Prism

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Western Michigan University's Newsletter for Academic Affairs

College of Aviation

Items of Academic Interest

The College of Aviation (with funding support from the Battle Creek Community Foundation) brought together the two middle schools from the Battle Creek Public Schools District for an Aerospace Club. Twice a week for six weeks College of Aviation staff went to Northwestern Middle School and spoke to a group of 20 students in grades six and seven. Discussions and activities revolved around all aspects of aviation and aerospace including flying and collecting data on paper airplanes, rubber-band powered balsa wood airplanes, water rockets, engine-powered rockets and blimps. The students also had an opportunity to build a Cessna 180 kit that showed them exactly how complex airplanes are on the inside. At every activity the students were expected to collect data on distance, height and other variables to discuss during debrief sessions.

High school and middle school students from Kalamazoo Public Schools and Calhoun and Van Buren Intermediate School Districts learned about various aerospace and aviation careers during Project Aerospace Expo Day that was held on Saturday, May 19, at the Western Michigan University College of Aviation. WMU aeronautical engineering and aviation faculty were on hand for presentations and demonstrations on the ramp and in the hangars at WMU's aviation campus. Students moved from station to station and engaged in launching water rockets and building gliders. Also on display for students to explore was WMU's Boeing 727, the Kitfox aircraft, SAE Formula racecars, the Sunseeker solar car, and a student-built concrete canoe. Sponsored by WMU and the Organization of Black Aerospace Professionals, the event was designed to encourage young people to prepare for careers in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) disciplines. The long-range goal is to develop a pipeline of diverse talent for the aerospace and aviation industries.

High school students enjoy the view from high above in the 727.

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Middle school students experimenting with Newton's third law.

Student and Alumni Accolades

Three aviation professionals whose careers have made a lasting impact in their fields have been honored by Western Michigan University via induction into the College of Aviation Hall of Honor for 2012. The three inductees, one of whom was honored posthumously, were formally inducted as the third class of Hall of Honor awardees. The induction ceremony and dinner took place at 6 p.m. Friday, June 15, in the Aviation Maintenance Education Hangar on the College of Aviation campus at the W.K. Kellogg Airport in Battle Creek. The three honorees are: **Sidney Adams Jr.** of Battle Creek, MI, a former adjunct professor in the college and a current member of its advisory board; the late **Patrick D. Schiffer** of Plainwell, MI, a 1960 alumnus of the college and a retired WMU assistant professor who is being inducted posthumously; and retired U.S. Army **Col. Richard A. Sperling** of Pleasant Hill, CA, a 1965 WMU alumnus and a Distinguished Service Cross recipient. WMU's aviation college established its Hall of Honor in 2010 to recognize individuals and organizations that have made a lasting impact on the world of aviation and WMU and demonstrated the "vision, determination and drive to leave a legacy felt by generations to come." The individuals selected reflect a high level of excellence in the aviation industry over time. They made exemplary contributions in their chosen aviation specialties, served the University, the college, the nation or the community, and contributed to humanity.

Aviation graduate, **Andrew Csondor**, has taken applying for scholarships and internships to the highest level. He has proven that a little paperwork can pay huge dividends, both financially and through networking, which could lead to serious job opportunities. The following awards were presented to Andrew throughout 2011-12 at various conferences throughout the United States, many even covered some travel expenses. These awards also afforded him the opportunity to have discussions with senior leadership of such companies as Pratt & Whitney, Southwest Airlines, Delta and others. Snap-On Tool Scholarship Aviation Technician Education Council/Northrop Rice Foundation AWARD: $4,900 worth of Snap-On tools Delta Airlines Engine Maintenance Internship Women in Aviation Int'l. AWARD: 3-month Internship at Delta Tech-Ops in the Turbine-Engine MRO in Atlanta, GA Southwest Airlines Aircraft Maintenance Training Scholarship Assoc. for Women in Aviation Maintenance AWARD: 1-week Avionics course on the B737-NG (Full glass cockpit) Pratt & Whitney Aircraft Engine Maintenance Training Scholarship Assoc. for Women in Aviation Maintenance AWARD: 1-week training course on PW4000-94 engine in East Hartford, CT Pratt & Whitney Aircraft Engine Maintenance Training Scholarship Women in Aviation Int'l. AWARD: 1-week training course on F135 (F-35 Lightning) engine in East Hartford, CT Delta Airlines Aircraft Maintenance Technology Scholarship, Women In Aviation Int'l. AWARD: $5,000 cash West Michigan Business Aviation Association Scholarship AWARD: $3,500 cash Andrew's hard work is allowing him to consider more than one career opportunity at this time, and one possibility is a classified military maintenance internship. Way to go Andrew, we're so proud of your accomplishments!

Andrew, second from right receives one of his Pratt & Whitney awards.

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Andrew, second from left receives his Delta award.

The SkyBroncos Precision Flight Team Finishes 4th at National Competition The SkyBroncos Precision Flight Team competed in the 2012 National Intercollegiate Flying Association's (NIFA) National Safety and Flight Evaluation Conference (SAFECON) May 14 - 19 in Salina, KS. The competition was hosted by Kansas State University and involved 28 teams from a previous field of 61 that competed in regional events to qualify for the national event. The 13 member SkyBroncos team competed in 11 different flight and ground events with contestants placing in the top 20, in 10 out of the 11 events to earn team points. This resulted in a 4th place overall finish behind Embry Riddle Aeronautical University - Prescott, University of North Dakota, and Southern Illinois University while capturing 3rd place in Ground Events and 4th place in Flight Events. This year's event was weather shortened due to high winds during some of the flying events, but all events were at least partially completed. The SkyBroncos were lead by team captain **Benjamin Hastings** who tied for 1st place as the top scoring contestant at the competition out of 305 total competitors and second place for the event's overall top pilot award. The SkyBroncos were founded as a student organization at WMU in 1946 and started competing in NIFA events in 1947. This year's finish marks the 20th time in the last 21 years that the team has finished in the top 4 at the national competition, including 16 regional titles in that span. This year's team was coached by numerous faculty, staff and alumni from the College of Aviation that helped contribute to the student's successful season. The SkyBroncos wish to thank all of their many supporters for making this year a success. Complete details on all competition scores can be found on the NIFA website at: www.nifa.us/SAFECON_2012_Results.html

SkyBroncos display numerous individual awards along with their 3rd Place Ground Events trophy. From left to right: Benjamin Hastings, Chris Reichert, Randall Walliser, Kyle Mallory, Kaitlin Klingler, Ramon Ramirez, Andrew Seguin, Justin Guth, Reto Smith, Alexander Bych, Joseph Batchelder, Takuya Kutsuzawa and Nathaniel McCune. Photograph taken by Ryan Seiler.

College of Arts and Sciences

Items of Academic Interest

The WMU Department of Psychology is making headway in the field of autism research, and also helping people with autism get better treatment for less. **Dr. Wayne Fuqua**, chair of the Department of Psychology, was one researcher invited to attend the autism bill signing that took place in Lansing on April 18, at Governor Rick Snyder's Lansing residence. The bill requires insurance companies to pay for autism spectrum disorder diagnosis and treatment for children up to age 18. Alongside Dr. Fuqua at the signing was Ph.D. student **Brighid Fronapfel**, who recently became a board-certified behavior analyst. **Kate Ladonde**, **Katie Kestner** and **Shawn P. Quigley** from the graduate program also attended and watched Lt. Gov. Brian Calley sign the bill into law. The day after the autism bill was approved, the WMU Board of Trustees approved Autism Specialization for students pursuing a master's degree in special education. According to MLive, The new specialization will consist of 36 credit hours of course work related to the teaching of autistic children. The program, said Fuqua, should kick-start once renovations for The Great Lakes Center for Autism Treatment and Research are completed in July.

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Behavior analysis students (left to right) Brighid Fronapfel, Katie Kestner, Shawn Quigley and Kate La Londe. Seated is Lt. Gov. Brian Calley.

After reviewing an astounding 51 applications - 31 more than the previous grant cycle - the Michigan Humanities Council (MHC) will award $350,850 in major grant monies to 30 Michigan nonprofits--including $10,000 to the Fort St. Joseph Archaeological Program for its "A Colonial Militia Muster on the Eve of Revolution" series. "We're very grateful for the continued support of the Michigan Humanities Council, and honored they consider our project to be worthy of funding," noted **Dr. Michael Nassaney**, principal investigator of the Fort St. Joseph Archaeological Project and professor in the Department of Anthropology. "We received an extraordinary number of very exciting, high-quality grant applications this spring and the Michigan Humanities Council has made the very bold decision to fund double the number of grants we usually fund this time of year as a result. This is more than double the amount of grant dollars we awarded in the fall cycle, but with such a large number of great projects on the table, we decided to get the funds out into the communities now when the need is so great," said Council board chair Timothy Chester. The grants provide organizations with the funds needed to host cultural programming in their communities through exhibits, lectures, writing programs, festivals and more.

Re-enactors portraying British soldiers.

Spanish professor **Hedy Habra** recently published two books: "Flying Carpets," a collection of short stories (March Street Press), and "Mundos alternos y artísticos en Vargas Llosa" (Alternate and Artistic Worlds in Vargas Llosa) (forthcoming) an academic book focusing on the novels of the Peruvian writer, Mario Vargas Llosa, a recipient of the 2010 Nobel prize. "Flying Carpets" consists of 21 short stories that were inspired by her childhood in Egypt and Lebanon. According to the Press Release posted by the online literary journal, The SOP, "Flying Carpets" is the culmination of twenty years of work, and some of the stories "evoke the fascination with divination powers, a woman's resistance to a controlling husband, and a nanny who relies on her imagination for survival." Habra's second book, "Mundos alternos y artísticos en Vargas Llosa," "explores the function of characters' interiority and the way Vargas Llosa uses the linguistic sign to create images or to reproduce visual art (paintings, photographs) by means of the characters' fantasies or musings, which, in turn, convert them into fictional authors and at times into producers of sort films," said Habra. Habra had three poems selected

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among ten winners of the Fourth Annual Nazim Hikmet Poetry Festival, named after the famed Turkish poet. This year, the competition received over 700 poems from 250 poets across the globe. The poems were published in a chapbook. Habra lived in Egypt, Lebanon, Greece and Belgium before moving to Kalamazoo, MI. She holds an M.F.A. and a Ph.D. in Spanish Literature from WMU and currently teaches Spanish. Her poetry, published in English, Spanish and French, has appeared in various journals and anthologies.

Professor Hedy Habra with Mario Vargas Llosa, a recipient of the 2010 Nobel Prize.

Faculty and Staff Accolades

Dr. William B. Harrison III, emeritus professor and director of the Michigan Geological Repository for Research and Education (MGRRE), and **Linda K. Harrison**, administrator of MGRRE, received a 2012 McMicken College of Arts and Sciences Distinguished Alumni award from the University of Cincinnati. MGRRE is part of the WMU Department of Geosciences, and provides space to archive and study over 450,000 linear feet of rock core from Michigan, in addition to other subsurface geological data. Each year McMicken College of Arts and Sciences makes three awards to distinguished alumni. The Harrisons were honored for their work at MGRRE and at the University of Latvia. The Harrisons were also honored for assisting in the modernization of the Geology Department at the University of Latvia, where they delivered equipment and helped secure funding for that faculty and department. Dr. Harrison gave a series of lectures, and was awarded an honorary doctorate degree from the University of Latvia. Dr. Harrison has received numerous awards from the American Association of Petroleum Geologists (AAPG), the broadest international body of professional geoscientists. He also received the Public Service Award for his unending dedication to making MGRRE become a reality. In 2010, he received the highest honor from the Eastern Section of the AAPG, the Galey Award, for "a lifetime of service to others, geoscientists, and the Eastern Section of AAPG by preserving a legacy of geologic data and igniting a passion for geology in an army of students whose influence reaches far into the future."

Linda Harrison

Dr. William Harrison, III

Two WMU College of Arts and Sciences faculty members received prestigious Fulbright Program awards to work overseas during the 2011-12 academic year. WMU's 2011-12 Fulbright grant recipients were awarded a combination of short- and long-term grants. **Dr. William W. Cobern**, Distinguished University Professor of Science Education and Biological Sciences as well as director of the Mallinson Institute for Science Education, received a Fulbright Lecturing/Research award. Cobern spent five months in Turkey beginning in September of 2011. His research and teaching were about secular and religious issues with respect to the teaching of science. He also gave lectures on the experimental study of science teaching efficacy. While in Turkey, Cobern gave 14 public lectures on both topics at various Turkish universities. **Dr. Richard A. Gershon**, professor and co-director of the telecommunications and information management program, received a Fulbright Specialist award. Gershon spent the 2011 fall semester at the University of Navarra in Pamplona, Spain. While there, he taught two accelerated courses, one for undergraduate students on media management and telecommunications and one for graduate students on digital media and innovation. The Fulbright Program was established in 1946 and is the flagship international educational exchange program sponsored by the federal government. Grant recipients are selected based on academic or professional achievement, as well as demonstrated leadership potential in their fields.

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Bill Cobern talking to students in Turkey.

Student and Alumni Accolades

Robert V. Pajak, who graduated in 1979 with a B.S. in Social Psychology, is no stranger to the human condition and, in his new book, "The Sight Unseen: Chronicles of Lernia," Pajak details the struggles of living with a major sight condition. "Most of the book is about a guy's eye condition and attending two colleges, accompanied by a female friend – and other little sub-stories leading from that main story. It is meant to convey to the reader that discipline, morality and principles, as well as humor, can be applied to everyday living, and this can help overcome the ups and downs of life, resulting in a person becoming a meaningful and contributing member of society," he said. The story is semi-autobiographical, putting Pajak at the helm of the story. Like his titular character, Pajak suffers from retinitis pigmentosa, a condition in which the retina slowly deteriorates until it causes tunnel vision. However, Pajak reminds us that each case of retinitis pigmentosa is a bit different. "Mine is different," he said. "It's as if someone splashed a can of paint on the retina. If I walk with one eye open, there would be ragged walls." The book is a commemoration of one of his favorite movies and historical events, "The Titanic." He also mentions the Boris Pasternak novel, "Dr. Zhivago." These are both brought in to elevate the memorable climax of the story.

Samantha Schaefer

Samantha Schaefer, a WMU creative writing major who graduated cum laude from the Lee Honors College on April 28, is the recipient of a Follett Graduate Merit Award from Columbia College Chicago. The award, offered to just four incoming students annually, recognizes outstanding accomplishments and the potential for continued excellence in the college's Creative Writing-Poetry MFA program. Samantha will receive $12,100 toward tuition and fees each academic year. "It's basically a merit award given to an applicant whose portfolio is considered of esteemed quality," said Schaefer. While a student at WMU, Schaefer was involved in a number of activities, including Gold Company II and Onomatopoeia Writer's Society, a reading series for undergraduate creative writers that she co-founded. She also served for three years as the peer advisor and assistant of the Department of English's Prague Summer Program, which she attended as a student in 2009. "I studied abroad twice, once in Prague, Czech Republic and once in Rome, Italy," said Schaefer. Her writing has been published on campus in the "Laureate," the "Albion Review" and "Asylum Lake Press." Schaefer is the co-editor of the "Black Tongue Review" (a charitable literary arts magazine based out of Chicago). "My advice for any and all Creative Writing Majors would be to find a mentor, said Schaefer. "Having a good relationship with my professors is what has really helped me to explore and develop as a writer. I would also advise students to study abroad if it is at all possible. One's writing undergoes enormous growth under the pressures and joys of travel."

Texas native **Jason Skipper**, who received his Ph.D. in Creative Writing at WMU in 2005, has released his debut novel, "Hustle" which chronicles the lives of three Texan men struggling to make up for their past, and somehow set course for the future. Skipper earned his master's in Creative Writing at Miami University before heading north to Michigan to pursue his Ph.D. While at WMU, Skipper served as fiction editor for "Third Coast," a national literary magazine published at WMU. His stories have earned him numerous literary awards from respected publishing companies, including Zoetrope, All-Story, Glimmer Train, and Crab Orchard Review. He currently teaches creative writing and literature at Pacific Lutheran University and lives in Tacoma, WA. His coming-of-age novel features an alcoholic ex-con grandfather; a

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philandering seafood salesman's son; and a struggling musician grandson. Each were hustlers in different areas. The grandfather hustled for money, the son hustled for women, and the grandson hustled for fame; they all are now hustling for redemption. This multi-character, multi-layered story caught the attention of several authors, including Charles Baxter, Peter Orner, Stuart Dybek and Jaimy Gordon, who gave "Hustle" a glowing review. Gordon referred to the book as "A southern portrait of the artist as a young man, with marvelous characters that keep you savoring every scene." More information about the book and upcoming event information may be found on Skipper's official website, www.jasonskipper.com.

Alicia Acosta

Three WMU graduate students will continue their studies and research in Spain as recipients of Fulbright scholarship awards. **Alicia Acosta**, a recent graduate in Spanish secondary education, and **Patrick Harris** and **David Terry**, both doctoral students in medieval history, received grants for the 2012-13 academic year. A native of Marshall, MI, Acosta, was raised in Caracas, Venezuela, and has lived in five countries. She earned a bachelor's degree from WMU in secondary education and is currently pursuing her master's degree. She will use her Fulbright award to travel to Spain as an English teaching assistant. Harris of Harrison, MI, will travel to Toledo, Spain, to undertake archival work for a project titled, "The Latinization of the Mozarab Community in Toledo." He earned his bachelor's degree in history from Oakland University, a master's degree in Eastern Classics from St. John's College and a master's degree in history from Eastern Illinois University. Terry, of San Marcos, CA, will travel to Barcelona, Spain, and conduct archival research for his project titled, "Merchant, Pirate Crusader: Identity and Cultural Interaction on the Medieval Mediterranean." He earned his bachelor's and master's degrees at the University of North Dakota.

Assessment of Student Learning

A new display designed by Department of Anthropology Professor **Michael S. Nassaney's** public archeology seminar class (ANTH 5000) is now on display at Waldo Library. The display showcases artifacts found during the Fort St. Joseph (FSJ) Archaeological Project, along with findings and interpretations of life in the 18th century on the edge of the French Empire. "The purpose of the display is to give visitors of Waldo Library the opportunity to learn about archaeology and its contributions to our understanding of the past," said Dr. Michael Nassaney, lead investigator of the FSJ project. The FSJ project was established by WMU archaeologists under Nassaney's direction in 1998 in conjunction with the City of Niles, the Fort St. Joseph Museum, and the Support the Fort organization. The display is a venue to bring a piece of Fort St. Joseph to the WMU community. "The project is a long-term, multidisciplinary, community service learning initiative that explores the fur trade and colonialism in southwest Michigan," said Nassaney. The project also provides student testimonials of the benefits of working on such a collaborative project.

A keyhole uncovered at Fort St. Joseph.

Is there a cure for Muscular System Atrophy (MSA) anywhere on the horizon? Researchers at Western Michigan University aren't sure, but they are finding consistencies in their research that could lead some hopeful results. "Multiple System Atrophy (MSA) is what I would describe as a puzzle with 1000 pieces that a minute number of researchers are strategically putting together piece by piece," notes **Ashley McKinney-Bostic**, a master's student in the Department of Biological Sciences. "I have seen, firsthand, the daily suffering of an MSA sufferer, and the severe symptoms that worsen over time." She and other researchers, along with Professor **Charles Ide** of the Environmental Studies Program at WMU, are working tirelessly to raise awareness of and research activities for MSA, a neurological disease in which autonomic functions of the body, such as blood pressure, and internal organs slowly atrophy or shut down as a result of rapidly depleting muscle tissue. Other researchers hard at work on the MSA puzzle include: **Derrick Hilton**, Ph.D. student; **Karen VanWagner**, a master's student; **Megan Welter**, a master's student; **Junjie Hu**, a master's student; **Jessica Song**, a recently graduated undergraduate; **Subhanwita Paul**, a new

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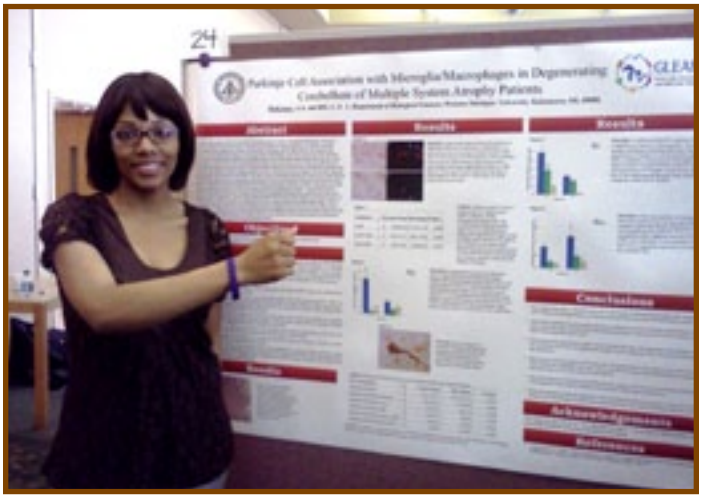
Ph.D. student. Note: **Sue Summers** passed away Friday, May 4, after a long and active battle with MSA. Summers has asked that donations be directed to: Western Michigan University, Dr. Charles Ide, 1903 W. Michigan Ave., Kalamazoo, MI 49008. Make checks payable to Western Michigan University MSA fund or donate online.



Ashley McKinney-Bostic

College of Engineering and Applied Sciences

Faculty and Staff Accolades

The mission of the II-VI (two-six) Foundation is to "encourage and enable students to pursue careers in engineering, science, and mathematics." Recently they did just that by providing $85,000 in funding support to Western Michigan University and the Manufacturing Research Center for the Micro Laser Assisted Machining of Infrared Optical Materials project initiative. **Richard W. Parnell**, Executive Director of the II-VI Foundation, was in attendance at a recent signing ceremony, which outlined the gift. Also in attendance were **Dr.Richard Hopkins** Block Gift Program Manager, **Dr. John Spitznagel** Program Consultant, **Dr. John Patten** Chair of Manufacturing Engineering, **Dr. Deepak Ravindra** Research Associate, **Shams Khan** Engagement Manager, as well as students **Jared McKinley** and **Dioniso V Del Orbe Henriquez** who are involved with the project. The Foundation reaches out to selected Universities and Centers of Excellence across the country and asks them to submit a research "White Paper" on scientific topics of interest and importance. The research proposals were to include the use of graduate and/or undergraduate student assistance. The resulting proposals are reviewed based on scientific approach, educational potential and budgetary realism. The campuses and laboratories were visited and then a selection committee awards the block-gifts. The II-VI Foundation includes industrial manufacturing, military and aerospace, electronics and telecommunications, and thermo-electronics applications, with a diversified customer base to which II-VI develops, manufactures, and markets its products.

(Left to right) Shams Khan, Dr. John Patten, Richard Purnell, Jared McKinley, Dioniso Del Orbe Henriquez, Dr. Richard Hopkins, Dr. John Spitznagel, and Dr. Deepak Ravindra

Dr. Edmund Tsang

Dr. Edmund Tsang recently received the top honor at the inaugural Western Michigan University Service Learning Awards. Dr. Tsang was awarded first place in the faculty/instructor category for his dedication to outstanding service-learning. Tsang is the Associate Dean for Undergraduate Programs and Assessment for the College of Engineering and Applied Sciences and is founder and director of the Center of Excellence in Engineering Education (CEEE). The CEEE supports the faculty's work in improving student learning and is a symbol of the College's commitment to excellence in teaching and learning. The criteria for the award winners are as follows: Engagement in service-learning, defined as a mutually beneficial endeavor in which course learning objectives are met by addressing community-identified needs; Engaged in service-learning that includes reflection of the work, interactions, and learning regarding the service; Effective collaboration among community partners, students, and professors/instructors/staff; Finding innovative solutions to problems; Projecting a positive attitude and/or promoting a positive image of the University and service learning.

Student and Alumni Accolades

Recently a WMU aeronautical senior design group received first place in the team competition category at AIAA Region III Student Conference & Competition held at the University of Michigan. The 1st Place award consisted of $500 and a trip to the 51st Aerospace Sciences Meeting in January, 2013 in Texas. The team project was called "Free-Wing Aircraft" and the design addressed an ever growing need for aerial surveillance. The team researched free-wing concept and collected data using airfoil analysis software and wind-tunnel testing. The full scale aircraft was then built and flight tested to maximize the benefits during low airspeed flight. The free-wing was designed to pivot about the span-wise axis and which allowed for better gust alleviation and stability over a conventional wing, therefore creating steadier surveillance capabilities. Whether the aircraft is used for border patrol, traffic surveillance, or military exploits, having a bird's-eye view is of considerable benefit to the user. The winning team members were seniors **John Brandt**, **Ryan Neuland**, and **Nicholas VanDeRoer**. Their mentor was **Dr. Kapseong Ro**, Ph.D., associate professor in the Mechanical and Aeronautical Engineering department at WMU.

(Left to right) Nicholas VanDeRoer, John Brandt, and Ryan Neuland.

Western Michigan University's team took the championship spot this year at the national Human Assisted Green Energy Vehicle design competition sponsored by the Parker Hannifin Corporation. Formerly called the Chainless Challenge competition, the first event was held in Cleveland, Ohio in August, 2005 and continued until 2008. The event was initiated again for the 2011-12 academic year by Parker Hannifin who is the world's leading diversified manufacturer of motion control technologies and systems. The Human Assisted Green Energy Vehicle design competition was held in Irvine, CA, in April. Engineering undergraduate and graduate students from twelve universities across the nation participated in the competition. The challenge was to design a hydraulic bicycle that can transfer a rider's manual power to the driving wheel through the use of a hydraulic fluid rather than chain or other direct drive mechanism. This year the team members were **Brian DeYoung**, **Jian He**, **Ryan Kamn**, **Saleem Hinton**, and faculty members are **Dr. Alamgir Choudhury** and **Dr. Jorge Rodriguez** all from the Department of Industrial and Manufacturing Engineering. The WMU team was the overall winner this year based on the 10 categories below: Design quality categories: 1) Ingenuity & Novelty, 2) Reliability & Safety WMU 1st, 3) Manufacturability WMU 2nd, 4) Marketability WMU 3rd, 5) Workmanship WMU 1st, 6) Cost Analysis WMU 1st, 7) Best paper WMU 1st Design performance based on: 1) 200 meter sprint race WMU 3rd, 2) Efficiency race WMU 2nd, and 3) 10.8 mile endurance race WMU 1st This year Northwestern University, Purdue University, University of Illinois, and University of Minnesota four of the Big 10 universities participated. Other participants included Case Western Reserve University, Cal Poly, Illinois Institute of Technology, University of Akron, University of Cincinnati, and Murray State as well.

Students with first place trophy, (Left to right) Ryan Kamm, Selim Hin-ton, Jian He, and Brandon De Young

Lt. **Justin Soeder** is a recent Western Michigan University Air Force ROTC graduate and an Electrical Engineering major was awarded the Armed Forces Communications and Electronics Association (AFCEA) Major General Robert E Sadler USAF Award. This award is the result of a national competition and is given to the top graduating Electrical or Communications Engineer in Air Force ROTC and this is the first time it has ever been awarded to a cadet from the WMU and MSU detachment. In addition to Justin's award, his name will be engraved on a plaque with the AFCEA. To add to his accomplishments, Lt. Soeder has been accepted into the Air Force Institute of Technology where only 11 slots were awarded nationwide. Justin plans to complete

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his masters in 18 months, and then go on to become a developmental engineer in the United States Air Force.

L-R: Major General Fedder presenting Lt. Justin Soeder with his award.

The Western Michigan University Society of Automotive Engineers (SAE) student chapter achieved a great accomplishment at the 2012 SAE World Congress competition recently. The team worked very hard on their overall display quality and presentation delivery, and the effort paid off with the first place award. The presentation was on the team's interpretation of this year's world congress and was titled "Get Connected". Their commitment to the SAE student chapter was evident as the team had to balance this event with their academic obligations during finals week. Financial support for the team was provided by the MAE department and the CEAS and materials for the exhibit were provided by **Scot Conant**. This event was a wonderful opportunity for the students to present the quality of our engineering programs at WMU. **Claudia M. Fajardo**, Ph.D is the team's faculty advisor and assistant professor in the MAE department. The winning presentation team members: **Michael Nienhuis** of Howell, MI, president of WMU's SAE Student Chapter; **Baxter Gill** of New Boston, MI, vice president of WMU's SAE Student Chapter; **Alan Meinecke** of Davison, MI, the aerodynamics leader of WMU's Formula SAE racing team; **Zach Tuyls** of Battle Creek, MI, team leader for WMU's Formula SAE team; and **Alexandra Walcott** of Jenison, MI.

(Left to right) Alan Meinecke, Alexandra Walcott, and Baxter Gill, with the first place award.

College of Health and Human Services

Items of Academic Interest

Western Michigan University
College of Health and Human Services
School of Social Work

Recently, the WMU School of Social Work (SWRK) was selected as a 2012 CHAMPS awardee by Kalamazoo Communities in Schools (KCIS), an organization which offers during and after-school social services in Kalamazoo Public Schools. SWRK has collaborated with KCIS for more than ten years, placing a growing number of undergraduate and graduate students in internships with the program in the schools.

Faculty and Staff Accolades

Dr. Richard Long, Associate Dean, CHHS

Associate Dean of the College of Health and Human Services and Professor of Blindness and Low Vision Studies **Richard G. Long,** will receive the Lawrence E. Blaha Award at the upcoming biennial meeting of the Association for Education and Rehabilitation of the Blind and Visually Impaired (AERBVI) on July 21, 2012 in Seattle, WA. The award is given by the Orientation and Mobility Division of professionals and is the highest honor that division bestows. The Lawrence E. Blaha Award was initiated in 1968 to honor people who have made outstanding contributions to the profession of orientation and mobility and who are dedicated to serving people with visual impairments. **Lawrence Blaha** was a pioneer in the field of O&M. In 1961, he joined the O&M faculty of Western Michigan University, and from 1964 until his death, he was director of the O&M program at California State College, Los Angeles. A faculty member at WMU since 1998, Dr. Long's focus has been on the orientation and mobility of visually impaired individuals. For the past 12 years, he has been the principal investigator of a large, multi-site research project supported by the National Eye Institute of the National Institutes of Health. The project focuses on intersection and roadway design in relation to the orientation and mobility of persons with blindness and low vision. Dr. Long has published many book chapters and articles in transportation engineering, human factors psychology and rehabilitation journals, and he recently co-authored a book on orientation and mobility techniques. Other recipients of the Blaha award with connections to WMU include **Steve LaGrow** (2006), **Bill Wiener** (1996), **Everett Hill** (1992), **Don Blasch** (1977) and **Stan Suterko** (1973).

Student and Alumni Accolades

Three WMU Bronson School of Nursing (BSON) students were selected to present their research-based posters at the Midwest Nursing Research Society Conference held in Dearborn, MI. in April. **Trevor Barnum** presented his Lee Honors College thesis "The Effects of Circumcision on Breastfeeding 24 Hours Post Procedure"; **Casey Bernhard** presented "Homebirth after Hospital Birth: Women's Thoughts and Reflections"; and **Rebecca Heidarisafa** presented "Perceived Insufficient Milk Supply in Low Income WIC Women". At the same event, alumna **Jaime Zinsmaster**, M.S.N. '11, presented her graduate thesis "The Influence of High-fidelity Simulation on Knowledge Retention" and won the second place ribbon. In addition, BSON faculty members **Dr. Elizabeth Phillips** and **Dr. Juanita Manning-Walsh** gave podium presentations at the conference.

Interdisciplinary Health Science (HIS) doctoral candidates **Tom Sather** and **Lydia Schuck** recently presented posters at professional conferences. Mr. Sather and his colleague **Mary Beth Clark**, SLP, presented "The Concept of Flow and Engagement in Aphasia" at the 2012 Clinical Aphasiology Conference in Lake Tahoe, California. The poster, co-authored by the presenters and IHS Ph.D. Director **Dr. Nickola Nelson**, presented information on an application of the Flow concept of engagement for people with aphasia at a participation-based aphasia camp. As part of the 2012 Annual Conference of the Michigan Association for Education and Rehabilitation of the Blind and Visually Impaired in Livonia, MI, Ms. Schuck presented "Parent Perceptions of Transition-to-Adulthood Planning for Blind and Visually Impaired Youth" this past April 27. Her presentation was a first look at a research survey of Michigan parents which examined the importance of learning skills in the nine domains of the Expanded Core Curriculum for Blind and Visually Impaired (VI) Youth. Parents indicated that while all nine domains are important, they believe that skills in some of the domains are best learned from teachers and others, such as blind mentors, peers and family members. Parents report that their blind and VI youth have had little or no help in learning skills in career development, and that teachers are the best source for that instruction.

In January 2012, **Dr. Angelique Day**, a 2011 graduate of the Interdisciplinary Health Sciences Ph.D. program, was selected as 1 of only 15 trainees from across the country to receive an R25 "Building careers for research in child maltreatment and intimate partner violence: Early career scholar interdisciplinary training program" award. Funded by the National Institute of Child and Human Development, the mentorship and training is being coordinated by the Center for Violence and Injury Prevention at Washington University in St. Louis.

Congratulations to occupational therapy student **Brooke Drummer** who received the 2012 Presidential Scholar Award, which is based on academic or artistic achievement and is the highest award that can be

Continued on next page

awarded to an undergraduate senior. **President John Dunn** honored the 46 recognized scholars in a ceremony held at the WMU Fetzer Center in April 2012.

On Friday, April 20, first year Physician Assistant (PA) students sponsored a team in the WMU Relay for Life, a fundraiser for the American Cancer Society. Approximately 20 PA students and faculty participated as members of team Physician Assistants for Life. The purposes of Relay for Life are to remember those who lost their lives to cancer, celebrate those who have survived, and raise money for cancer research. For the event, team members take turns walking around a track for 24 hours, with the goal of at least one team member walking for the duration of the event. **Dan Ebenhoeh**, a first year PA student and brain cancer survivor, served as the captain for team Physician Assistants for Life, which raised just under $3,000, the second highest amount raised by any WMU student organization.

Members of team "Physician Assistants for Life".

College of Education and Human Development

Items of Academic Interest

The National Council on Family Relations (NCFR) has chosen /Serving Military Families in the 21st Century/ by **Karen Blaisure**, **Tara Saathoff-Wells**, **Angela Pereira**, **Shelley MacDermid Wadsworth** and **Amy Laura Dombro** as the NCFR book club "read" for the summer. Read more about this book and order it here: www.amazon.com/Serving-Military-Families-Century-Textbooks/dp/0415880661?tag=naticounonfam-20

The Dorothy J. McGinnis Reading Center and Clinic is pleased to announce the following summer 2012 programs: 1) Literacy instruction for K-5 students for the summer reading program on campus in Waldo Library; 2) Literacy instruction for K-5 students for the Communities in Schools-Kalamazoo summer program at their summer host site; 3) Literacy instruction for 6th-12th grade students on-site at the Kalamazoo Juvenile Home during their summer school program; 4) Support to the "Read and Seed" program through the Kalamazoo Literacy Council's Parent Literacy Project at various locations throughout the city of Kalamazoo. More info can be found at www.kalamazooliteracy.org by mid-June. These programs and partnerships demonstrate the commitment of the College of Education and Human Development to developing collaborative relationships in the community. The reading center will provide instruction thanks to the expertise and knowledge of literacy coaches/specialists, graduate students and undergraduate students from the literacy studies program. Following the CoEHD's move this fall, the reading center will be positioned to expand services and programs. New initiatives will include workshops to support portfolio development of undergraduate students, book clubs for middle school and high school students, story times for pre-school students and opportunities for lesson planning and teaching material preparation for students involved in practicum and internship experiences.

Dr. Richard Zinser, Associate Professor of Career and Technical Education, Department of Family and Consumer Sciences, visited the cities of Tomsk, Yurga, and Kemerovo in south-central Siberia to meet with colleagues at vocational centers and technical colleges. The purpose of the trip was to establish relations with a consortium of educators to exchange information about technical education, and to explore the possibility of hosting Russian faculty and students at WMU. Zinser made several presentations about vocational education in America and toured 6 institutions to learn about the Russian system. They plan to send several administrators here in the fall to discuss future projects. According to Zinser, "the trip was great, except that it takes 4 airplanes through 11 time zones to get there!"

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The photo shows Zinser with faculty and students at a school of fashion design and hospitality programs.

Faculty and Staff Accolades

Dr. James Lewis

Dr. James Lewis, associate professor of Human Performance and Health Education, received the 2012 President's Council on Fitness, Sports and Nutrition Community Leadership Award.

Dr. James Muchmore

In April, **Dr. James Muchmore** presented a paper at the annual meeting of the American Education Research Association in Vancouver, Canada. The paper was entitled "Program Chair Lore: Illuminating the Process of Creating the S-STEP Program for the Annual Meeting of AERA."

Dr. Susan Piazza

Dr. Susan V. Piazza, Associate Professor of Literacy Studies, was invited to facilitate week-long curriculum development sessions with Chicago Public Schools (CPS) in the month of May. CPS is the third largest district in the U.S. with approximately 675 schools. 60 of the 675 schools participated in an Early Adopter Initiative to begin implementing the Common Core State Standards (CCSS) in English Language Arts. Teachers engaged in a year-long collaboration to develop instructional units, performance assessments, and scoring tools. Piazza worked with each grade K - 5 for six days along with several other teacher educators from across the U.S. The instructional units and formative assessments will support increased academic expectations, while maintaining authentic learning experiences. The CCSS require that students reach for higher levels of critical reading, writing, speaking, listening, viewing, and visually representing with complex informational and narrative texts. Literacy professionals are thrilled, for the most part, that the new CCSS provides an endorsement for critical reading and writing across the curriculum. Piazza will continue to work with CPS on an as-needed basis in the future.

Dr. Suzan Ayers

Dr. Suzan F. Ayers, associate professor of human performance and health education has been elected to the 2012-14 Executive Board of the WMU Faculty Senate. The Faculty Senate shares in governing WMU by formulating, reviewing and providing advice on policies and other matters of institutional concern. In addition to its governing members on the Executive Board, the organization's membership includes faculty senators and representatives from departments across campus as well as some administrators.

Dr. Timothy Michael

The American College of Sports Medicine recently appointed **Dr. Timothy Michael** to the Professional Education Committee for a term of three years.

Student and Alumni Accolades

Students enrolled in FCS 3590, Studio III Commercial Interiors, had a design challenge assignment in April. Newman IT, a computer service and web design company based in Kalamazoo, asked Interior Design students to develop a collaborative work environment using Haworth's Reside/Beside/Belong product. The competition required teams of students to design an environment that inspires creativity that creates a

Continued on next page

high-energy atmosphere and allows for casual, informal interactions between employees. Students were required to design in a way that reflects sustainability.

*Pictured are **Alison Mulder** and **Charity Lyn Brown,** the winners of the competition. Each received a Haworth task light for their winning designs.*

Educational leadership doctoral alumna (2012), **Jill Van Hof**, has been announced tenure-track assistant professor at Nebraska Wesleyan University. She'll be teaching with the elementary education faculty for the teacher preparation programs. This coming semester she has been assigned to teach human development and learning, U.S. foundations in education, a student-teaching seminar, and the supervision of student teachers.

The Michigan Association of Secondary School Principals (MASSP) announced that their Career and Technical Education (CTE) Administrator of the Year is **Ryan Rowe**, principal of the Lenawee Intermediate School District (LISD) TECH Center. Prior to going to the LISD TECH Center, Ryan was Assistant Principal of Onsted High School and Principal of Onsted Middle School. Rowe is a true life-long learner and a role model for his own young children, students, and staff. His education includes a Master of Arts degree in Educational Leadership in 2004, a Specialist of Arts degree in Educational Leadership in 2009, and he began his doctoral program in Educational Leadership in the fall of 2010 here at WMU. Beyond college, Ryan has attended conferences and workshops to further expand his knowledge and skills in both CTE and leadership. He consistently collaborates with many groups throughout the county, region and state on CTE initiatives.

Graduate College

Items of Academic Interest

The four major research universities in the state of Michigan have established the Michigan AGEP Alliance (MAA) to advance under-represented minority students in the fields of science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) and social, behavioral and economic sciences (SBE) as they pursue graduate degrees. This alliance includes the graduate schools at the University of Michigan, Michigan State University, Wayne State University, and Western Michigan University. The MAA Dissertation Writing Retreat (DWR) was developed to help students progress through the difficult writing stages of the dissertation process, towards its completion. DWR activities focus on places where students typically have problems: conceptualizing a topic, developing a pre-proposal, writing a literature review, writing a proposal, analyzing data, writing the last chapter, and editing. The program is designed for MAA doctoral students who are writing their dissertation proposals, first dissertation chapters, or who have found their writing progress stalled, or who desire expert guidance and the opportunity to join a community of dissertation writers. This year the DWR was held at Kellogg Biological Station and Conference Center, with 16 students attending from the universities in the AGEP Alliance. Participating were **Clara Adams**, WMU; **LaTasha Chaffin**, WMU; David Cepeda, UM; Taeyjuana Curry, UM; Rheaclare Fraser, UM; Marita Gilbert, MSU; Leigh-Anne Goins, MSU; Charles Graham, UM; **Jameel Hasan**, WMU, Sharon Murphy, WSU; Nkiru Nnawulezi, MSU; **Oscar Neal**, WMU; Bibia Redd, WSU; Marisa Rinkus, MSU; Aftin Ross, UM; and Charlotte Winston, WSU. Dissertation coach and consultant Dr. Wendy Carter-Veale, is nationally recognized for her work with students in the dissertation process. Currently, Dr. Carter-Veale shares her expertise with graduate students at the University of Maryland Baltimore County (UMBC).

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2012 Dissertation Retreat Participants

Student and Alumni Accolades

Monica McCullough, a doctoral candidate in Biological Sciences, is the 2012 recipient of the George and Beatrice Fisher Gerontology Dissertation Prize. She will be receiving $1,000 for her research related to improved understanding of the development and survival of the motor nervous system. The George and Beatrice Fisher Gerontology Dissertation Prize is an annual award which recognizes a doctoral dissertation that best advances the study and understanding of the process of aging. The prize may be awarded in any discipline or field for research that relates to aging or elderly populations. This broadly defined area of interest could include research that is not directly conducted on elderly populations but could have application for treatment of diseases associated with aging (such as research on the progression of such diseases in animals, or development of potential pharmacological treatments), oral history projects focused on elderly adults, as well as scholarly projects directly involving elderly subjects.

Zella Jackson Hannum, who will be WMU's first National Science Foundation (NSF) Alliance for Graduate Education and the Professoriate (AGEP) grant doctoral graduate in engineering, successfully defended her dissertation on May 16, in Walwood Commons. Western Michigan University is partnered in a special AGEP Alliance with the University of Michigan, Michigan State University, and Wayne State University in a federally funded initiative aligned with efforts to increase participation among underrepresented groups in the fields of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics. **Dr. Hannum** will be awarded a Ph.D. at the June 2012 commencement ceremony from the Department of Industrial and Manufacturing Engineering, which is chaired by **Dr. Paul Engelmann**. **Dr. David Lyth**, professor and co-director of the Engineering Management Research Laboratory in the College of Engineering, served as Dr. Hannum's dissertation chair and guided her research, titled Development of a New Technology Balanced Scorecard Derived from Critical Factors that Impact Product Quality. Hannum's study used multiple linear equations to predict critical factors that drive product quality and that demonstrated significant correlations with measures of product quality management practices and product quality performance. The second part of the study developed and tested scorecard performance capability and usability and demonstrated significant correlations with measures of scorecard performance capability and managers' decisions to use the scorecard as a tool in making quality management decisions. Such a performance measurement tool will be important to business environments interested in cultivating new technology ventures (NTVs) through the use of continuous process improvement and quality efforts. Other members of Dr. Hannum's dissertation committee include the following: **Dr. Tarun Gupta** and **Dr. Leonard Lamberson**, professors, WMU Department of Industrial and Manufacturing Engineering, and **Dr. John Lloyd**, University Distinguished Professor emeritus, College of Engineering, Michigan State University.

Zella Jackson Hannum and her dissertation Chair, Dr. David Lyth of Industrial and Manufacturing Engineering

The Graduate Student Research Fund was established to support graduate students engaged in independent scholarly research, scientific inquiry, inventive technology, and original artistic activity. The fund is intended to help students pay extraordinary or unusual costs incurred in research projects. Graduate Student Research Grants for March/April 2012 have been announced. The winners receive up to $1000 to pursue a specific research project. They are ***Talal Alharbi**, Geosciences; Teresa Clark, Biological Sciences;

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Veerendra Dasari, Electrical and Computer Engineering; Sean Derrick, Industrial and Manufacturing Engineering; ***Sokhna Diop**, Geography; **Kristin Hampel**, Chemistry; **Masashi Izumi**, Educational Leadership, Research, and Technology; **Derrick Lingle**, Geosciences; **Allister Malcolm,** Biological Sciences; ***Abdel Mawgoud Mohammed**, Geosciences; **Dana Jo Nichol**, Human Performance and Health Education; **Wanda Rodriguez Rivera**, Chemistry; ***Ariana Toth**, Geography; **Muthanna Yaqoob**, Geosciences; and **Emily Zerndt**, Political Science. Those marked with an asterisk also received an international travel grant of up to $600 funded by the Graduate Student Advisory Committee (GSAC).

The Graduate Student Travel Fund was established to support graduate student travel to meetings or events sponsored by professional organizations for the purpose of reporting the results of research, exhibiting or performing creative works, or otherwise disseminating results of their scholarly activity. Graduate Student Travel Grants for March/April 2012 have been announced. Winners receive up to $700 for travel related to their research interest, or to travel to conferences to present papers, posters, or oral presentations. The winners and their departments are **Talal Alharbi**, Geosciences; **Catherine Bailey**, English; **James Burns**, Industrial and Manufacturing Engineering; **Kevin Douglass**, Chemistry; **Angela Garrison**, Counselor Education and Counseling; ***Christina Gentile**, Communication; ***Ann Gilchrist**, Geosciences; **Christopher Hawley**, History; **Krystal Howard**, English; ***David Jeng**, Biological Sciences; **Andrew Jones**, Philosophy; **Jianwei Lin**, Mathematics; **Monica Lininger**, Educational Leadership, Research, and Technology; **Daniel Maitland**, Psychology; **William Mamudi**, Science Education; **John Martin**, Comparative Religion; **Lloyd Mataka**, Science Education; **Amanda McKenna**, Biological Sciences; **Stephanie Means**, Interdisciplinary Evaluation; **Brandon Pearce**, Medieval Institute; **Adrienne Redding**, English; **Daniel Rubio**, Philosophy; **Krystal Seibert**, Biological Sciences; **Glenn Shaheen**, English; **Jae Young Shin**, Paper Engineering, Chemical Engineering, and Imaging; **Maran Subramain**, Interdisciplinary Evaluation; ***Benjamin Wright**, Medieval Institute; and **Mikela Zhezha**, Spanish. Those marked with asterisks also were awarded a supplemental travel grant of up to $600 funded by the Graduate Student Advisory Committee (GSAC).

Haworth College of Business

Items of Academic Interest

A new joint agreement between Grand Rapids Community College and Western Michigan University's Haworth College of Business will offer students joint admission to both schools and enable them to initiate their college studies at GRCC, and seamlessly transfer to WMU to complete a Bachelor of Business Administration degree. WMU President **Dr. John M. Dunn** and GRCC President Dr. Steven C. Ender formalized the agreement with a signing ceremony at GRCC June 4, at GRCC. A number of officials from both schools also participated. Under the agreement, students would be admitted to both GRCC and WMU during their freshman year, and assuming they meet the requirements of the agreement, they would be admitted to WMU's Haworth College of Business prior to beginning their junior year. "Grand Rapids Community College has long been our partner in providing top-notch higher education opportunities to students," says WMU's Dunn. "This agreement enhances the way both institutions are able to serve students by ensuring continuity and guaranteeing that every class successfully completed puts a student one step closer to his or her degree goal. Students who enroll in the program will be both Raiders and Broncos from their very first days in college." A WMU advisor will be available at GRCC twice a month to meet with students in the program. In addition, students will be taking a one-credit WMU Business Enterprise course on the GRCC campus during their freshmen year at GRCC. GRCC's Ender says more than 4,300 students from his school transfer to four-year schools each year, and. the dual enrollment program is a perfect option for students who want to earn an associate degree and continue on for a bachelor's degree. "The agreement is ideal for GRCC students, if they are admissible to WMU, to be students of both programs their freshman year, and fully transfer to WMU after two years," says **Dr. Kay Palan**, dean of the Haworth College of Business. "The program takes a lot of the guesswork out of credit evaluations and ensures a smooth transfer process." The first participants in the joint business program are expected to enroll in fall 2012.

Upcoming Events

Steven Hilfinger

Re-inventing the state's regulatory and licensing environment will be the topic of the June Keystone Community Bank Breakfast Series. Steven Hilfinger, director of the Michigan Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs (LARA) and chief regulatory officer, will talk about his leadership role in re-inventing the regulatory and licensing environment in Michigan at 8 a.m. Friday, June 29 in the Dean's Conference Room of Schneider Hall, home of the Haworth College of Business. His presentation, "Regulatory Reinvention in Michigan," is free and open to the public. The event begins with breakfast at 7:30 a.m. Reservations are required and can be made by calling the College dean's office at (269) 387-6059. Parking is available in the nearby Fetzer Center parking lot. Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder created the Office of Regulatory Reinvention (ORR) within LARA, and named Hilfinger to his position in 2011. The ORR works with other state departments and the Legislature to reinvent a licensing and regulatory environment that promotes business growth and job creation by streamlining processes and eliminating unnecessary or burdensome regulations. Hilfinger plans to focus on regulations that protect the health and safety of Michigan's citizens. Prior to his appointment, Hilfinger was the managing partner of the Detroit office of Foley & Lardner LLP, a national law firm with more than 900 attorneys around the world. Hilfinger co-founded the office in 2000 and served as its managing partner from September 2002 to June 2006 and from June 2009 until his current appointment. Hilfinger earned a Bachelor of Business Administration degree with a concentration in accounting from the University of Michigan in 1984, graduating magna cum laude. He earned his juris doctorate from Northwestern University in 1987. The Keystone Community Bank Breakfast Speaker Series is underwritten by Keystone Community Bank. The series provides an opportunity for the local community to hear top business leaders and WMU faculty, alumni and friends of the Haworth College of Business discuss current, business related-topics.

University Libraries

Items of Academic Interest

The move of the "Kalamazoo Gazette" archives to WMU will have occurred when this current issue of "Prism" goes to press. After months of negotiations with the Herald Publishing Company, University Libraries has agreed to shelter the photos, clippings files, bound volumes, microfilm, and other miscellaneous artifacts. This incredible documentation of southwest Michigan--and literally the world--reaches back to the middle of the 19th century. **Dr. Sharon Carlson**, University Archives Director, and **Ms. Lynn Houghton**, Region History Curator, insisted that the donation of the Gazette Archives would be available and accessible to both the University and Kalamazoo area communities. To date these documents had been stored in the newspaper location on Lovell and Burdick, and closed to all except employees of the Gazette and authorized users. Ms. Houghton had permission to access the documentation in the 1990s when she worked on a manuscript for a book about Kalamazoo. **Dean Reish** with University Legal Counsel **Carrick Craig** worked out an agreement with the then-owners such that researchers, students, and the intellectually curious will have access to these chronicles of the historical legacy of southwest Michigan. Reish says, "These treasures will enrich our knowledge of the pass and will be safeguarded for generations to come. Once the collection has been cataloged and prepared for use, these materials will tell many stories to public historians, journalism majors, genealogists, and area politics, society, and culture buffs. The Herald Publishing Company's donation of the Gazette Archives will rest temporarily in East Hall, but will then find its permanent, new home in the WMU Legacy Collections Center on the Oakland Drive Campus. University Relations has informed the University and Kalamazoo communities that the ground-breaking will take place in July. Reish foresees the newly acquired Gazette Archives as emblematic proof of the symbiotic, supportive relationship between WMU and greater Kalamazoo. "Gown and town will be drawn together at the community portal to be found on Oakland Drive. These archives are symbolic of this dynamic as the WMU Legacy Collections Center will also be."

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Dean Reish, Regina Buckner, Lynn Houghton, and John Winchell enthusiastically rummaging through the "Gazette Archives."

Faculty and Staff Accolades

University Libraries faculty members **Dianna Sachs**, **Kate Langan**, and **Carrie Leatherman**, and graduate assistant **Jennifer Walters** presented a talk at the Michigan Library Association Academic Libraries 2012 Conference in Ann Arbor, MI, on May 10, 2012. Their presentation was titled "Millennials and Information Literacy: Assessing and Revamping an Online Research Tutorial for the 2012 Generation." The four reported on their research comparing the effectiveness of an older online research tutorial, Searchpath, to that of the new ResearchPath tutorial, designed to suit better the learning styles of Millennial college students. The researchers conducted a three-phased study funded by an assessment grant through the Office of Institutional Effectiveness. Quantitative and qualitative measures were used to assess student learning and student perception and opinions. The ResearchPath tutorial is available to all WMU faculty, staff, and students through Elearning.

ResearchPath

Online Library Research Toolkit: www.wmich.edu/library/researchpath.

Prof. Leatherman co-authored recent article with Prof. Ed Eckel supporting science and engineering research.

Prof. **Carrie Leatherman**, Natural Sciences Librarian, and Prof. **Ed Eckel**, Engineering Librarian, have recently been published. Their article, "The Use of Online Current Awareness Services by Natural Science and Engineering Faculty at Western Michigan University," appeared this spring in "Issues in Science and Technology Librarianship." Since science and engineering researchers have such a pressing need to stay current with the literature in their field, Leatherman and Eckel suggested that faculty might avail themselves of "current awareness services" – print or online resources that alerts a user to new literature in a research topic of interest. One of Leatherman and Eckel findings from their study was that WMU science and engineering faculty mainly use email alerts and journal tables of contents current awareness services. RSS feeds and blogs are employed infrequently. This discovery fills a gap in the library science research literature, since most studies on the use of current awareness services were conducted before RSS feeds were widely available. "Issues in science and Technology Librarianship" is an open-access journal, available at www.istl.org.

Dr. Barbara Cockrell, Associate Dean, Collections and Tech Services, participated in the Michigan Library Association Academic Libraries Conference May 10 -11 in Ann Arbor. The theme of the annual meeting was "Advancing Value." Dr. Cockrell was part of part of a panel session titled "Demand Driven E-book Purchasing: Increasing Value?" She led University Libraries delegation comprised of four academic librarians and one student assistant. All are recognized for their participation in this section of "Kudos."

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Dr. Cockrell participates in panel discussion at Academic Libraries Conference in Ann Arbor, Mich..

Professor **Kate Langan** will be participating in the American Library Association annual conference in Annaheim CA this June. She will be presenting research on using "the e-learning environment as a tool for disseminating information literacy tools for teaching faculty." Prof. Langan will demonstrate where on the web faculty can find lesson plans and teaching points on how to integrate information literacy concepts into their classes. She proposes this self-instruction as an alternative to bringing classes into the library for formal instruction. The session is titled "Embedded Librarian Best Practices: You Can Do It, We Can Help." For more information on embedded librarianship, please contact Prof. Langan: kathleen.langan@wmich.edu.

Prof. **Maira Bundza** has been active as a library professional this spring speaking to diverse audiences in the Midwest. As the WMU ScholarWorks Librarian she joined others tasked with the diffusion of scholarly communication of academic institutions in west Michigan Three librarians joined forces for a presentation titled "The Value of Scholarly Communications Programming: Perspectives from Three Settings" at the Michigan Library Association Academic Libraries Conference, May 11, in Ann Arbor. Sharing the podium with Prof. Bundza were Ms. Sarah Beaubien (Grand Valley State University) and Ms. Kelly Jacobsma (Hope College). Prof. Bundza was the evening keynoter at the Conference on Latvian Diaspora Archives and Material Culture at the Immigration History Research Center at the University of Minnesota in St. Paul on April 12, 2012. Her remarks were titled "Learning from Each Other: Baltic Collections in North America." She also presented at the Association for the Advancement of Baltic Studies, April 27, in Chicago. These remarks were titled "Baltic Libraries, Archives, & Museums in North America Today."

Latvian Literature in the WMU Collections

This May Prof. **Sheila Bair** and Prof. **Susan Steuer** participated in a panel discussion at the 47th International Medieval Congress, "Describing Images of Medieval Manuscripts Using Dublin Core: Projects and Proposals." Their part of the presentation highlighted a new Dublin Core Application Profile which is currently under development for describing Medieval Manuscripts, the "Premodern Manuscript Application Profile." The ease of use and educational aspects of the profile were discussed along with other Dublin Core projects and applications. The team was also invited to participate in a poster session entitled "Projects in Digital Medieval Studies."

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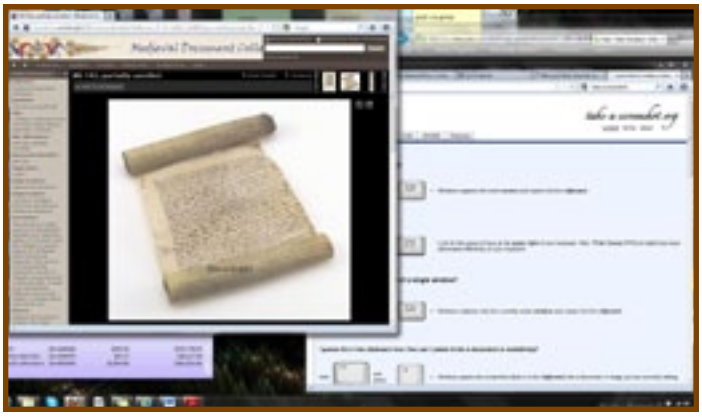

Medieval Manuscript from Special Collections and Rare Books

Prof. McDonnell has been recognized for Life Achievement contributions to Government Documents Librarianship.

At the April 27th meeting of the Government Documents Round Table of Michigan, Prof. **Michael McDonnell** was presented with the organization's Lifetime Achievement Award in recognition of his numerous contributions in the field of government documents librarianship.

Prof. Maira Bundza hosts seniors from Galesburg-Augusta High School.

University Libraries received praise from our users who lauded our information resources and services. They praised, in particular, the collections, the accessibility of the print and electronic items, the resourcefulness of the librarians, professional staff, and student employees, the bibliographical instruction, and the physical space. Upper grades of area high schools often plan a visit to Waldo Library as a field-trip that serves as an intellectual excursion, orientation to college life, and just plain enjoyment ... a fun day away from the classroom . Yearly Professor **Maira Bundza** has hosted the senior-level students of **Ms. Pam Triplett** of Galesburg-Augusta High School. The latter's seniors thanked Prof. Bundza with glowing commentary. Select examples follow: "It really felt like we were in college and it all seemed a little scary. The upcoming classes should experience the Waldo Library trip because it not only makes them more responsible and gives them more information, but it makes them grow as a person and become more mature." "I enjoyed the experience of using a college library. . .. [I]t was a very helpful trip." "I loved the day! I don't know how else to describe it! It was just honestly one step closer to college life!" "Google has been basically useless, so I really appreciate the vast number of sources available within the databases. . . at Waldo, I lost track of time." "Walking into Waldo Library was amazing. . . .It was a great experience and I wish we could go there every day. . . .I can't get over that there was a place like that, with so many books and just about everything you could think of." "I was surprised to find that the library was actually very organized and the students there researching acted with well-mannered respect." "Waldo Library was the biggest library I have ever seen in my life. The people that worked there gave me a lot of help." "Once you start finding information you just keep going and you don't want to really stop searching for information."

Extended University Programs

Faculty and Staff Accolades

Extended University Programs' staff presented at the 97th annual UPCEA (University Professional & Continuing Education Association) conference, held March 28-30 in Portland, Oregon. **Amy Routhier**, Executive Director of Enrollment Management and Marketing, presented a session titled "Engaging Adult Learners: Research-Driven Integrated Marketing Planning", along with her colleagues Adam Hilton and Steve Winchester of Datamark, and Jennifer Copeland of DemandEngine. The presenters discussed that while the channels and technologies used to access programs seem limitless, campus budgets are not. They asked such questions as: Are you connecting with adult learners via the channels that they prefer, based on the online behaviors they engage in, and are ensuring that they find the information that they seek? Are you maximizing interactive marketing as a key lead generation vehicle? How are you using what you know about adult learners and interactive marketing together in the development of an integrated marketing plan? They presented a follow-up study including over 2,000 adults nationwide, their preferences, behaviors, and their opportunities,

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interactive marketing do's and don'ts, and how to take steps to develop an integrated plan.

Three Extended University Programs' staff presented at the Mi-ACE Women's Network Conference on May 21-22, held in East Lansing, MI. **Dr. Dawn Gaymer**, Associate Provost; **Dr. Betty Dennis**, Associate Dean; and **Amy Routhier**, Executive Director of Enrollment Management and Marketing; presented the session titled "Building Trust through Courageous Conversions." They shared how a productive and successful team recognizes the importance of interdependent relationships. Further, embracing the diversity of all team members is an ideal that requires a significant amount of work, self-reflection, communication, trust and time. The interactive workshop provided insight based on specific approaches used by Extended University Programs at WMU.

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