June commencement scheduled

Two commencement ceremonies will be held Saturday, June 28, in Miller Auditorium. The 9 a.m. event is for graduates of Extended University Programs and the colleges of Education and Human Development, Engineering and Applied Sciences, and Health and Human Services. The 12:30 p.m. event is for graduates of the Haworth College of Business and the colleges of Arts and Sciences, Aviation, and Fine Arts.

University posting negotiation updates

Contract negotiations between WMU and the WMU-AAUP faculty bargaining unit are continuing this summer, and WMU’s bargaining team is providing occasional progress updates at wmich.edu/acb/negotiations. Two updates have been posted thus far.

Board of Trustees meeting slated

The next meeting of the WMU Board of Trustees will be held Wednesday, July 23. Starring times and agenda information will be released closer to the meeting.

Grant applications due July 25

Proposals are being accepted through Friday, July 25, from any employee interested in implementing transformational diversity change initiatives derived from internal division, college or unit assessments and recommendations. The Campus Climate for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Tactical Action Community is accepting the proposals. Funding is available to award nine implementation grants up to $15,000 each. For more information, visit wmich.edu/diversity/initiatives. Direct questions to Tiffany White at tiffany.white@wmich.edu or (269) 387-6327.

New Bronco Cards required by Oct. 1

Faculty and staff members are encouraged to replace their Bronco Cards before the beginning of the 2014-15 fall semester. Cards must be replaced by Oct. 1. In addition, cardholders will need to have a new photo taken. Visit the Bronco Card office on the Bernhard Center’s first floor on days when no orientation sessions are taking place.

Consider taking part in Welcome Week

Faculty and staff are encouraged to get involved during Welcome Week by attending the fall Matriculation Ceremony and Buster’s Buffet, signing up for a shift in a hospitality tent, or volunteering at one of several student events. Online registration at wmich.edu/fye/welcome/register is open for all events. Direct questions to adrienne.fracza@wmich.edu or (269) 387-2132.

Zhang Center earns certification as ‘green’ building

The Zhang Center houses the WMU Archives and Regional History Collections. Peter Strazdas, associate vice president for facilities management, notes that the facility was built to meet LEED silver certification standards. Sustainability features inside and out have resulted in LEED certification. (Photo by Jeanne Baron)

Snyder announces Kellogg Foundation’s Woodrow Wilson Fellows

During a June 11 ceremony in Lansing, Gov. Rick Snyder introduced this year’s W.K. Kellogg Foundation’s Woodrow Wilson Michigan Teaching Fellows, including 11 who will attend WMU to become master science teachers in the STEM fields. They are the fourth class of new teacher candidates since the fellowship was launched in Michigan in 2010. A total of 43 outstanding teacher candidates were named at the event. The WMU-bound fellows include an aerospace engineer, a microbiologist, a specialist in equine veterinary medicine, an entomologist and an interpretive naturalist as well as several recent college graduates. The 2014 Michigan recruits are accomplished career changers and outstanding recent college graduates in science, technology, engineering and mathematics—the STEM fields. They are the fourth class of new teacher candidates since the fellowship was launched in Michigan in 2010. “Michigan needs to develop talent for in-demand jobs so our students are best prepared for long and productive careers,” Snyder said. “The W.K. Kellogg Foundation and the Woodrow Wilson National Fellowship Foundation should be commended for working to train people...”
Trusted members approve retirements of 7 faculty, 12 staff members

The retirements of seven faculty members and 12 staff members as well as three faculty resignations were approved by the WMU Board of Trustees at its June 10 meeting. All of the faculty members who are retiring are doing so with emeritus status. Their names, positions, years of continuous service and effective dates of retirement are: Mary J. Baukus, nursing, 13 years, effective July 1, 2015; Daniel J. Farrell, management, 39 years, effective April 30, 2019; Robert J. Leneway, educational leadership, research and technology, 18 years, effective May 1, 2016; Elaine L. Phillips, physician assistant and integrative holistic health and wellness, 27 years, effective Dec. 31; Roberta J. Schultz, marketing, 15 years, effective Aug. 31; Dennis K. Strasser, University Libraries, 23 years, effective Dec. 31; and Jung-Chao Wang, statistics, 27 years, effective June 30, 2016.

The staff members retiring are: Diane Briggs, Burnham Dining Service, 15 years, effective April 30; Michael J. Brown, building custodial and support services, 12 years, effective June 27; David A. Constarge Sr., athletics, 38 years, effective June 30; Carol L. Farrance, Residence Life, 36 years, effective June 30; Marilyn J. Gillette, WMU Bookstores, 39 years, effective May 31; Kathleen M. Keckler, art, 16 years, effective May 31; Nancy King, building custodial and support services, 18 years, effective May 30; Ellen M. Miller, Valley 2 Dining Services, 28 years, effective June 30; Gregory A. Peet, University Libraries, 15 years, effective July 1; Wayne H. Pushie, student affairs, 12 years, effective June 30; and Cynthia L. Trout, intercollegiate athletics, 15 years, effective June 30.

The faculty members resigning are: Melissa Beeson, public affairs and administration, effective April 29; Caroline Gore, art, effective May 15; and Amy M. Gyorkos, human performance and health education, effective Aug. 20.

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World premiere of professor’s documentary during Waterfront Film Festival

Jennifer Machiorlatti, communication, produced and directed a documentary, shot with the help of 15 students, that received its world premiere June 13 and 14 at the Waterfront Film Festival in South Haven.

“Peace During War” runs about 17 minutes and profiles the lives of Yafetisco Harris and Michael Wilder, two former gang rivals who reconnected in a classroom and now help steer youths away from violence and life on the street.

“It was amazing and transformative working with them,” Machiorlatti says. “They became friends with a lot of the students. It’s almost like we formed an extended family.”

Sam Bailey, Center for English Language and Culture for International Students, contacted Machiorlatti about filming their story. Bailey had been the professor in the class where Wilder and Harris, who co-produced the documentary, reconnected.

Bailey and Bill Reed, of the Forum of Greater Kalamazoo, helped the duo obtain funding from the Fetzer Institute to start their organization, create a website and make “Peace During War.”

“The students got really great experience,” says Machiorlatti, adding that several students had completed advanced training in video production and post-production.

“Everyone brought wonderful enthusiasm and work ethic to the project.”

Tuition rate for 2014-15 OK’d

Tuition action by the WMU Board of Trustees June 10 means that WMU will remain the best value among Michigan’s five research universities in 2014-15.

The annual tuition and required fees for resident graduate students will pay $513.97 per credit hour. For additional tuition and fees information plus a tuition calculator, visit wmich.edu/registrars/tuition.

Students invited to summer leadership conference

WMU students who want to become leaders in their registered student organizations are invited to attend the fifth annual Leadership and Involvement Conference. The event is set for Friday and Saturday, Aug. 15-16, at the Radisson Plaza Hotel in Kalamazoo. To attend, students must register online at mywmu.com by Friday, July 25.

The conference provides WMU students with the environment and tools necessary for their registered organizations to succeed during the 2014-15 academic year and beyond. For more information, visit mywmu.com/ or contact Kate Bates at katherine.bates@wmich.edu or (269) 387-2182.

Retirement receptions

Carol Farrance, Residence Life, will be recognized for 36 years of service to WMU during a retirement reception from 3 to 5 p.m. Thursday, June 26, in the Western View Apartments Community Center.

Wayne Pushie, student affairs, will be recognized for a 28-year affiliation with WMU during a retirement reception from 3 to 5 p.m. Friday, June 27, in Lawonn Arena.
Summer construction to cause few traffic disruptions on campus

Work continues on the new residence hall being erected north of the Bernhard Center and on the WMU Alumni Center, but few traffic disruptions are expected this summer due to campus construction.

Motorists will encounter some interruptions at the end of the turnaround in front of the Seibert Administration Building. Workers will be doing site work inside the turnaround in July and August in preparation for installation of a new sculpture, which will be installed in September.

Kalamazoo artist Joshua Diederich was commissioned to design the piece to celebrate WMU’s history and create a more inviting entry to the pedestrian mall that begins in front of Sangren Hall. The sculpture incorporates a raised, 3-D version of the University seal as well as lighting and a water feature.

West Michigan closure rescheduled

One new summer project will result in traffic detours—the previously announced city of Kalamazoo sewer line work along the pedestrian mall—will be allowed to enter as well as exit the intersection.

Parking on the west, will be allowed to enter as well as exit the intersection.

Fountains at Bronson Place, 1700 Bronson

Parking Structure No. 1 and the work.

Crews are making steady progress at the construction site for WMU’s new residence hall. (Photo by Jeanne Baron)

As a result, access to the Oaklands, Seibert Administration Building, and main entrance to the Bernhard Center will only be available by traveling clockwise on the campus ring road and turning right off North Dormitory Road.

The West Michigan and North Dormitory intersection will remain open, and vehicles will be allowed to enter as well as exit the parking structure from North Dormitory across from Ellsworth Hall. The West Michigan and Western Avenue intersection also will remain open during the work.

Other significant construction

The West Michigan and Western Avenue intersection also will remain open during the work.

The WMU Board of Trustees approved the promotions for 54 faculty members at its June 10 meeting.

As a result, access to the Bernhard Center will only be available by traveling clockwise on the campus ring road and turning right off North Dormitory Road.

Promoted to professor were: Otur Ani-

galan, finance and commercial law; John-

Two faculty members were pro-

Promoted to associate professor were:

The WMU Office of Community Outreach)

Demolition of North Hall began the week of June 8, but the building’s portico is being retained. The portico will serve as the northern edge of the hilltop site. Abatement work in East Hall is expected to be completed this week, and the building’s two wings removed shortly thereafter.

Then, in July, renovation of the original core structure will begin. Plans call for East Hall to reopen as the Alumni Center in early fall 2015.

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The West Michigan and North Dormitory intersection will remain open, and vehicles will be allowed to enter as well as exit the parking structure from North Dormitory across from Ellsworth Hall. The West Michigan and Western Avenue intersection also will remain open during the work.

Other significant construction

Promoted to faculty specialist II were:

William H. “Bill” Kanzler, emeritus in education and professional development, died May 11. He was 87. Kanzler joined the faculty in 1961 and retired in 1987 after 26 years of service. A memorial gathering will be held at 3:30 p.m. Saturday, June 28, in the Fountains at Bronson Place, 1700 Bronson Way, in Kalamazoo.

Kanzler
Seita Scholar donations sought

This fall, WMU will welcome its seventh class of students who have aged out of the foster care system, and many of them will arrive without basic items to help make their school year successful.

These Seita Scholars will need essential living and personal health care products. The Seita Scholars program hopes to collect enough new items to provide more than 40 welcome baskets by Friday, Aug. 8.

The former foster youth who qualify for the program will receive the baskets when they move into the residence halls in late August. A list of items needed, including personal care, school and residence hall supplies and financial assistance, is at wmich.edu/fosteringsuccess/giving/volunteering.php.

The drop-off site for donated items is Harrison Hall. Receiving dates and times for donations are: Monday, July 7, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.; Tuesday, July 15, 5 to 6 p.m.; Wednesday, July 23, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.; Thursday, July 31, 5 to 6 p.m.; and Friday, Aug. 8, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

For more information, email seita-scholars@wmich.edu.

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Zhang Center earns certification as ‘green’ building

Three years in the making, the Zhang Center for Entrepreneurship and Economic Development has reached a milestone.

The center, which focuses on entrepreneurship, economic development and business education, has earned certification as a Superior Green Building through the U.S. Green Building Council’s LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) program.

The certification is awarded to projects that address environmental concerns and have the goal of reducing the impact of buildings and their operations on human and environmental health.

Each of these operational requirements is broken down into credits, which are awarded based on the number of credits a project achieves.

Among the main environmentally friendly features of the center is a geothermal heating and cooling system. A ground-source geoexchange process, it uses the renewable energy from the earth to heat and cool the building by means of heat transfer, lowering the annual operating cost of the building.

In addition, the Zhang Center’s HVAC and LED lighting systems will reduce annual energy consumption by an estimated 30 percent compared to traditional systems. This will keep 343 metric tons of carbon dioxide from being released into the atmosphere each year, an amount equivalent to burning 4.5 tanker trucks worth of gasoline or 1.5 railcars worth of coal.

An underground stormwater retention system, rain gardens and related management systems have reduced and nearly eliminated pollution and contaminants from stormwater runoff around the center. Plus, water-efficient plumbing equipment has been designed to require 50 percent less irrigation than a standard garden.

Other sustainability features include ensuring that refrigerants would cause minimal damage to the atmosphere and that low-emitting materials, adhesives and sealants were used throughout the building to reduce any adverse effects to indoor air quality.

During construction, 90 percent of all construction waste was reclaimed and recycled. Equally important, of the center’s total materials cost, 51 percent represents recycled materials and 57 percent represents regionally extracted and manufactured materials.

On Campus

On the move—Numerous faculty and staff members in the WMU Homer Stryker M.D. School of Medicine moved into new offices June 13 in the school’s renovated and expanded downtown building. Taking part in the move were Al Shifflett, engagement manager; and Chrsy Essar, administrative assistant in the pathology department. A grand opening celebration for the new medical school is set for Thursday, Sept. 13. Public tours of the building will be offered Saturday, Sept. 20. For more information about the grand opening and to register for the event, visit http://med.wmich.edu/celebrate. Registrations are requested by Monday, Sept. 1.

Jennifer Halseth has been part of a flurry of improvements to the University’s accounts payable and travel program since 2012.

Halseth joined the staff just two years ago and manages the University’s procurement card program, travel program and accounts payable program. Despite the short time she’s been in her position as assistant disbursements manager, her efforts were recognized this academic year when she was nominated for a semiannual Make a Difference Award.

“With the help of an outstanding staff, accounts payable ensures the campus community receives the best customer service and answers to their questions pertaining to payments and reimbursements,” she says.

Improvements she’s seen at the University include the new accounts payable direct deposit/Automated Clearing House reimbursement process for employees. Halseth says the process speeds up the turnaround of reimbursements to a week compared to the two to four weeks it took under the previous system.

Other recent changes include helping with the implementation of a new and improved travel policy and procedures guide, and transitioning to a new car-rental vendor. Her latest project includes working on a new online travel authorization program as part of a team. The more user-friendly system is expected to roll out in October.

Halseth previously worked as a controller for Checker Motors in Kalamazoo and a small manufacturing company in Vicksburg. She and her husband, Randy, have three children, twin daughters who just graduated from college and a son who graduated from Vicksburg High School this spring.

She enjoys exercising, especially biking, yard work and spending time with her family.

Snyder announces fellows

Continued from page 1

many with experience in the STEM fields, to work in our urban schools, where they will share their knowledge as well as become an inspiration to young students.”

Each fellow will receive a $30,000 stipend while completing an intensive master’s-level teacher education program at a participating Michigan university.

Participating institutions have committed and continue to commit to provide fellows a full year of experience in local classrooms, as well as specific teaching approaches for the STEM fields—a clinically intensive model will result in university-based teacher preparation.

After their preparation, fellows commit to teach for at least three years in a high-need Michigan school, with ongoing support and mentoring. The fellows to date will have a projected eventual impact on the lives of more than 20,000 students each year.

On Campus with Jennifer Halseth

EFFICIENT AND ACCOUNTABLE

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