge encourages students from Michigan colleges and universities to grow clean-energy solutions into thriving businesses. There were 16 student teams competing in the event. In addition to WMU, students represented the following universities: Lake Superior State University, Michigan State University, Michigan Technological University, the University of Michigan and Wayne State University. "This has been a beta year for WMU student participation in entrepreneur competitions," says **Barcley Johnson**, instructor of management, and mentor to a number of the student teams participating in the event. "With the proper training, we have proven that our students can play in prime time against the tough schools. In this contest, we competed against teams that were mostly MBA, LAW and Ph.D students from the other schools. This has also been a great cooperative experience with U of M and the U of M faculty." "It feels great to win and be among 16 other teams competing for the same thing," says Andrea Lavasseur, who was part of the VermaBioMass team. "We put so much time and energy into this competition and when our names were called, along with other teams representing WMU, it was a great feeling. We would like to thank WMU for the opportunity as well as the special opportunity to represent the Haworth College of Business. Go Broncos!" A team of Wayne State University graduate students won the $50,000 first place prize in the competition. In addition to a first- and second-place prize at the contest, judges gave out awards in six categories, including best resource conservation, increased energy efficiency and green building. Five special achievement awards were also awarded for best prototype, most disruptive, best team assembled, best pivot(s) and judges' choice. All five WMU teams shared in the winnings and are listed below: Category Prizes Advances in Building Techniques and Materials, Green Building Glass Reclamation Team First Place - Glass Reclamation - $5,000 plus $2,000 in micro grants. Glass Reclamation is recycling glass in a specialty class that is not currently recycled or pulverized. The product and the byproduct is used in concrete to build buildings that are Leed certified. Team members are **Samantha Marsh**, **Nicole Clement**, **Kate Lutz**, **Drew Williams**, **Dan Duzenberry** and **Rachel Plaster**. Resource Conservation e1e2 (earth first, everything else second) - $5,000. e1e2 is a recycling program that awards members with points for recycling. The members can use their recycling points as discounts or coupons for products and services within their local community, online and at national retailers. Founded in March, 2011 in Kalamazoo by Samuel Jaquette at StartUp Weekend, e1e2 has been making a difference in Michigan's environment. Team members are: **Samuel Jaquette**, WMU alumnus; Aaron Holmes, KVCC; Adam Parr, Northwood University alumnus; and WMU students **Abdullah Alyousif**, **Katrisha Johnson**, **Nathon Johnson** and **Duy Nguyen**. Most Disruptive Product Revolutionary Winds - $2,500, plus $2,500 in micro grants (Tied for first place in this

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category). Revolutionary Winds is developing a vertical wind turbine that can be easily refitted on any existing pole structure, thus eliminating the need for new poles, and the ability to be off grid and on grid generation of electricity. Team members are **Neil Hurley** and **Matthew Olsen**. Special Achievement Prizes Best Team Assembled VermaBioMass - $5,000, plus $2,000 in micro grants. VermaBioMass is focusing on the usage of a specific type of worms to break down biodegradable material from healthcare facilities that is not currently recycled. Team members are **Lindsey Truit**, **Andrea LaVasseur** and **Brian Oswald**. Best pivot(s) ReClaim - $5,000, plus $2,000 in micro grants. ReClaim is developing new technology for using existing heat exhaust to create electricity backup systems. Team members are **Aaron Tardy**, **Sergio Cappelletti** and **Olivia Starks**. This year, for the first time, the competition was part of a national effort encouraging young entrepreneurs to develop greener energy solutions through President Barrack Obama's Startup America campaign. The winner of the Michigan contest advances to a regional competition in the spring, and could eventually have a shot at a national grand prize in Washington, D.C. this summer. Clean Energy Venture Challenge sponsors include DTE Energy, MASCO Corp. Foundation, The Kresege Foundation, U.S. Department of Energy, Google, UBS Investment Bank, Eisbrenner Public Relations, the University of Michigan, Western Michigan University, Wayne State University, Michigan State University and Michigan Technological University. Partners include the University of Michigan's Ross Energy Club, Energy Institute, Center for Entrepreneurship and MPowered. About the Clean Energy Venture Challenge; the Michigan Clean Energy Venture Challenge is a state-wide competition administered by the Center for Entrepreneurship at the University of Michigan. It is a new version of the Michigan Clean Energy Prize that provides student teams interested in clean energy entrepreneurship the education, mentorship and resources to accelerate their ideas forward. Teams that are accepted into the program will be part of a cohort of clean energy entrepreneurs from across the state of Michigan. In addition to experience, connections and feedback they will receive there are also opportunities for micro grants and other prizes totaling more than $100,000.

From left are VermaBioMass team members Brian Oswald, Andrea Lavasseur and Lindsey Truit at the competition. The team won $5,000 in category winnings, plus $2,000 in micro grants.

From left are Nichole Clement, Kate Lutz and Samantha (Sam) Marsh accepting the $5,000 prize from Bob Lutz on behalf of the Glass Reclamation Team which won $5,000 in category winnings, plus $2,000 in micro grants. Lutz, retired vice chairman of General Motors, was the featured speaker at the event

Faculty and Staff Accolades

HONORS AND AWARDS **Dr. Sime Curkovic**, professor of management was named to the Editorial Review Board and nominated as chief-editor for InTech - open science/open minds, a multidisciplinary open access publisher of books and journals covering the science, technology and medicine. InTechOpen is an Open Access reading platform for InTech publications, a space where users can read, share and download more than 300 books and 8,000 book chapters. All content at InTechOpen (www.intechopen.com) is distributed under the Open Access label and under the Creative Commons license - freely accessible to anyone, anywhere in the world. It's headquarters is in Rijeka, Croatia. **Dr. Karen M. Lancendorfer**, associate professor of marketing, is the recipient of a 2012 American Academy of Advertising

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Research Fellowship Grant. The grant monies will be used to assist her research in political advertising.

Dr. Sime Curkovic

Dr. Karen Lancendorfer

Dr. Sime Curkovic, professor of management, will present "Supply Chain Management Risk" as the joint keynote speaker along with Mike Vitek, vice president, Mercedes Benz Technology NA LLC, for the Midwest Decision Sciences Institute Annual Meeting in Grand Rapids, MI, scheduled for April 13, 2012. **Dr. Stacey Fitzsimmons**, assistant professor of management, presented at two international conferences in late February. She presented her research "Multicultural Employees: A Framework for Understanding How they Contribute to Organizations" to faculty members at Copenhagen Business School (Denmark) as part of their Research Seminar Series. Dr. Stacey Fitzsimmons, assistant professor of management, presented a research paper, co-authored with **Dr. Chris Stamper**, associate dean for undergraduate programs, titled "Cultural Influences on Fit and Friction in the Employee-Employer Relationship." at the International Organizations Network conference" in Heilbronn, Germany. **Dr. Roberta J. Schultz**, associate professor of marketing, and Dr. Charles H. Schwepker, Jr. (University of Central Missouri) and Dr. David J. Good (Grand Valley State University) will have the abstract of their paper "Generational Differences and their Impact on Sales Management" published at the PSE National Sales Conference Proceedings and in the Journal of Personal Selling & Sales Management. She will present the paper at Indianapolis in March 2012.

Dr. Stacey Fitzsimmons

Dr. Roberta Schultz

Dr. Karen M. Lancendorfer, associate professor of marketing, **Dr. Robert Reck**, professor of marketing, and Dr. Hanjoon Lee (Hanyang University), have had their paper titled, "Perceptual Differences in Corporate Philanthropy Motives: A South Korean Study" published in the International Journal of Non-Profit and Voluntary Sector Marketing, 17 (February 2012), 33-47. **Dr. Roberta J. Schultz**, associate professor of marketing, and Dr. Charles H. Schwepker, Jr. had their paper "Boomers vs. Millennials: Critical Conflict Regarding Sales Culture, Salesforce Recognition, and Supervisor Expectations," accepted for publication in International Journal of Business, Humanities, and Technology. Dr. Roberta J. Schultz, associate professor of marketing, and Dr. Charles H. Schwepker, Jr. (University of Central Missouri) and Dr. David J. Good (Grand Valley State University) had their paper "Generational Research in the Sales Arena," accepted for publication in Innovative Marketing.

Upcoming Events

March Keystone Community Bank Breakfast Speaker - Blaine Lam, co-founder of Lam & Associates, a Kalamazoo-based community relations company, will discuss the 2012 Kalamazoo Marathon, which celebrated its inaugural year in 2011. The event begins at 8 a.m. on Friday, March 30, in the Dean's Conference Room of Schneider Hall. The presentation is free and open to the public. Reservations can be made by calling the Haworth College of Business at (269) 387.6059.

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Haenicke Institute for Global Education

Items of Academic Interest

In response to a request from the Japanese government's Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology and Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Western Michigan University's Haenicke Institute launched a Japanese Teachers of English Program in July 2011. The Haenicke Institute welcomed the first cohort of 10 teachers to the program in July, who studied at WMU through January 2012. The three-phase program provided ESL instruction for 20 hours weekly, a Teaching English as a Foreign Language (TEFL) methodology workshop, a research/portfolio course, and a teaching experience in a local middle school or high school working with a mentor classroom teacher. Various WMU faculty with expertise in second and foreign language teaching served as program instructors. The TEFL workshop aided the Japanese teachers of English in becoming familiar with aspects of foreign language teaching methods, including foundations of the U.S. education system, communicative language teaching, the role of grammar in the communicative classroom and related topics. Participants also received instruction and support for creation of an online teaching portfolio. Additionally, the teachers enjoyed numerous opportunities to interact with members of the campus and local community to learn about United States culture, including educational activities, visits to local elementary schools, seasonal parties, a trip to Lake Michigan, and a tour of Chicago. The Japanese teachers lived in on-campus apartments or homestays for most of the program. In the early part of the program, the Japanese teachers spent time weekly or more often with a local family, who host the teachers for meals, family activities and holiday celebrations. WMU will be hosting the program again in 2012-2013 pending renewed Japanese government sponsorship.

Faculty and Staff Accolades

Dr. Michelle Metro-Roland, geographer and director of faculty and global program development at the Haenicke Institute for Global Education, is the author of "Tourists, Signs and the City: The Semiotics of Culture in an Urban Landscape." The book, just published by Ashgate, is based on three applied studies undertaken with foreign visitors to the Hungarian capital of Budapest and is grounded in the literature of landscape geography, tourism studies, cultural studies, visual studies and philosophy. It offers a multi-disciplinary approach to explain the way in which Peircean semiotics elucidates our understanding of the built environment.

Lee Honors College

Items of Academic Interest

Students of the Academically Talented Youth Program (ATYP) at Western Michigan University's Lee Honors College have the opportunity to experience an advanced and accelerated curriculum that prepares them not only for a traditional high school, but also for other educational options that they may or may not have considered. This is certainly the case for Mitchell Zhang, who completed the ATYP program in June 2009 and is currently excelling as junior at Groton School - a private college preparatory boarding school with a history of academic excellence in Groton, Connecticut. "All the teachers I had at ATYP have been absolutely supportive, always open to requests for review sessions, concerns about the workload, or even just a carefree conversation," says Zhang. Active in music, sports, and other organizations on Groton's campus, Zhang has also found the time-management skills he developed in ATYP to be a valuable asset. Zhang notes, "Any procrastination is difficult to commit to when taking an ATYP course." Zhang describes how ATYP had a positive impact upon his current interests and intellectual pursuits. "I was a weak writer and above average math student before I joined ATYP; now both math and English are my strongest and most enjoyed subjects," explains Zhang who is currently considering an economics major with a creative writing minor. "In particular, the many life lessons I learned through Ms. Cooper's engaging teaching and wonderful syllabus has led me to fully embrace the finer aspects of writing." For students considering the ATYP program, Zhang says, "I firmly urge them to take the chance. It is a large commitment, but the workload is far from impractical and unmanageable, with the payoff unquestionably invaluable."

For Lee Honors College junior **Sarah E. Fox**, who is majoring in both Spanish and American Public Policy, deciding to accept a Capital Internship opportunity through the Department of Political Science has opened an interesting door. "**Dr. Houghton's** Capital

Continued on next page

Internship program provided me with the opportunity to experience the political process first-hand by interning for State Representative Margaret O'Brien," explains Fox. "After one month of assisting the Representative and her staff in the office, Representative O'Brien offered me the position of campaign manager on her campaign for the upcoming fall elections." Fox says she is honored to have been given such rewarding experiences by both Dr. Houghton and Representative O'Brien and that each day she is in the office, she continues to gain a deeper understanding of the legislative process. "My main duty as campaign manager is to assure the reelection of Representative O'Brien. I will be working on fundraising, campaign strategies, and events coordination," explains Fox. Fox says her Lee Honors College experience is challenging and motivating her to get the most out of her education. "People expect more from a student of the Lee Honors College, and I plan to show them how much a student can achieve," notes Fox. "Also, I am currently preparing to study abroad in Argentina during the spring semester of 2013. The Honors College supports and encourages this goal by providing various opportunities to receive study abroad scholarships." After graduation, Fox hopes to obtain a Ph.D. in political science and to eventually become a professor of political science. She adds that both the internship and her position on Representative O'Brien's campaign are providing her with invaluable insights into the political and legislative process.

Upcoming Events

Honors education has a long and proud tradition at WMU and the Lee Honors College is planning to celebrate that tradition this coming academic year. Beginning in September 2012 and ending in April 2013, the LHC will have a calendar full of lectures and guests on the WMU campus to help celebrate this significant fiftieth anniversary milestone. In February 1963, the University's Educational Policy Council authorized the formation of an Honors College under the directorship and first dean, **Dr. Samuel Clark**. Under Dr. Clark's leadership and the five other deans who followed him, the LHC has built a reputation for excellence that continues to grow each year. The LHC fiftieth anniversary team is in the process of creating a book that will capture the dynamic history of the Honors College and we need the help of the university and LHC alumni community. Please contact Dean **Nicholas Andreadis** with your stories, pictures, and memorabilia. The LHC will greatly appreciate any items that should be included in the fiftieth anniversary celebration. Please forward your information to: Dean Nicholas Andreadis/50th Anniversary, Lee Honors College, Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo, MI 49008-5244 269.387.3230 nicholas.andreadis@wmich.edu

Office of Faculty Development

Upcoming Events

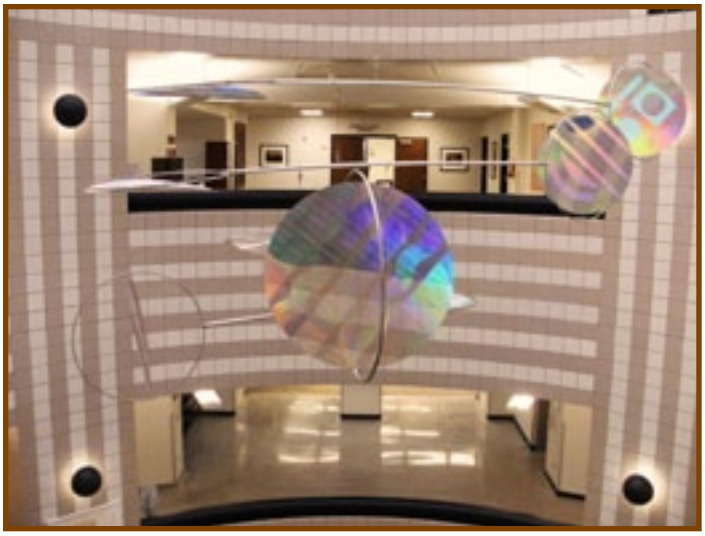
The Office of Faculty Development is again accepting applications for Academic Leadership Academy. WMU is pleased to offer tenured faculty and university professional staff this opportunity to develop their leadership skills in a collaborative learning community. The academy is a year-long experience in which the participants and facilitators meet weekly to engage with invited speakers, work through literature on leadership together, discuss specific situations in which leadership skills are used, and develop, implement, and troubleshoot leadership projects. Participants meet weekly on Thursdays, 12:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m. The academy is designed for tenured faculty and university professional staff at or above the assistant or associate director level. About the experience, one participant noted, "Participating in the Academic Leadership Academy has allowed me to make connections with those on campus that I never would have connected with before. This group has also challenged me with regards to thinking about my leadership style, how I can grow as a leader, and also how to handle difficult situations both professionally and personally. This has been an invaluable experience for me." Applications for the 2012--2013 Academy are due by April 15. Please send the application, a letter of interest, a resume or CV, and a letter of support from your direct supervisor or department chair to the Office of Faculty Development at Mail Stop 5268 or by email to faculty-development@wmich.edu. More information can be found at http://wmich.edu/facdev.

University Libraries

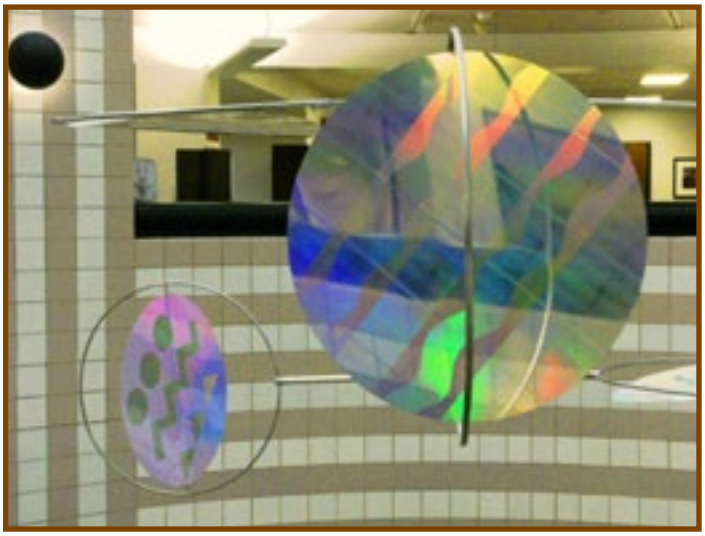
Items of Academic Interest

University Libraries hosted a Feb. 23, virtual seminar entitled Copyright and Fair Use: Codes of Best Practice in Higher Education in collaboration with WMU legal counsel and members of EUP and OIT. The seminar was sponsored by the National Association of College and University Attorneys in response to several high profile lawsuits against institutions and the recently released Code of Best Practice in Fair Use for Academic and Research Libraries and the Visual Resources Association's Statement on the Fair Use of Images for Teaching, Research, and Study.

Members of WMU are sometimes surprised to learn that WMU libraries have many contemporary novels and accessible non-fiction books that they more often associate with their public library. Finding those materials among the many volumes housed in WMU libraries and using the academic library of congress call numbering system to do so can be difficult. Enter two new databases, "Fiction Connection" and "Nonfiction Connection" that are now available through the library's Databases A-Z tab. They enable users to easily discover books and authors that are similar to those they already enjoy. Users can browse or search millions of fiction or non-fiction books by topic, genre, setting, character, location, or time-frame and view related books. They can then click a link that will display the book's call number and location in WMU Libraries. Other new databases acquired in February are: Advertising Red Books, a database that provides access to extensive data on thousands of U.S. and global companies, and selected private companies. It also monitors over 13,000 worldwide news sources daily for executive and key staff member changes, account wins and losses, and merger and acquisition activity. Documentary History of the Ratification of the Constitution provides over 60,000 primary documentary sources dealing with the debate over the ratification of the United States Constitution and the Bill of Rights between 1787 and 1791. It includes convention and legislative records, private papers, newspapers, broadsides, and pamphlets.



Recycled Art: Mobile Sculpture from Honors College in Waldo Library



Holographic Mirrors Orbit Upjohn Rotunda, Waldo Library

University Faculty, Staff, and Students: you can assist University Libraries in evaluating "trial databases." We welcome your input as to what will best serve the research interests of WMU's scholar and provide primary materials for student learning in classroom assignments" "WMU Library users have temporary trial access to the following databases. (Use the trial databases link on the library home page and please provide feedback via the feedback form): DRAMonline, a streaming service providing CD-quality audio of primarily American music, most unavailable commercially elsewhere, including genres from folk to opera, Native American to jazz, 19th century classical to early rock, musical theater, contemporary, electronic and beyond. PsycTESTS and PsycTHERAPY, a combined interface to psychological tests, measures, scales, surveys, and other assessments with development and administration information, plus more than 300 videos featuring therapy demonstrations. History Vault, primary source materials for Black Freedom Struggle in the 20th Century: federal government records and organizational records and personal papers; Vietnam War and American Foreign Policy, 1960-1975 Legislative Insight facilitates the discovery of all versions of enacted and related bills, congressional record excerpts, committee hearings, reports, and documents providing users with background material such as committee prints, CRS reports, and miscellaneous congressional publications. IBISworld, hundreds of U.S. and international industry reports, including: core NAICS, US industry market research, iExpert summaries, reports on the business environment, global industry research, China industry research, and UK industries."

Faculty and Staff Accolades

Prof. ***Edward Eckel****, Engineering Librarian*

Prof. **Edward Eckel** , Engineering Librarian, presented a paper at this year's 118th Annual Michigan Academy of Science, Arts & Letters at Alma College on Friday, March 2. His talk was titled: "Source Text Re-use in Engineering Thesis and Dissertation Literature Reviews: A Comparison." Prof. Eckel reported on his ongoing research over the past year and a half on plagiarism in engineering graduate writing. He argues, based upon the data collected from some 125 engineering theses and 125 doctoral dissertations, that, while master's and doctoral engineering students seem to copy roughly about the same length of verbatim text strings in their literature review sections, the master's students copy significantly more text strings from their sources than doctoral students. He recommends that academic librarians work with writing programs in the colleges to integrate writing from myriad sources more fully into the graduate curriculum, particularly for master's and international students.

Prof. ***Carrie Leatherman****, Science Librarian*

On Friday March 23, University Libraries faculty members **Dianna Sachs**, **Kate Langan**, and **Carrie Leatherman** will present a poster at the WMU Assessment in Action Day 2012, taking place at WMU's Fetzer Center. The poster presentation is required of recipients of the WMU Faculty Assessment Grant. Sachs, Langan, and Leatherman were awarded a WMU Faculty Assessment Grant in spring 2011. The trio has used the grant to assess the effectiveness of ResearchPath, University Libraries' revamped online information literacy tutorial. Developing students' information literacy -- the ability to recognize when information is needed and have the ability to locate, evaluate, and use effectively the needed information - is a major goal of the University Libraries' instruction program and is included in Strategy 1.1 of WMU's Academic Affairs Strategic Plan 2010. To assess the tutorial's effectiveness, Sachs, Langan, and Leatherman first had WMU students view either the tutorial Searchpath or ResearchPath, a revamped version of Searchpath which was designed to better suit the learning styles of Millennial college students. Next students took a quiz, did a mock-research assignment, or participated in a focus group, all of which were designed to either assess how effective each tutorial was or how satisfied the students were with the tutorial. Sachs, Langan, and Leatherman will present the assessment outcomes of their project at the WMU Assessment in Action Day.

Student and Alumni Accolades

University Libraries twice yearly invites its student employees to compete for a $500 Scholarship to defray the costs of attending WMU. Students must answer one of three topics in a 250 - 400 word essay:

1) How has working at University Libraries enhanced your professional development?
2) How has working at University Libraries supported your educational experience?
3) What suggestions do you have that would add to

Continued on next page

the student employment experiences at University Libraries?

A letter of recommendation from the employee's supervisor accompanies the application. On Friday February 10, **Sydney Small** and **Devin Erlandson** were honored to receive the scholarships. Ms. Erlandson works for Regional History Collections Curator, **Ms. Lynn Houghton**. The supervisor noted, "From the beginning, from the first project she completed, Devin quickly showed that she possessed the key skills needed to be successful in archival work; she is able to work independently, and she plans on acquiring her Master's in Library and Information Science from Wayne State University. I know she will do just as well in the future as she is doing now." **Neil Chase**, Coordinator of Preservation, Special Collections Unit, in like manner lauded the contributions of Ms. Small. She wrote in her essay, "[Working in Special Collections] I have found a great amount of confidence in knowing that my education not only was taken from Western Michigan University, but also its library and personnel. As I continue to learn about the items we hold in our libraries, I am learning more and more about such a wide variety of things that I will be able to take with me... history, universities, other countries, famous authors and publishers, and so much more. I believe this has supplemented my education more than anyone expected."

*Library Student Employee Scholarship Winners, **Sydney Small** and **Devin Erlandson**, with Supervisors **Neil Chase** and **Lynn Houghton**.*

Sydney Small, University Libraries student employee, has been selected "WMU Student Employee of the Year." Her supervisor, **Neil Chase**, Special Collections, nominated her for the recognition. Excerpts of his recommendation follow: "Ms. Small has been a wonderful example of how great an impact one person can make on the collective spirit of a workplace. I hired Sydney to work in Special Collections as a student employee. It is not an exaggeration to say that she has transformed the culture of our department. Her strong work ethic, conscientiousness, courteousness and team spirit have been an encouragement not only to the other student employees, but to me and how I work and think about my job. Her blend of kindness and steadfastness has not only benefited the department in terms of an encouraging a positive work environment, but has resulted in concrete and measurable progress within the areas of departmental organization and the completion of long-term projects. Each student in our dept. manages a long-term project in addition to participation in daily collection care and patron services. Over the course of the past summer, Sydney oversaw the creation of a 212-page finding aid for our newly acquired comic collection. Comics are new to Special Collections. So, there was no institutional method in place for organizing a finding aid for this type of material. Sydney independently researched how other comic collections were organized in other libraries (e.g., Michigan State) and designed ours to reflect established standards. Sydney is an ideal employee and is the most conscientious worker we have had in this department since I began working here. The impact of her presence combined with her hard work and ability to transmit skills to other students is laying a strong foundation for the future efficient operation and esprit de corps of our department. I give her the highest recommendation for WMU Student Employee of the Year."

***Sidney Small,** Student Employee of the Year, with sponsor Neil Chase, Special Collections*

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