COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

STUDENT AND ALUMNI ACCOLADES

There is a long list of families who have sent multiple members over multiple generations to WMU. We have had parent and child graduates, and sibling graduates. But the Lenkart family has the distinction of simultaneously having five current Broncos - four students and one employee.

Kevin is pursuing a master’s degree from the School of Public Affairs and Administration. He considers his family “fortunate to have a large and well-respected university” in close proximity to where they’ve settled. His wife Robin has been an employee in WMU’s Department of Chemistry for six years and is proud that her eldest daughter will graduate this year “with a great education at a well-known and highly-esteemed university.” Kevin and Robin’s three children, Allison, Lauren and Scott are also proud Broncos.

Allison, a senior majoring in psychology, admits that she wanted to attend a university further from home.

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initially, but has grown to love WMU. When thinking about graduating this year, Allison said, “I will really miss being on campus because I feel so comfortable here and have grown to love being a student and a Bronco. I have made many life-long friends.” Allison’s time at WMU will extend through this summer as she is preparing to study abroad in Ireland to visit elderly care and Alzheimer’s facilities.

Lauren, an elementary education major and member of the Lee Honors College, credits WMU with giving her a second place to call home and granting her with opportunities to get involved on campus and with the community. She recently participated in the Alternative Spring Break where she volunteered at Give Kids the World, a resort for children with life-threatening illnesses and was inducted into the honors fraternity, Alpha Lambda Delta.

Although Scott is still in high school, he has been taking classes at WMU since the seventh grade as part of the Academically Talented Youth Program. He is now dual-enrolled at WMU and says he is thoroughly enjoying his classes. Scott’s experience at WMU has solidified his decision to become an International Relations/Political Science major.

WMU faculty member and alumna Dr. Heather McGee and her business partner Dr. Lori Ludwig, also a Western Michigan University graduate, were honored with the Geary Rummler Award for the Advancement of Performance Improvement for their work at Performance Blueprints, Inc. This award, presented by the International Society for Performance Improvement, honors individuals and/or organizations who have demonstrated and reflect the work and life of its namesake. This award is designated for thought leaders who demonstrate outstanding performance with documented results and selfless sharing.

Performance Blueprints, Inc. is dedicated to disseminating the science of behavior and organizational performance improvement through workshops, talks, book chapters and journal articles. Ludwig and McGee were initially inspired by the work of Geary Rummler while getting their doctorates at WMU under the guidance of their mentors Dale Brethower, Alyce Dickinson and Maria Malott. As they began consulting and teaching, they continuously tried to find ways to consolidate their learnings into user-friendly tools for clients and students. They are grateful to have had the opportunity to learn from the masters and are committed to carrying the torch forward to advance the field.

The Graduate College has awarded the following College of Arts and Sciences students with awards. Of eight All-University Graduate Teachers awards, seven were selected from the College of Arts and Sciences. They are: Andrea Bierema, Mallinson Institute for Science Education; Franklin Cline, English; Jack Goodman, history; Elizabeth Hiscox, English; Jennifer Marson, sociology; Michael Romano, political science; Rachael Tilka, psychology. Of five All-University Graduate Research and Creative Scholars awards, four were selected from the College of Arts and Sciences. They are: Traci Brimhall, English; Kevin Douglass, chemistry; Min Tang, philosophy; Samanthi Wickramarachchi, physics.

The Center of African Development Policy Research (CADPR) at WMU, in collaboration with the Haenicke Institute for Global Education and the Department of Economics announce a call for papers on “The Challenges of Good Governance and Leadership for Sustainable Development in African States” for the 8th International Conference on African Development. The ICAD will be held Aug. 14-16 in 2028 Brown Hall. Submit abstracts (250 words) via ScholarWorks by June 1. An abstract for all accepted papers will be published. Selected papers will be reviewed for publication in CADPR’s e-journal, International Journal of African Development. The conference is open to the public.

The Department of Gender and Women’s Studies will receive the 2014 Bronco Pride Campus Advocacy Award. This award recognizes a department, office, or registered student organization that has demonstrated exceptional leadership in the area of LBGTA-inclusion at WMU by advocating for and fostering a safe and welcoming environment for all people. The Department of Gender and Women’s Studies:

- Demonstrates an enduring commitment to support and advocate for LBGTA individuals and LBGTA-initiatives on campus
- Welcomes all members of campus inclusive of sexual orientation and gender identity
- Provides leadership in the area of LBGTA-inclusion

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• Strives to create organizational and/or institutional change that promotes LBGTA-inclusion
• Actively challenges structures that perpetuate institutional oppression for LBGTA people
• Shares Office of Diversity and Inclusion vision which encompasses inclusion, acceptance, respect, and empowerment

**FACULTY AND STAFF ACCOLADES**

The College of Arts and Sciences is pleased to announce the recipients of the 2013-14 Faculty Achievement Awards, Staff Excellence Awards, Diversity and Inclusion Recognition Award and Gender Scholar Award. This year we recognized 13 individuals for their exemplary contributions to the College of Arts and Sciences. Each honoree received his/her award on March 20 at the University Center for the Humanities.

- Professional and Community Service: Dr. Philip Egan, Department of English
- Research and Creative Activity: Dr. William C. Olsen, Department of English and Dr. Benjamin Torres Caballero, Department of Spanish
- Teaching: Dr. Jennifer Machiorlatti, School of Communication and Dr. Michael Ryan, Department of Economics
- Global Engagement: Dr. Jeffrey M. Angles, Department of World Languages and Literatures and Dr. James Butterfield, Department of Political Science
- Staff Excellence Award: Ms. Jacquelyn Bizzell, CAS Undergraduate Advising; Ms. Dorilee Schieble, Department of History; Ms. Heather White, Mallinson Institute for Science Education
- Diversity and Inclusion Recognition Award: Dr. Sisay Asefa, Department of Economics and Dr. David Huffman, Department of Chemistry
- Gender Scholar Award recipient: Dr. Jean Kimmel, Department of Economics

On April 14, two College of Arts and Sciences employees were honored during the spring semiannual Western Michigan University Make a Difference award ceremony. The Make a Difference award is a campus-wide peer-to-peer program that recognizes university staff for their outstanding accomplishments and daily investment of energy and creativity. Mary Lou Brooks, office coordinator for the Department of Geography and Tammi Smith, academic advisor for CAS were applauded for their service to WMU.

Brooks was nominated by colleagues and the students she serves. She patiently explains daunting grant processes and is well-known for listening to students with both academic and personal issues. In addition to her care and concern for students, Brooks expertly supports faculty and staff and often develops new ideas for promoting the Department of Geography.

Like Brooks, Smith was nominated by colleagues and the students she advises. She is highly organized and works well with various departments across campus. She has identified improvements to the advising process each year and colleagues credit her with making WMU better for its students. Smith embodies the pride as an employee and as an alumna, as she earned her bachelor’s and master’s degrees from WMU.

Every fall and spring, awards are presented to a maximum of 15 people. Recipients get a certificate and a pre-tax prize of $300. Semiannual award winners are then eligible for one of four annual Make a Difference awards that includes a pre-tax prize of $1200. Award

Continued on next page
Prism: Western Michigan University's Newsletter for Academic Affairs

Winners are selected by a committee of peers from the participating employee groups of AFSCME, APA, MSEA, POA, and PSSO.

As an expression of concern by scientists and conservationists, a letter was delivered to President Obama regarding the decline of monarch butterflies. Among the researchers who signed this letter was WMU professor of biological sciences, Dr. Stephen Malcolm.

The huge decline in monarch numbers appears to be an indicator of problems with agricultural policy in the US and Canada and deforestation in Mexico. The number of monarch butterflies wintering in Mexican pine and fir forests has plunged to its lowest level since studies began in 1993. The butterflies this year covered just 0.68 hectares (1.65 acres), providing evidence that the monarch’s annual migration from Canada to Mexico is disappearing.

“The overwintering decline to less than a hectare is truly alarming,” Malcolm says. “There’s a lot of buzz on the Internet about this decline, the reasons for it and the implications of such a huge decline.” Overwintering monarchs in Mexico have gone from covering about 21 hectares in 1996-97 to about 0.68 to 0.67 hectares this winter, Malcolm says. Last year, the butterflies covered about 1.21 hectares, almost double the total this winter. Malcolm says the monarchs have been weathering a perfect storm of adverse factors, including habitat destruction, wider use of genetically modified, herbicide resistant corn and soybeans and extreme weather. The decline is alarming because they are a good indicator of broad, ecosystem imbalances caused by policies that need to be researched and regulated more effectively.

Migratory monarchs move across the landscape of NAFTA and are the symbol of the CEC, the environmental component of NAFTA, based in Montréal. Thus, the butterfly should act as a symbol of responsible and sustainable economic development. Instead it is a symbol of serious environmental degradation in which not only monarchs are declining but so are pollinators and other beneficial insects such as predators and parasitoids of agricultural pests. Visit our website for more details.

The Professional Instructors Organization at Western Michigan University has selected two members of the College of Arts and Sciences as recipients of the inaugural Outstanding Administrator Award. Dr. Alexander Enyedi, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences and Dr. Jonathan Bush, chair of the Department of English are the first WMU administrators to receive this distinction.

An organization of part-time faculty, PIO encourages WMU administrators to:

- promote teaching effectiveness
- include part-time faculty in governance decisions
- provide sufficient support, resources and encouragement

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• recognize and reward excellent performance

Dean Enyedi was selected in recognition of his commitment to part-time faculty, evidenced by this year’s introduction of the College of Arts and Sciences Part-Time Instructor Excellence in Teaching Awards. According to one faculty member, “Dean Enyedi has done a great job at communicating with PIO on a number of issues concerning part-time instructors. He always seems willing to meet with us to either keep us informed or to discuss our concerns. There are few awards given on campus that part-timers can participate in. The College of Arts and Sciences, through Dean Enyedi’s leadership, created an award specifically for part-time instructors. This type of action speaks volumes to me.”

Dr. Bush was also selected for his proven commitment to part-time faculty. Since becoming chair, he has made a strong effort to include part-timers in department and committee meetings. He has maintained close ties to PIO, informing them when budget concerns threatened the number of people employed by the department. One faculty member states, “Dr. Bush consistently treats part-time employees as if they were of the same caliber of tenured faculty. He always makes himself available for a question, concern or even just a conversation.”

The Western Michigan University College of Arts and Sciences is proud to announce its first winners of the Part-Time Instructor Excellence in Teaching Award. This award acknowledges significant contributions to the learning environment by part-time instructors and is based on an accumulated record of achievement as a teacher at WMU as evidenced, for example, by student evaluations, peer and supervisor feedback, and letters of support. The 2013-14 Part-Time Instructor Excellence in Teaching Award winners are: Dr. Britt Hartenberger, Department of Anthropology; Dr. Hedy Habra, Department of Spanish; and Mr. David Paul, Department of Philosophy.
The Office of Military and Veterans Affairs would like to offer a huge thank you to veteran students, faculty, staff, and supporters who attended the Military Mixer on March 25. With more than 60 attendees, the event was a great way for people to get to know one another. President Dunn, Provost Greene and many others from the university came out to support our veterans. Thank you!
Dr. John Kapenga, a computer science associate professor, first saw the Albert Einstein sculpture at the 2012 Grand Rapids Art Fair. He and his wife originally wanted to purchase the 1.2 times life-size sculpture, entitled “Between Theorems” and created by Montana artist Jim Dolan, to install on their own property. After acquiring the sculpture and considering the options for displaying it, Kapenga and his wife decided to donate it for installation in front of the College of Engineering and Applied Sciences. “Having it outside the main entrance to CEAS gives so many more people the opportunity to view and appreciate the sculpture,” said Kapenga. He has already made Einstein the mascot of the High Performance Computational Science Laboratory (HPCS) and has used him for two conferences and plans to use him for many more HPCS events. There are future plans to install LED lighting and dedicated solar energy panels.

The Engineering Economy Division of the Institute of Industrial Engineers (IIE) recently announced Dr. Kailash Bafna as the inaugural winner of an award to recognize excellence in teaching Engineering Economy. The selection committee stated that among many high quality nominations, Dr. Bafna greatly impressed them with his teaching passion and innovations. The announcement will be posted at the IIE Economy division homepage and the award will be presented at the Annual IIE Conference in Montreal. Dr. Bafna, a professor in WMU’s Industrial and Manufacturing department, will also present at the IIE event.
Dr. Kristina Lemmer, assistant professor in the Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering department, explained that the objective of her project is to determine the behavior of ionic liquids when they are subjected to plasma discharges or used as the propellant in plasma discharges. Understanding vaporization and ionization processes, methods by which ionic liquids break molecular bonds, reactions, species concentrations, and plasma surface interactions is required to develop a complete knowledge of the dynamics of complex molecular plasma chemistry. The approach of the project is to combine experimental and numerical modeling methods to understand the processes and surface interactions of complex molecular dynamics of ionic propellant plasma chemistry. The AFOSR program awarded a total of $15.5 million to 42 engineers and scientists from 32 research institutions through their Young Investigators Research Program (YIP). The goal of this program is to foster creative basic research in science and engineering, enhance early career development of outstanding young investigators, and increase opportunities for the young investigators to recognize the Air Force mission. Visit AFOSR’s website for more information and the entire list of recipients, research areas, and institutions.

WMU’s Industrial Manufacturing department will be recommended to the Foundry Educational Foundation (FEF) board of directors in April to be fully recertified for a 5-year term. The 5-year term is the best recertification evaluation given by FEF. Dr. Sam Ramrattan received high scores for his efforts with high school and college students and industry leaders. In particular, high marks were given to Dr. Ramrattan for having his undergrads exposed to graduate research, industry events and getting his students excited about metal casting. Dr. Ramrattan is the key professor for the FEF program at WMU.

The next certification evaluation will be scheduled for the 2019-20 school year.

STUDENT AND ALUMNI ACCOLADES

Congratulations to Veronica Maslanka, who won the second place award at the student paper competition hosted by the Michigan section of Institute of Transportation Engineers (ITE). Maslanka’s stated goal was to conduct a safety analysis of rural two lane highways. M-43, a rural two lane highway in Southwest Michigan, was chosen as a primary example to conduct the safety analysis. Accident data from a six year period (2007-12) was collected from the Michigan Department of Transportation’s (MDOT) Transportation Planning Department. Along with safety analysis, there was also a comparison of two lane and four lane rural highways.

In order to conduct an accurate comparison of two lane versus four lane highways, the two compared segments of roadway had the same posted speed limit and were both relatively straight with a controlled segment length of each approximately ten feet. The roadways also had roughly the same crash mean speed and environmental conditions. With these controlled features, the comparison of the number of lanes could be accurately analyzed. Once the analysis and comparison were complete, there were different recommendations to help reduce the amount of crashes on M-43. Veronica’s paper will also be reviewed at the District level.
Engineering seniors with excellent grade point averages were recognized during the Outstanding Students luncheon at the College of Engineering and Applied Sciences. 14 students received awards for achievement in their individual fields of study. In turn, the students recognized CEAS professors who have greatly impacted their educational experiences. Congratulations seniors.

According to Fred Sitkins, one of the Sunseeker team advisors, the Chrysler Technology Center (CTC) has once again invited the Sunseeker team to exchange ideas about the development of the next generation of Sunseeker. The team spent most of an entire day in engineering design meetings. A group of 35 engineering students from other institutions joined the Sunseeker team for a tour of the CTC test and development laboratories. They toured hot and cold test cells as well as the wind tunnel. This may become an annual event for the team. The result is concurrent engineering practiced in a real world setting along with opportunities for internships and full time positions.

Tau Beta Pi recognizes students that demonstrate “distinguished scholarship and exemplary character” across all engineering disciplines. There are 242 collegiate chapters of Tau Beta Pi in the US. The Michigan Kappa Chapter at WMU has earned national recognition for its service to the College of Engineering and Applied Sciences and the community. Twenty students were initiated this semester. Provost and Tau Beta member Timothy Greene welcomed the new members at a celebratory banquet held on the Parkview Campus.

~ Contributed by Damon Miller

Listed alphabetically: Kyle Croes, Courtney Curry, Thomas Eldred, Lars Hoffbeck, David Innes, Samuel McDaniel, Tracy Ondracek, Amy Valley and Joe Vermeersch. Not pictured: Cody Huffmaster, Timothy Lewis, James Lind, Andreas Quainoo and Katherine Stickels.

Spring 2014 new Tau Beta Pi members. ~ Photo by Oscar Munoz
Greg Roehrick Distinguished Professor: Steve Wolfinbarger, professor of music. Wolfinbarger was selected as the 2013 Michigan Professor of the Year by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching and the Council for Advancement and Support of Education in Washington, D.C. He was also a recipient of the 2010 WMU Distinguished Teaching Award.

Excellence in Teaching: Loften L. Durham, professor of theatre. Durham's articles on medieval performance have won prizes from two different scholarly associations, and he currently serves as a Councilor of the Medieval and Renaissance Drama Society, as well as on the Boards of WMU's University Center for the Humanities and the Medieval Institute.

Excellence in Creative Research: Ed Roth, professor of music. Roth currently serves as professor of music therapy, coordinator of clinical experiences, and director of the laboratory for Brain Research and Interdisciplinary Neurosciences (BRAIN lab). He specializes in the application of music in the treatment of neurologic and psychiatric disorders and his current research examines the neural correlates and physiology of music improvisation.

Excellence in Service: Jane Baas, chair, department of dance. Baas led the department of dance as chair five times between 1983 and 2014. She served on the boards of the Michigan Dance Association and the American College Dance Festival Association as well as the editorial board of the Journal for Dance Medicine and Science. Baas also chairs the media committee for the International Association for Dance Medicine and Science (IADMS). Baas received the 2007 College of Fine Arts Dean's Teaching Award.

Excellence in Teaching, Part Time: Sydnee Peters, instructor of art. Peters has been a part-time instructor in Foundations area for the Frostic School of Art since 1986. An image-maker, she thinks of her work as visual poems. She has practiced the craft of writing poetry for over twenty years and her current works bring the two mediums together.

Outstanding Staff: Kathleen Keckler, office coordinator, Frostic School of Art. In addition to her role as office coordinator and budget manager for the Frostic School of Art, Keckler is a successful artist who exhibits locally and has participated as a contestant for ArtPrize. Kecker retires from WMU in May after 17 years of employment.
To honor Dean Emeritus Robert H. Luscombe’s vision of promoting interdisciplinary collaboration in the arts, the College of Fine Arts produced Picture Us, a student conceived and developed interdisciplinary performance project that brought together students and faculty from WMU’s Department of Theatre, Department of Dance, and School of Music. Funded through the Luscombe Collaborative Projects Endowment, the creative event was presented in the Dalton Center’s Multi-Media Room on April 12 to an audience of friends and family of Dean Emeritus Luscombe.

Directed by Alex Langmesser (theatre) and choreographed by Bree McCormack (dance), the collaboration shared the age-old story of youthful love through a mix of live performance, shadow dancing, and original music and sound design. The piece was performed by Sophie Scanlon (theatre), Francisco Posada (theatre), Izzabella Irwin (dance), and Sam Crouch (dance). Music was performed live by the ensemble Blue Cheddar under the direction of Thomas Hanawalt (music). The Luscombe Collaborative Project is an annual performance event produced by the College of Fine Arts dedicated to strengthening interdisciplinary collaboration across the college.

The Center for Gerontology is selling the book, *There is No Substitute for Victory: Remembrances of World War II*. This colorful book is based on interviews conducted by students in Gerontology 3500, “Issues in Aging: Service Learning,” in spring 2013. The book was edited by Janet Hahn, coordinator of the Center for Gerontology and assistant professor in the School of Interdisciplinary Health Programs, and addresses family life, rationing, communication, patriotism, recipes and much more from the World War II Era. Copies of the book can be purchased online for $20 from the WMU Center for Disability Services Online Store. For more information, please contact the Center for Gerontology at (269) 387-9600.

Dr. Fred Sammons, an occupational therapist widely recognized as an accomplished clinician, inventor, and philanthropist, recently announced the establishment of what will become, by 2018, a $1 million endowment to support the Sammons Center for Innovation and Research in Occupation Based Technology. Development of this departmental center is currently under the co-direction of Dr. Sammons and Department of Occupational Therapy chair Dr. Ben Atchison. A skilled ensemble of board members has also been instrumental in shaping the center’s mission, philosophy and direction.

The philosophy of the Sammons Center is that the ability to participate and engage in everyday occupation is a fundamental goal and basic right for all persons. Research in technology must be transformative so that the outcome enables a better way to live, with or without a disability. The mission of the Sammons Center is to provide an opportunity for visionaries to promote progress in occupation through technology, and to bring together an inter-professional team of persons and organizations that have the interest and expertise to support visionaries to create, design, disseminate, and evaluate specific products.

The first major initiative of the Sammons Center is a logo contest where creative students and professionals can submit a graphic that may be selected as the center’s logo. The center has also put out a Request for Proposals for innovative, transformative ideas for occupation based products that have the potential for meeting the stated philosophy and purpose of the center. Entries will be reviewed and judged by the Sammons Center board, and selected entries will receive one of several $1,000 awards in 2014-15. For more information, visit [wmich.edu/occupationtechnologycenter](http://wmich.edu/occupationtechnologycenter).

Dolly Daftary, assistant professor in the School of Social Work, has published a single-authored article based on her original field research in South Asia in Community Development Journal. “The politics of person, property and technology: Emergent development practice in semi-arid communities in India” is the first multi-level study of one of the world’s largest development interventions for semi-arid areas, regions inhabited by the greatest proportion of the global poor. Drawing upon multi-level ethnography, Daftary describes how, following economic globalization, national governments’ development policies for semi-arid areas have shifted in terms of the populations of their focus, the landscapes to which they channel resources, and the technological choices they deploy for improvement. Through a case study of India, Daftary discusses how governments resolve the contradictions of potentially
adverse policy actions. The article was one of 20% of all papers accepted by the journal for publication in the year, and can be accessed on the journal’s website. Daftary is also a member of the organizing committee of the Eighth International Conference on African Development (ICAD) hosted by the Center of African Development Policy Research (CADPR). The conference will be held at WMU on August 14-16 and will cover The Challenges of Good Governance and Leadership for Sustainable Development in African States. WMU faculty and graduate students are welcome to submit a 250-word abstract by June 1, 2014 via the conference webpage in ScholarWorks.

On March 28, Rachel Whitney, graduate student in speech-language pathology, and Catherine Hearit, undergraduate major in speech pathology and audiology, presented their research at the 71st annual meeting of the American Cleft Palate-Craniofacial Association in Indianapolis.

Ms. Whitney presented her master’s thesis project “The influence of speaking rate on nasalance in typical adult speakers,” and Ms. Hearit presented her undergraduate honors thesis project “Unsteady nasalance traces among sustained vowels in typical adult speakers: Prevalence and potential causes.” Speech pathology and audiology faculty members Dr. Stephen Tasko, Dr. Helen Sharp and Dr. Greg Flamme were co-authors and co-presenters on both of these presentations. In addition, Ms. Whitney was appointed to the association’s Task Force on Communication, charged with developing Web, social media, and online professional communities within the association.

Congratulations to Dr. Richard Long, former College of Health and Human Services associate dean and professor in the Department of Blindness and Low Vision Studies, who was selected as one of only two Peer Reviewers of the Year for the Journal of Visual Impairment and Blindness (JVIB) for 2013. JVIB is the “journal of record” in visual impairment and blindness and is published by the American Foundation for the Blind. The JVIB will carry the list of Peer Reviewers for the year and include Dr. Long’s name as one of the recipients of this award.

On Feb. 28, Janet Hahn, Ph.D., coordinator of the Center for Gerontology and assistant professor in the School of Interdisciplinary Health Programs presented “Service Learning through Interviews about the World War II Era,” at the annual meeting of the Association for Gerontology in Higher Education in Denver, CO.

Specialty Program in Alcohol and Drug Abuse assistant professor, Dr. Tiffany Lee recently published an article based on her qualitative research pertaining to the aspects of addiction training required for master’s level counselor education students. Dr. Lee determined the best practices considered by experts in the addiction counseling field, who are also faculty in various counselor education programs around the nation. The publication citation is Lee, T. K. (2014). Addiction education and training for counselors: A qualitative study of five experts. Journal of Addictions and Offender Counseling, 35(2).
Western Michigan University’s Department of Speech Pathology and Audiology had the opportunity to applaud the exemplary academic achievements of graduate students **Ann Lamons** and **Alissa Haan** at the 75th annual conference for the Michigan Speech-Language-Hearing Association in March. They were among a small group of students from across the state to receive the scholarship, funded by the Michigan Speech-Language-Hearing Foundation.

Ms. Lamons, who graduated with her master’s degree in speech-language pathology in April 2014, stated, “My education at Western Michigan University has been both challenging and rewarding. I completed my undergraduate coursework in speech-language pathology at WMU as well. The faculty here is outstanding and the opportunities offered have been extremely beneficial.”

Ms. Haan will continue with another year of coursework in audiology. Of her experience, she said, “My favorite clinical practicum study thus far has been at an ear nose throat office, because every day brings something new, due to the wide variety of patients that come in for different services. Also I really enjoy learning to do balance testing.”

Established in 2006, the Michigan Speech-Language-Hearing Foundation is committed to providing scholarships for students pursuing professional degrees in the fields of communication disorders, including speech-language pathology, audiology and/or deaf education within Michigan public universities. Advancing the study of communication disorders by supporting the future and investing in tomorrow is its mission.
UPCOMING EVENTS

An opening for artist Gay Walker’s exhibit “My Mother’s Nature” was held on April 16 and will be on display in the College of Health and Human Services second floor art gallery through May 21. Walker is an art therapist and coordinator of the Integrative Holistic Health and Wellness program in the College of Health and Human Services. Her mother, an accomplished artist who inspired and influenced her greatly, died in 2012 at age 98. Walker states, “During her life, Mom constantly guided my eyes to see and appreciate the beauty of nature. This exhibit honors her and Mother Nature, the master artist.” Although she is no longer here physically, Walker connects with her mother as if she is seeing through her eyes and perspective on nature. The work in the exhibit is colorful and covers themes of water, landscape and animals; a few of the paintings were done during the last week of her mother’s life. “I have painted many of her themes,” says Walker, “almost like walking in her footsteps, and it has brought me closer to her and her way of seeing.” Walker holds a degree in holistic art therapy from Antioch University and a holistic health certificate from Western. She earned a bachelor’s degree in graphic design and advertising from Michigan State University. In addition to teaching at Western since 1996, she has taught at the Kalamazoo Institute of Arts and the West Michigan Glass Arts Center. She also offers workshops, retreats and presentations related to healing and expressive arts. “My Mother’s Nature” can be viewed by the public Monday through Thursday, 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. and Fridays and Saturdays, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., excluding April 26 and May 3 and 24. For more information, contact Gay Walker at (269) 387-3839 or gay.walker@wmich.edu.
College of Aviation assistant professor, Lori Brown reveals innovative research results “Effects of Light Intervention to improve Flight Crew Alertness” at the World Aviation Training Conference, the world’s biggest gathering of aviation professionals. Brown and undergraduate research assistants, Troy Booker and Travis Davis presented the study funded by FRACAA.

The study was an international collaboration with Airline participants, WMU, Jeppesen a Boeing Company, and leading Olympic sleep scientist, to examine whether timed bright light could improve alertness and mitigate cognitive fatigue (as seen with gold medal Olympic athletes) to improve performance. Portable blue light units, the Jeppesen Crew Alert application, and sleep actigraphy, and were introduced in a field study with international long haul pilots and cabin crew in this ground breaking research (which may lead to improved performance through the development of new preventive alertness strategies and fatigue risk management training programs). The research results have been published in several academic journals and will be featured at the Society of Light Therapy and Biorhythms meeting in Vienna, The Probabilistic Safety Assessment & Management conference in risk management, in Hawaii, and the European Aviation Psychology Symposium, in Malta.

Students Shelbi Tierney, and James Fox, also represented WMU on an International Panel to explore the issues surrounding the use of Mobile and elearning in aviation training which produced lively discussions with industry professionals. Bryan Cheng, Spencer Losinski, Preston Mayes, and Jessica Kain also accompanied Lori Brown to the conference, and participated in breakout session discussions. This was excellent opportunity for students to engage with industry professionals to network and prepare for their future careers.
STUDENT AND ALUMNI ACCOLADES

On April 3 at the Fetzer Center, aviation students heard from and networked with leading aviation professionals at a first-ever event called Students and Professionals in Aviation (SPA). The event was geared toward students in all aviation majors and was attended by almost 100 individuals.

Keynote speakers were Mr. James Harasin, director of marketing at Sports Management Inc. and Major Jennifer Prichard, ANG pilot. Breakout speakers included corporate pilot, Jay Orwin, director of aviation at MASCO; Captain William Bates, Delta Airlines; Chief Pilot Steve Denomme, Endeavor Air; Captain Todd Haifley; Mr. Paul Fancey, director of maintenance, Dow Chemical; Mr. William Cunningham, account representative, Continental Motors; Ms. Janet Poppei, president, Oakland Jet; Mr. David Reid, airport manager, BC/Kalamazoo International Airport.

The following day, Career and Student Employment Services and the College of Aviation hosted the annual Aviation Outlook Day at W.K. Kellogg Airport in Battle Creek. There was record attendance by aviation employers and WMU students. Students met with over 32 aviation company and organization representatives, many of whom were WMU graduates. Aviation students connected with organizations and area professionals associated with the aviation industry, discussed career options, learned about the industry needs, their organizations, answered questions and promoted available internships and career pathways.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Throughout 2014, WMU’s College of Aviation will mark its 75th year offering what has become one of the top collegiate aviation programs in the world. The college’s three undergraduate degree programs date back to 1939 when WMU jumped headlong into what was still an area of study and an industry in its infancy. The Wright brothers’ first sustained flight had only taken place 36 years earlier in 1903, the year WMU was founded. In 1939, the Michigan State Board of Education authorized and approved Western Michigan to offer a two-year, non-degree curriculum in Vocational Aviation Mechanics designed to prepare students for positions as licensed airplane mechanics, licensed engine mechanics, airplane factory mechanics and pilot mechanics. That same year, WMU began offering the ground school portion of the Civilian Pilot Training program, sponsored by the federal government, with the flight portion of the program contracted out. Both the mechanics programs and the
Pilot training initiative were under the direction of Elmer C. “Buck” Weaver. By 1947, WMU had established a four-year bachelor’s degree curriculum called air transportation, and by 1955, the University started its own flight-training program at the Plainwell, MI airport. The Kalamazoo airport was the program’s home from 1959 to 1997, when it moved to W.K. Kellogg Airport in Battle Creek, MI. In 1999, WMU’s aviation programs were organized into the College of Aviation - WMU’s seventh degree-granting college.

The following is a list of upcoming activities by month to commemorate this great milestone:

- Sky Broncos Flight team competition (May 12-17)
- Aviation Maintenance Technical Day (May 24)
- 4th Annual College of Aviation Golf Outing (June 7)
- Student Activity Week (June 30 – July 4)
- EAA Airventure (Oshkosh) (July 28 – Aug. 3)
- Fly-In and Pancake Breakfast (Sept. 27)
- Celebration Gala, including Hall of Honor inductee ceremony and Diversity in Aviation award presentation (Oct. 24)

Dr. Stephen E. Craig, associate professor and unit director of the counselor education program in the Department of Counselor Education and Counseling Psychology has recently been elected as president-elect of the North Central Association for Counselor Education and Supervision (NCACES). NCACES is one of five regional associations of the Association for Counselor Education and Supervision (ACES), the preeminent professional organization for counselor educators. NCACES Members represent the 13 states of Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, South Dakota, and Wisconsin. Dr. Craig’s term as president-elect will begin on July 1, 2014.

Carla Adkison-Johnson, a professor in the Department of Counselor Education and Counseling Psychology, and her colleague, law professor Cynthia Debose (Stetson University Law School) have recently had a paper accepted for presentation at the National Child Welfare, Juvenile and Family Law Conference. Debose is a graduate of Harvard Law School and a scholar in the area of family law. Adkison-Johnson’s presentation will center on her current research regarding African American child disciplinary practices and consultation activities involving family and criminal court. Their presentation and current project is the first in the field of law and psychology to articulate the legal definition of child discipline in all 50 states and its implications for African American parents.
Counselor Education and Counseling Psychology assistant professor Dr. Stephanie Burns co-presented a one hour interactive national CEU webinar hosted by Chi Sigma Iota International titled “The Role of Clinical Supervisors in the Formation of Professional Identity in Developing Counselors.” Dr. Burns was also invited to be the featured spring 2014 induction banquet speaker for the Theta Chapter of Chi Sigma Iota at Oakland University. Chi Sigma Iota is the international honor society for counselors in training, counselor educators, and professional counselors.

Dr. Jill M. Hermann-Wilmarth in the Department of Teaching Learning, and Educational Studies and her co-author, Dr. Caitlin L. Ryan, assistant professor in the Department of Literacy Studies, English Education, and History Education at East Carolina University were honored to receive the Article of the Year Award from the American Educational Research Association’s Queer Studies Special Interest Group at AERA’s annual meeting in Philadelphia. They received this honor for their 2013 article in the Journal of Literacy Research entitled “Already on the Shelf: Queer Readings of Award-Winning Children’s Literature.” The article was nominated for the award by a diverse team of scholars, several of whom reported already using it as the basis for further research and/or as reading material for their teacher education classes.

Jennipher Wiebold, Ph.D., CRC, was appointed by Governor Rick Snyder to the Michigan Council for Rehabilitation Services. Housed within the Michigan Department of Human Services, the 17-member council reviews and evaluates Michigan’s rehabilitation programs and services, and advises the department director and governor. The council works in partnership with Michigan Rehabilitation Services and the Michigan Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs’ Bureau of Services for Blind Persons. Dr. Wiebold will represent disability advocacy groups as a member of the Michigan Council for Rehabilitation Services. Dr. Wiebold has held a number of national leadership positions that will support her work on the MCRS, including; president of the National Rehabilitation Counseling Association; and chairperson for the rehabilitation counseling division of AER. Dr. Wiebold is a fellow of the National Rehabilitation Counseling Association.

Alumni accepts director’s position Candi Bush, a graduate of the family studies program in the Department of Family and Consumer Sciences has recently accepted a director’s position in the Michigan Department of Community Health. Bush will be starting as the director of Michigan’s Family Center for Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs (commonly known as the Family Center) at the end of April. Bush, in her current role as director of Parent-to-Parent of SW Michigan has been a member of the WMU Family Studies Advisory Board.
Mr. Nasoor Bin Mold Nasiruddin (M.A. 2013) and Mr. Ben Conklin (B.S. 2014) flank Dr. Deb Berkey, professor in the department of Human Performance and Health Education (HPHE, at the Society for Health and Physical Education (formerly AAHPERD) National Convention held in April. The trio presented a peer-reviewed session entitled “Remote Supervision for Physical Educators using iPads.” The system is being piloted in the WMU Physical Education teacher education program. Nasiruddun, graduate of the Pedagogy M.A. program, is a doctoral assistant at Texas A&M. Conklin and will graduate in April after completing his intern teaching experience in the Gull Lake Community Schools.

ENROLLMENT MANAGEMENT

ITEMS OF ACADEMIC INTEREST

For many years, Michigan transfer students have relied on the Michigan Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers (MACRAO) Articulation Agreement to transfer core college courses between Michigan institutions. In 2012, the Michigan legislature proposed a revision to the existing MACRAO Articulation Agreement to remove barriers and improve the process. A committee, comprised of representatives from the Michigan Community College Association, the Presidents Council State Universities of Michigan, and MACRAO discussed and developed the guiding principles and recommendations on which the revised, newly-named “Michigan Transfer Agreement” (MTA) is based. WMU signed the MTA in December as a receiving institution. The MTA will take effect for community college students who begin their studies in fall 2014. Students who started prior to fall 2014 can complete the existing MACRAO Agreement through 2019. WMU will continue to honor the MACRAO Agreement whenever a student’s transcript shows that the MACRAO Agreement was previously satisfied. The MACRAO organization is leading implementation of the MTA.

In April, information sessions for university staff have been held at eight different college sites throughout Michigan, including WMU. Both the MTA and the MACRAO Agreement require a minimum of 30 hours of coursework completed across select core subject areas. Students planning to transfer to WMU are encouraged to check with their colleges to determine what transfer courses are approved for inclusion in the MTA and for information to request an evaluation and MTA endorsement on their transcript. Visit the MACRAO organization’s website for information about the MTA, or go to the Office of Admissions site at to learn how WMU recognizes this agreement. The WMU page includes a form for submitting questions about how the MTA transfers to WMU.
Congratulations to **Bonnie Ayers** of Bronco Express who recently received a Make a Difference award. Bonnie is the lead phone representative in Bronco Express, where she has worked for eight years. Make a Difference is a peer-to-peer program that recognizes staff for their exceptional services to the University. Bonnie was honored at the semiannual Make a Difference Awards reception on April 14, in the Bernhard Center.

In April, enrollment management master’s capstone student **Alex Susienka** presented a national webinar to the members of the National Association for College Admission Counseling (NACAC) on the topic of LGBT Recruitment. Alex spent the spring 2014 semester researching best practices and conducting an environmental scan. Susienka reviewed student development theories and supporting literature as well as practices surrounding college and university admissions applications criteria, campus-wide nondiscrimination and housing policies, and LGBT resource centers. All of this information and examples was shared in the context of presenting LGBT-friendliness during the recruitment and enrollment process.

WMU’s University-wide Common Read 2014-15 will be turning the spotlight on Yann Martel’s *Life of Pi*, winner of the 2002 Man Booker Prize. The Common Read begins the first week in June, when new students arrive on campus for orientation. First-Year Experience will be staging activities related to *Life of Pi* during Fall Welcome Week and will continue staging activities along with other campus departments and programs until April 2015. In addition, students registered for the First-Year Seminar will be reading the book for class.

The Center for Humanities will coordinate Yann Martel’s visit to WMU in fall 2014. The highlight of Martel’s visit will include a presentation titled “Healing Journeys: Crossing the Pacific, Dealing with Trauma” Oct. 23 in Miller Auditorium. University departments, groups and programs wishing to sponsor additional events should contact Miranda Howard at miranda.howard@wmich.edu for more information. Reading group kits will be available at the Waldo Library Access Services desk Monday, June 2. Each kit contains six copies of *Life of Pi*.
**Prism: Western Michigan University's Newsletter for Academic Affairs**

**Extended University Programs**

**Student and Alumni Accolades**

**Jasen Biczak**, WMU Muskegon student, has been named the Presidential Scholar Award recipient in Manufacturing Engineering for the 2013-14 school year. He was honored at a reception in March. Dr. **David Meade**, from the WMU Manufacturing Engineering Department said, “Jasen is an exceptional student in addition to being an impressive young man. He has been the model of professionalism in his communications, both written and verbal, as well as in his adherence to schedules for assignments and other course activities. This is all the more impressive when you realize the demands he is under in his career at Alcoa. He is obviously a key player in his area of expertise and relied on heavily for responsiveness to production challenges that threaten shipments, being called on frequently to travel across the country and outside the US to address production issues. It has been a pleasure and an honor to be a part of helping this young man achieve his dream in obtaining his BS in Engineering.” Upon completion of his undergraduate degree, Jasen would like to continue into a master’s program.

**Evaluation Center**

**Faculty and Staff Accolades**

**Dr. Chris Coryn**, director of the Interdisciplinary Ph.D. in Evaluation, has been selected as the recipient of the 2014 Distinguished Scholar Award by the Executive Committee of the American Education Research Association.

**Kelly Robertson** and Dr. **Daniela Schroeter** had their article, “Leveraging Appraisal Findings to Improve Evaluation Quality,” published in the Newsletter and Think Pieces section of the International Labour Organization’s website. It examines quality appraisals conducted of ILO EVAL’s independent project evaluation and makes recommendations for improvement of guidance documents and training materials. [Access the article here.](#)
The Evaluation Center received the John A. Seeley Friend of Evaluation Award from the Michigan Association for Evaluation on April 17.

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

Dr. Lori Wingate and Dr. Daniela Schroeter are presenting two workshops on evaluation at CDC University, the professional development program for employees of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in Atlanta, GA. The workshops are titled “Identifying Evaluation Questions” and “Data Interpretation in Program Evaluation.”

**GRADUATE COLLEGE**

**ITEMS OF ACADEMIC INTEREST**

For the past year, the WMU Graduate College has partnered with University Libraries and the WMU Center for the Humanities to create a Digital Humanities initiative on campus. Responding to a request from humanities graduate students to learn more about digital research and projects, Graduate College Social Media Specialist Ilse VanDonkelaar and Humanities Librarian Kate Langan co-moderated a working group in the Digital Humanities.

The group was open to students, faculty, staff, and administrators throughout the university, and was sponsored by the Center for the Humanities. The Center for the Humanities sponsors numerous interdisciplinary working groups that facilitate discussion in challenging and important topics in the humanities, and provide opportunities to move across disciplinary boundaries in academe. In fall 2013, the DH working group invited presentations on current DH research on campus, welcoming speakers Eve Salisbury (English), who presented her work on The Gower Project; Mitch Kachun (history), who discussed his work on the Michigan Manual of Freedmen’s Progress; and VanDonkelaar (English), who talked about her contribution to Allen Webb’s Literary Worlds website. Following these presentations, the working group led discussions of techniques for teaching with DH, and the challenges of bringing together separate offices and departments to work on digital projects. In spring 2014, the group met to develop a work-flow document and list of resources for participants looking to begin DH projects, which is available on the library’s Digital Humanities LibGuide site. The group is also planning a THATcamp (The Humanities and Technology Camp), an open “unconference” coinciding with the start of the International Congress on Medieval Studies on May 7. Finally, co-moderators VanDonkelaar and Langan are in the process of planning a future graduate-level course in the Digital Humanities under the aegis of the Graduate College.

GradTalks is a graduate student symposium designed and sponsored by the Graduate Student Advisory Committee at WMU. This program is similar to and is inspired by TEDTalks (more info). Here, WMU students will be able to present their research ideas, book reviews, journal articles, theses, and dissertations as well as travel to conferences and other exciting scholarly experiences.

Our GRADTalks have embraced the 10-minute, interactive presentation style and inclusive scope of TEDTalks. This program is designed to give students a chance to be published digitally in video media. Student presentations will be filmed and published on the Graduate Student Advisory Committee website for reference or future viewing.

In spring 2013 alone, GRADTalks featured students speaking about research in areas as diverse as dental anthropology, LGBT identity-creation in online forums, technology and disability studies, bacterial applications for curing cancers, education in Central American tribes, and the transitional experiences of international students. GRADTalks will start again in fall 2014, and the GSA will begin accepting applications for presentations in September. We welcome submissions from all disciplines. All graduate students who are registered at WMU full time or part time, main campus and extended university programs are eligible to present.

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present at GRADTalks. The Lee Honors College will host our presentations in its lounge and the talks will be open to the public each month. Seats will be reserved for graduate students and their guests who pre-register to attend.

STUDENT AND ALUMNI ACCOLADES

On April 17, Graduate Student Advisory Committee Chairperson Damon Chambers was recognized with the Arthur and Margaret Manske Outstanding Master’s Student in School Counseling Award. This award is given to recognize and honor outstanding master’s degree students in school counseling who have demonstrated potential for excellence in the profession. Dr. Arthur Manske was the first counselor educator to be hired in the College of Education. He served as the coordinator of the Counselor Education program from 1943 until 1964, and was very active in the field of school counseling and guidance. This endowed award was first given in 1975 upon the occasion of Dr. Manske’s retirement. His friends and colleagues established the award to recognize Dr. Manske’s significant leadership in school counseling.

Damon is pursuing a double master’s degree in Blindness and Low Vision Studies and School Counseling. He stays very busy with his roles as outstanding student and president of the Graduate Student Advisory Committee (soon to be Graduate Student Association). Damon is from Jamaica, where he received his bachelor’s degree in School Counseling and worked as the sole guidance counselor in a high school with 2500 students. He has acted as a low vision consultant for the Kalamazoo Valley Museum as well as been a graduate assistant in the Department of Blindness and Low Vision. His time since May 2013 has been taken up as a very active chair of GSAC. In this role he has brought the National Association of Graduate and Professional Schools Conference to Western Michigan University and joined a group of graduate students from WMU who have traveled to Washington D.C. to engage with legislators on issues of importance to students pursuing graduate degrees. We are proud to congratulate Damon on his latest accomplishments.

Adrienne Redding, graduate student assistant to Jennifer Holm, coordinator of theses and dissertations in the Graduate College, is leaving WMU at the end of spring semester. After a trip to Scotland, she will defend her dissertation on May 16.

Adrienne has been an invaluable addition to the Graduate College staff, performing numerous duties as part of her assistantship. She manages the processing and circulation of paperwork and forms, including permission to elect, committee appointment, extension requests, leave of absence, graduate faculty nomination, academic forgiveness, and others. She also creates and posts dissertation defense announcements, as well as confirms and records submissions of theses/dissertations for each graduation period. Adrienne also assists Jennifer by reviewing master’s theses for formatting compliance and sending revision requests to students; she also reviews corrections and submits to the coordinator. She generates end-of-semester reports including spreadsheets of doctoral and master’s graduates, commencement copy for the dean, and post-graduate contact information as well as processes and coordinates shipments of completed

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Adrienne Redding

Haolai (Lincoln) Jiang grew up in Jilin province in the northeast of China. After graduating from Renmin University of China (one of the top universities in China) in 2008, he came to WMU for his master’s degree in statistics. He has worked for the Graduate College in the Center for Research and Retention under the direction of Dr. Marianne Di Pierro for the last five years as he attained first his master’s and then his doctorate in statistics.

As statistical consultant, he met with graduate students from around the university to help with research questions regarding statistical analysis. He has successfully assisted over 110 WMU graduate students with their research for the dissertation and thesis. He plans to graduate with his doctorate in December 2014. In the meantime, he leaves in summer for an internship at Travelers Casualty and Property Insurance Company in Hartford, CT. There he will work in the Actuarial and Analytics Leadership Development Program, building and analyzing models to predict premiums based on the risks involved in various activities or situations in auto, home, and health insurance.

Lincoln is currently working on his dissertation, titled “Inference on Differences Between k Means for Data with Excess Zeros and Detection Limits.” The research primarily focuses on testing the differences among three or more groups of data with excess zeroes and detection limits. Such data sets are very common in medical studies. In his spare time, Lincoln likes to play bass guitar and watch soccer games. He would like to thank Dr. Di Pierro, all the professors in the Statistics department, all the staff members in the Graduate College, and his wife, Linlin.

Adrienne is obtaining her doctoral degree in English literature, with areas of specialty in linguistics, English Renaissance drama and literature, Shakespeare, and composition. Her dissertation is titled, “Wielding Eden: Early Modern Voices and the Appropriation of Paradise.” She has taught in the English department at WMU and for CELCIS. She currently teaches ENGL 3720 - Development of Modern English. Adrienne graduated with a bachelor’s and a master’s degree from Andrews University, has published one book review and acted as contributing reviewer for the 6th edition of Writing Analytically, published by Cengage Learning, 2006. She has made many presentations at professional conferences. Please join us in saying a fond farewell to Adrienne as she moves on and up.

Haolai (Lincoln) Jiang
Baochun (JoJo) Zhou is the recipient of the 2014 Thelma M. Urbick Outstanding Doctoral Student in Counselor Education Award. The award recognizes and honors outstanding doctoral students in Counselor Education. JoJo is a doctoral student in Counselor Education and Supervision who joined WMU in 2011. She holds a master’s degree in Marriage and Family Counseling from Governors State University, University Park, IL. During her studies at GSU, she received the Student of the Year Award from the Counseling department. Her cross-cultural working and living experiences in both China and the United States have cultivated her research interests in multicultural and diversity issues, and advocacy for marginalized groups of color. Her current research focuses are doctoral advising in counselor education, and parenting and socialization. She has received the NCACES Research Grant award from the North Central Association for Counselor Education and Supervision in 2013, the Graduate Student Travel Grant award from WMU in 2012 and 2013, the Association for Specialists in Group Work Volunteer Scholarship, and the International Student Panelist honor from American Counseling Association. In February, she was selected as a representative of the finest students in the College of Education and Human Development into CoEHD Case Statement. She also played a pivotal role in the program’s preparation of the self-study for re-accreditation from the Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs (CACREP). From 2012 to 2013, she had six peer reviewed, national and regional conference presentations.

HAWORTH COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

FACULTY AND STAFF ACCOLADES

Dr. Onur Arugaslan, associate professor of finance and commercial law, presented his paper titled “Evaluating Latin American ADRs Using Risk-Adjusted Performance Measures,” co-authored with Ajay Samant, University of North Florida, at the International Academic Research Conference in April.

Han and Targowski’s book grant

Dr. Bernard Han and Dr. Andrew Targowski, professors of business information systems, were recently awarded the third annual Timothy Light Center for Chinese Studies Research Grant for their book project, “Chinese Civilization in the 21st Century.” Han and Targowski will receive $3,000 to publish a book in English and Chinese. The volume provides a comprehensive historical review, inspection and evaluation of the state of Chinese civilizations in the 21st century in times of accelerated globalization, and how that will impact worldwide dynamics now and into the future. An interdisciplinary team composed of researchers from the United States, China and Europe (Poland), will contribute to the project to achieve a balance in approaches and judgments. It will compare Chinese civilizations to global counterparts in the areas of historiography, political science, culture study, economics and technology.


STUDENT AND ALUMNI ACCOLADES

A team WMU integrated supply management students finished third overall in February at the 2014 APICS Great Lakes District case competition in Downer’s Grove, Ill. Team members were Layla Farwana, of Kalamazoo, Mich., Justin Giola, of Clarkston, Mich., Michael Merling, of Jackson, Mich., Ashley Moyle, of Mattawan, Mich., Brendan Mulcahy, of Livonia, Mich., and Kyle Slott, of Wheaton, Ill. Part of the challenge for student teams was the short time frame allowed. Teams were given the case at 6 p.m. on a Friday and had to submit and be prepared to present their solution by 9 a.m. Saturday. The WMU team found ways to improve the operations of a fictitious company, Dazz Manufacturing. Not only did the improvements require a process analysis focus, but also financial analysis and validation of the optimal improvement method. Each team member came with a different experience base and was able to contribute to the ultimate success of the team.

Rosie Hall, an MBA student from Kalamazoo, was awarded the top prize of $1,500 at the second annual Pitch competition by providing a more efficient way to work with two-wheeled carts. She captured first place after presenting a three-minute pitch on Dolly Xtractor, a business she and her

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husband, Jeff, started. The stainless steel tool attaches to a shoe, allowing for a simple hook and pull of a dolly axle to easily release the platform underneath a stack of product.

Second place and a prize of $1,000 was awarded to a team of MBA students comprised of Elizabeth Mooney of Kalamazoo; Andrew Eaton of Albuquerque, NM; and Gabriella Vezzosi of Livonia, Mich. That team presented Savvy Dress Rentals, an upscale consignment boutique specializing in new and gently used fashion.

The $750 third place prize (and People’s Choice award) went to Jonathan Rhodes, industrial and entrepreneurial engineering major from Farmington Hills, Mich., who pitched his business idea GoAnywhere Sleeper, an affordable and secure way for off-road enthusiasts to comfortably sleep within a Jeep Wrangler.

ASSESSMENT OF STUDENT LEARNING

The University Assessment Steering Committee awarded the Haworth College of Business Academic Advising and Admissions Office the Assessment Excellence Unit Award. The award serves to recognize and showcase outstanding efforts in the area of assessment at WMU. The advising office received the award for their work with the Phoenix Program, a support program for at-risk pre-business and business students. Chris Robinson, assistant director of academic advising, and Geralyn Heystek, director of the career center for the Haworth College of Business, received the award at the 2014 Assessment in Action Day this past March. Robinson, Heystek and Betsy Drummer, director of academic advising, gave a presentation at the “High Impact Practices: Creating a Culture of Completion” Oakland Retention Conference in February titled “The Phoenix Project - an Intrusive Retention Initiative for At-Risk FTIAC and Dismissed/Readmitted Students.” Robinson and Heystek will also be presenting at the Michigan Academic Advising Association conference this May at Central Michigan University.

HAENICKE INSTITUTE FOR GLOBAL EDUCATION

ITEMS OF ACADEMIC INTEREST

WMU launched the new International Journal of African Development in the fall of 2013 in ScholarWorks. Spearheading this effort is chief editor Dr. Sisay Asefa, professor of economics at WMU. The editorial team assisting Asefa is Lisa Whittaker, M.A./M.S., associate professor of aviation; Dr. Dolly Daftary, assistant professor of social work; Dr. Menelik Geremew, assistant professor of economics at Kalamazoo College; Dr. Mariam Konate, associate professor of gender and women studies; Dr. Glinda Rawls, associate professor of counselor education and psychology; and doctoral student assistant editors Daniel Abraham, applied economics, and Rong Shi, applied economics. The editorial team will grow this summer to include doctoral candidates, James Squires, applied economics, and Diane Lovett, statistics, and Paul Burgess, a master’s student in applied economics.

We are pleased to introduce this open access interdisciplinary journal on issues related to sustainable development in Africa. IJAD is an outcome of seven successful international conferences on African development held since 2001. The journal is to serve as a scholarly forum for dialogue, research, and knowledge necessary for policy reforms to enhance sustainable development, good governance, human rights and peace in African states, with implications for other developing states. The journal publishes peer-reviewed scholarly articles on cross-cutting issues that address the social, economic, political, scientific, technological, business, human capital, governance, and other aspects of sustainable development on Africa.

Since the journal was launched in fall 2013, there have been nearly 1,000 downloads. The fall 2014
The number of works posted in our scholarly repository hit 10,000 at the beginning of April. Launched in 2011, the institutional repository for WMU has grown quickly thanks to many active projects, seven WMU-based journals and large collections of student work. It has logged nearly a half million full-text downloads in the past year. ScholarWorks also includes newsletters like Prism, whose 78 issues have been downloaded 23,500 times. It is a permanent archive of WMU faculty, student and staff work. It provides increased exposure and access to the excellent research done here at WMU.

University Libraries thanks its partners at the journals - Accessus, The Hilltop Review, International Journal of African Development, The Open Journal of Occupational Therapy, Reading Horizons, Teaching Writing, and Transference - who have added so much valuable content. There are three more journals coming up in the next few months. Thanks to the Medieval Institute and others who have used ScholarWorks for their conferences, and all of those who have started archiving their materials in ScholarWorks. Thanks go to ScholarWorks grad assistants Lisa Kruse and Kent Craig for putting up much of the content one piece at a time.

The institutional repository can be searched or browsed by collection, discipline or author. Individuals can create professional pages on SelectedWorks. More information on ScholarWorks is on the “About” page and the guide to ScholarWorks is available here. WMU authors interested in submitting their work or starting a new page, journal or conference, should contact Maira Bundza, the ScholarWorks librarian, at maira.bundza@wmich.edu.

WMU’s own institutional repository at University Libraries reaches milestones of 10,000 items and 500,000 yearly downloads.
University Libraries assists students with their class projects and research throughout the semester. We also provide extra support for finals week. During finals, hours of operation are extended for the Public Services departments in Waldo Library to aid students with last minute needs.

The biggest nights for this late night studying are Sunday and Monday of finals week. There are typically 400-700 students studying independently or working in groups in Waldo Library on these late evenings. During those evenings, we offer coffee, tea, doughnut holes, and popcorn for those studying late into the night. Friends of the University Libraries and anonymous donors also provided financial support.

In this last two day endeavor, we served over 800 cups of coffee, 400 bags of popcorn (donated by Kalamazoo 10 Theatre) and 48 dozen donut holes (donated by Sweetwater’s Donut Mill). It is a labor of love, one of the students would “love” to see it continued for the entire week of finals. It is gratifying for the volunteers and late night staff, especially when students show appreciation for the additional time and effort expended on their behalf.

Kate Langan, University Humanities Librarian, plans to host a THATcamp Medieval @ Kzoo! This initial gathering will coincide with the International Congress on Medieval Studies at WMU in May. The camp is open to anyone interested in sharing ideas about the humanities, digital humanities, and tech. THATCamp stands for “The Humanities and Technology Camp.” It is an “un-conference activity,” an open, inexpensive meeting where humanists and technologists of all skill levels learn and build together in sessions proposed on the spot. Learn more at thatcamp.org.

Proposed sessions and discussions will be dedicated to game design and the humanities, text analysis tools, and social media and crowdsourcing tools for translating texts. Kevin Abbott will be presenting a “keynote” on collaboration, game design in humanities, and medievalist-type games. Those interested in setting up a THATcamp account, register for the camp, and propose a session. THATcamp is open, informal, and participatory. Please discuss a project with us at: medievalcongress2014.thatcamp.org.

Webpage at THATcamp website for the new unconference as part of the Medieval Congress
The Irving S. Gilmore Foundation generously supported the construction of the Zhang Legacy Collections Center on the Oakland Drive Campus. The executive board of the foundation recently visited the site sheltering the University Archives and Regional History Collections. VP Jim Thomas, Development and Alumni Affairs, Director Dr. Sharon Carlson, Archives and Regional History, and Dean Joseph Reish, University Libraries, greeted the board, thanked them for their generous grant, and then accompanied them on a tour of the facility. The unique collections of southwest Michigan fascinated the guests as did the stories of discoveries and connections brought about by amateur and veteran scholar/researchers. The board saw a demonstration of the Raymond Lift in the Big Box storage area placing and extracting materials from the mobile shelving extending upward to 32 feet.