Commencement ceremonies slated

WMU will stage four commencement ceremonies Saturday, April 26, in Miller Auditorium. The scheduled ceremonies are:
- 9 a.m., graduates of the College of Education and Human Development and Extended University Programs
- noon, graduates of the colleges of Aviation, Engineering and Applied Sciences, and Health and Human Services
- 3 p.m., graduates of the College of Fine Arts and Haworth College of Business
- 6 p.m., graduates of the College of Arts and Sciences

Event to feté exceptional grad students

Dozens of graduate students will be recognized for their teaching effectiveness or research and creative work. The awards will be given during three receptions Thursday, April 24, in 208-09 Bernhard Center.

Free T-shirts offered to runners, walkers

WMU is giving away custom T-shirts to its employees, students and alumni who are registered to participate in one of the 2014 Borgess Run for the Health of It events.

WMU named finalist for national award

WMU is a finalist to win a 2014 Climate Leadership Award as part of an annual competition among the U.S. colleges and universities that are signatories of the American College and University Presidents' Climate Commitment.

Bikes and EcoMugs are two reasons WMU was named a climate award finalist. (Photo courtesy of the Office of Sustainability)

University pledges to increase study abroad enrollment

The University has committed to increasing study abroad participation by 50 percent over the next five years as part of a national initiative that aims to double the number of U.S. college students studying abroad by 2019.

WMU is one of more than 160 higher education institutions that have pledged to support the goals of the Institute of International Education’s Generation Study Abroad Commitment.

WMU beats national average

WMU’s undergraduate study abroad participation rate for colleges and universities is supported by study abroad provider organizations, the U.S. Department of State’s Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, and several foreign institutions and government agencies.

WMU named finalist for national award

WMU is one of four schools in its category for national honors in the awards program. The program is sponsored by Second Nature, a national nonprofit that seeks to create a sustainable society by transforming higher education, and Planet Forward, a Web-to-TV initiative that documents and shares energy, climate and sustainability advances that can be used to tackle some of society’s biggest challenges.

“This is enormously gratifying,” says WMU President John M. Dunn. “We’ve been committed to sustainability for a very long time, and we have a record of significant accomplishments. This honor is an acknowledgment of our past work, our current initiatives and our commitment to the future. It’s about the culture of sustainability we’re building on campus and in our community.”

This year, the award program’s fifth, drew the largest and most competitive pool of nominations to date. The other three schools in the running for top honors are Jennifer C. Hsu, diversity and inclusion; Suzanne V. Beals, development and alumni relations; and Chris Voss, Student Recreation Center.

APRIL 10, 2014
Volume 40, Number 14

Continued on page 4

Gala premiere set for screening of new-employee video

All employees are invited to a campus premiere of WMU’s updated orientation video for new employees.

Take a walk down the red carpet, pose for paparazzi, meet campus celebrities and enjoy refreshments. Then sit back and watch the show, as well as one-time screening of the video project’s celebrity blogger reel.

To attend the premiere, go to wmich.edu/hr/premiere and RSVP. Then step by the Ferter Center at 3 p.m. Wednesday, April 16.

Nearly a year in the making, Human Resources’ new-employee orientation video features faculty, staff and students sharing information that every new employee should know.

It begins with a welcome from President John M. Dunn, who sets the stage for what it means to be a WMU employee.

Six other segments follow, bringing into focus the University’s history, structure, strategic plan, Brand Ambassadors Program and key points of pride, as well as the local area’s quality of life.

The premiere festivities take place in the Fetzer Center lobby.

For more information, contact Felicia Crawford in Human Resources at felicia.crawford@wmich.edu or (269) 387-3635.

Continued on page 4

Universities establish an undergraduate study abroad participation rate for colleges and universities by dividing the number of degree-seeking undergraduates who went abroad by the total number of undergraduate degrees awarded in the reporting year.

A total of 482 degree-seeking WMU undergraduate students were studying abroad during
**Around campus and beyond**

**Time to start registering for camps**

Registration is underway for many summer camps at WMU. The website at wmich.edu/admissions/camps lists all of them and adds new ones as information becomes available. Deadlines are near for two popular camps.

The Children’s Place Learning Center will again offer a summer program for children who have completed kindergarten through age 9. Priority registration for WMU employees and students runs through Friday, April 11. The camp will run from June 9 through Aug. 29. Parents may sign up children by the week or for the entire summer.

The annual Keith Hall Summer Drum Intensive will run from June 16-21 and June 23-28. The camp is for youths of various ages and levels. Parents will need to finalize payment by Wednesday, April 30. Camp participants will have a chance to perform for the public.

**Reception planned for artist therapist**

Gay Wallker, coordinator of WMU’s Integrative Holistic Health and Wellness Program and an art therapist, is exhibiting her work in the second floor art gallery of the College of Health and Human Services building. The exhibit, “My Mother’s Nature,” will run through Wednesday, May 21. An artist’s reception has been planned for 4 to 6 p.m. Wednesday, April 16.

**Conflict in Balkans is lecture topic**

Maria Koinova from the University of Warwick will address “Ethnic Conflicts and Governance in the Balkan States” when she speaks at 7 p.m. Thursday, April 17, in the Fetzer Center as part of the George Klein Lecture Series. Koinova is interested in why ethnonationalist conflicts vary in the level of violence they generate and why violence at whatever level persists and when and why things change for the better or worse.

**‘Life of Pi’ chosen for Universitywide Common Read 2014-15**

WMU’s Universitywide Common Read 2014-15 is now open and will be turned on by Yann Martel’s “Life of Pi,” winner of the 2014-15 Universitywide Common Read. “Life of Pi” was chosen by Universitywide Common Read Coordinating Committee, which consists of faculty members and a student representative.

The common read officially 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 until April 2015. In addition, students registered for the First-Year Seminar will be reading the book for class.

Related events planned for fall include a presentation by Martel 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” and a discussion guide.

**Retirement receptions**

The following retirement receptions have been announced:

- Gary D. Lawson, speech pathology and audiology, 4:30 to 6 p.m. Wednesday, April 16, the Oaklands; Ellen Miller, Dining Services. 1 to 3:30 p.m. Thursday, April 17, President’s Dining Room, Bernhard Center; Gerald Sievers, statistics, 4 to 6 p.m. Friday, April 18, the Oaklands.

**Jobs**

Current job opportunities at WMU are announced daily on the Human Resources website at works.wmich.edu/hr/jobs. Please note that applications must be submitted online by the stated deadline. Complete application procedures are included with each posting.

**National group honors engineer**

Kulash Bafna, industrial and manufacturing engineering, is the inaugural winner of the Annual Award in Teaching Engineering Economy. The award will be presented by the Engineering Economy Division of the Institute of Industrial Engineers at its annual conference in Montreal May 31-June 3. Bafna recognizes the leadership nationwide in engineering economy education. “The award selection committee received many high-quality nominations, IIE said in its award announcement, and was greatly impressed by your teaching passion and innovations.” An international, nonprofit association, IIE is the world’s largest professional society dedicated solely to the support of the industrial engineering profession. It provides leadership for the application, education, training, research and development of industrial engineering.

**Administrator receives regional award**

Mark Delorey, director of student financial aid and scholarships, has received the 2014 Tri-Community Award from the Southwest Michigan César E. Chávez Committee. The award, named in honor of Chávez, Martin Luther King Jr. and Robert Kennedy, recognizes individuals in southwest Michigan who make an outstanding contribution to bringing together all segments of the regional community.

Delorey received the award during the Chavez committee’s annual scholarship fundraising dinner March 29 at WMU.

He co-founded WMU’s Seita Scholars program, which with more than 160 enrolled students, is believed to be the world’s largest higher education initiative for foster youth. In addition, Delorey is the only higher education professional to be given the Distinguished Service and Leadership Award by the National Association for the Education of Homeless Children and Youth.

**Associate provost co-founds journal**

Christopher Tremblay, associate provost for enrollment management, has co-founded the Journal of College Access with Patrick O’Connor, associate dean for college counseling at Kingwood Cranbrook School in Bloomfield Hills, Mich. JCA focuses on the current trends, research, practices and development of all types of programs, policies and activities related to the access and success in postsecondary education. Issues of college aspiration, qualification, application, enrollment and persistence are the primary emphases.

The journal will be housed at scholarworks.wmich.edu/jca through WMU’s ScholarWorks website and also is affiliated with the Michigan College Access Network. JCA is planning to publish biannually, the first in September. Submissions are currently being accepted for that issue.
Relay for Life fundraiser starts April 11

Colleges Against Cancer at Western Michigan University will host the American Cancer Society’s annual Relay for Life Friday and Saturday, April 11 and 12.

The fundraiser begins at noon Friday and continues until noon Saturday at Kanley Track and the Student Recreation Center. This year’s participants are competing with Central Michigan University to see which school’s teams can raise more money. The contest starts Wednesday, April 9, and runs through noon April 12.

“The overall highest fundraiser from either school between those days gets a brand new Fossil watch valued at $100,” says Cynthia Hella, Colleges Against Cancer at WMU president. “We have a fun and exciting 24 hours planned. Everyone is invited, rather than releasing it into the atmosphere.”

Calley signed the bill in WMU’s Michigan Leadership Center on April 1. It goes to administrators who demonstrate commitment to part-time faculty by proactive encouragement for part-time faculty; providing sufficient support, resources and encouragement for part-time faculty in departmental decisions; promoting teaching effectiveness; including and recognizing and rewarding excellent performance. Other nominees were Tricia Hennessy, art school director; department chairs Marc Alpector-Kelly, philosophy, Ben Atchison, occupational therapy, Irma Lopez, Spanish, and Donna Talbot, educational leadership, occupational therapy, Irma Lopez, Spanish, and Donna Talbot, educational leadership, and recognizing and rewarding excellent performance.

Jonathan Bush, chair of the Department of English, and Alex Eneydi, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, have each been named an Outstanding Administrator by the Professional Instructors Organization. The Professional instructors name first two Outstanding Administrators

Faculty Senate plans survey

The Faculty Senate’s Ad Hoc Committee on General Education will soon ask employees, part-time instructors and teaching assistants to complete a short survey on general education at WMU. Responses to the five-minute to 10-minute survey will be taken from Monday, April 14, through Friday, May 2. Participation is encouraged.

The survey represents the first effort of the committee to gather baseline data for what will be a process of engaging the full campus community in a ground-up conversation around general education.

The full results of the survey will be made available publicly and will inform the committee’s efforts to facilitate a broad, University-wide conversation on general education.

Lt. governor signs new legislation into law at WMU

Lt. Gov. Brian Calley was at WMU April 1 to sign legislation encouraging the recovery of oil from old or difficult-to-extract oil fields in the state, making full use of these producing sites in an environmentally sound manner.

House Bill 4885 reduces taxes paid by companies that use an enhanced method of extracting the oil—one that does not involve hydraulic fracturing, or fracking as it’s commonly called.

The method uses carbon dioxide gas, which is injected into previously capped oil and natural gas wells to push the once unattainable oil to the surface. It has the added environmental benefit of permanently trapping the carbon dioxide in the underground wells and thus reducing the carbon dioxide in the atmosphere.

The repository is a primary source for geological research in the state and was instrumental in the development of the carbon dioxide-based enhanced oil recovery technology.

HB 4885 sets a flat 4 percent severance tax rate for companies using the enhanced oil recovery method, recognizing that this technology revitalizes previously marginal wells. Calley also signed three additional bills that promote the use of enhanced oil recovery. Visit legislature.michigan.gov for more information.

Professional instructors name first two Outstanding Administrators

Jonathan Bush, chair of the Department of English, and Alex Eneydi, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, have each been named an Outstanding Administrator by the Professional Instructors Organization. The following faculty and staff members are recognized for 35, 30, 25, 20, 15, and 10 years of service to WMU.

35 Years—Lori S. Greb, logistical services, and Shirlee Stoken, building custodial and support services.
30 Years—Peter Thannhauser, mechanical and aerospace engineering.
25 Years—Richard T. Boyd, power plant; David R. Miller, maintenance services; Ieva Alspector-Kelly, philosophy, Ben Atchison, occupational therapy, Irma Lopez, Spanish, and Donna Talbot, educational leadership, and recognizing and rewarding excellent performance.
20 Years—Joseph W. Petro Jr., industrial and manufacturing engineering.
15 Years—Carol E. Bakant, Sindecuse Health Center; Nancy Lou Cardoza, Sindecuse Health Center; Linda M. Comrie, Graduate College; Sharon L. Conolly, building custodial and support services; Alicia A. Eby, Sindecuse Health Center; C.J. Glasgow, Health Resources; James E. Haun, landscape services; Carolyn L. Lynn, transportation services; Tammy L. Miller, institutional equity; Angela R. Phelps, Graduate College; Yeung Wang, information technology; and Linda A. Ware, Center for Disability Services.
Five Years—Himanshu M. Alkemade, information technology; Dawn R. Decker, United Clinics; Amy S. Klunder, University Libraries; Thomas Koopsen, West Hills Athletic Club; and Stacey L. Markin, Haworth College of Business.

Local residents may attend Medieval Congress for free

Kalamazoo residents and members of the WMU community may attend the 49th International Congress on Medieval Studies for free if they register online or in person by Wednesday, April 23. WMU’s congress is the world’s largest annual gathering of people interested in the Middle Ages. The 2014 event will take place Thursday through Sunday, May 8-11. Kalamazoo-area residents and WMU community members may register online or in person at the Miller Auditorium ticket office through April 23 at no charge. They also may register through that date by mail or fax for a nominal handling fee. After April 23, they will be assessed a $50 late fee. Register online at wmscog.edu/medieval/congress. For information about registering by mail or fax, call (269) 387-8745.

Obituary

Alfred K. Ho, professor emeritus in economics, died Jan. 26. He retired in 1989 after 22 years of service to the University. A memorial service will take place at 2 p.m., Sunday, June 15, in Kanley Chapel. RSVP to alfretck@aol.com to attend the reception that will follow. Visit avinkcremation.com to make a memorial guestbook entry. Memorial gifts may be made to WMU or Rose Arbor Hospice in Kalamazoo.

Greg D. Roehrick, a professor of theatre who served the Department of Theatre as director of design and technical production, died Feb. 25 at age 60. A memorial service will take place at noon Saturday, April 12, in the Williams Theatre of the Gilmore Theatre Complex.
Class project results in book of World War II remembrances

A gerontology class project that gathered people's memories of the World War II era has grown into the book, “There is No Substitute for Victory—Remembrances of World War II.”

It is the result of a spring 2013 class project by students in Janet Hahn’s class, Issues in Aging: Service Learning. The handsomely arranged and illustrated spiral booklet is packed with the reminiscences of nearly 200 area residents who lived through the war.

Twenty-two students conducted the interviews, and Hahn served as editor. Sections include Rationing, Our Troops, Family Life, Our Brave Men and Women, After the War, Patriotism, Rest in Peace, Stories Told From Men and Women Around the World, and Recipes. The idea for the project came from Barbara Rider, emerita in and former chair of occupational therapy, and Ellen Page-Robin, founding director of the Gerontology Program.

The book can be bought for $20 by going to wmich.edu/disabilitycenter and clicking on Online Store and then Center for Gerontology Book.

University pledges to increase study abroad enrollment

WMU’s student body includes a high percentage of first-generation college students, and 19 percent of students represent minority groups, according to the IIE’s most recent Open Doors Report. That resulted in a study abroad participation rate for undergraduates of 12 percent, more than two percentage points higher than the average national rate.

Wolfgang Schlör, associate provost for the Haenicke Institute for Global Education, says participating in the IIE initiative will strengthen the global engagement pillar of WMU’s strategic plan. The Haenicke Institute for Global Education has been focusing on increasing opportunities for study abroad.

Steps planned to achieve goal

WMU’s efforts will be focused on raising study abroad enrollment from about 600 students per year to 900 students by 2019. The steps that WMU plans to take to achieve its participation goal include:

- Launching a new pre-freshman study abroad program;
- Training college-specific peer advisors;
- Expanding teacher education internships abroad;
- Developing study abroad programs targeted at students of migrant parents;
- Working with academic units to increase college-based study abroad scholarships and to identify programs that fit well into major and minor degree requirements; and
- Working with WMU’s longstanding transnational education partners to establish study abroad programs for WMU students that meet major, minor and general education requirements.

Continued from page 1

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Continued from page 1

WMU named finalist among doctorate-granting institutions are the University of Massachusetts-Amherst, University of North Texas and Ohio State University, according to Second Nature. The four other collegiate categories also are based on higher education Carnegie classifications. Winners will be announced in late spring.

The Climate Leadership Award program features a public, online voting component. Each of the 20 finalists was invited to produce a video that promotes its specific sustainability efforts. The videos may be viewed at planetforward.org/content/climate-leadership-awards-2014. People can vote through that website once daily until Tuesday, April 15.

The WMU video highlights both the University’s long-time strengths in energy savings as well as its commitment to building a culture of sustainability by weaving the institution’s commitment to green and sustainable practices into every part of University life.

Featured in the video are a number of scenes highlighting campus initiatives as well as interviews with Dunn; Harold Glasser, executive director for campus sustainability; graduate student Kate Binder; and undergraduate student Carlos Daniels.

For more information about WMU’s sustainability initiatives, visit wmich/sustainability or contact the Office for Sustainability at wmich@sustainability@wmich.edu or (269) 387-2947.

On Campus with Bradley Horstman

Maintaining a consistent Web presence and training every department on campus to manage its own website content has been the job of Bradley Horstman, Web manager in the Office of University Relations.

“People are the best asset,” says Horstman, who joined WMU 14 years ago. “Give them responsibility and authority, hold them accountable, participate together and things get better.”

His initial responsibilities at WMU included computer systems maintenance and designing and maintaining Web pages. His efforts in recent years resulted in the implementation of a new content management system for websites that allows individuals trained in each department to make changes and updates to Web pages on their own.

“At the right training, it’s as easy as updating your Facebook status,” he says. “People have responded pretty well to it.”

Horstman has been holding face-to-face training sessions as the new system has been rolling out. His next step, beginning this month, will be to set up Elearing for the new system, making it available and convenient to even more faculty and staff. There also will be question-and-answer sessions and best practices.

On the same lines as having a consistent look to University Web content, Horstman also is involved with developing responsive design with websites—a Web design approach aimed at crafting sites to provide an optimal viewing experience across all devices.

Horstman started in print and multimedia working for marketing and branding firms in Indiana, which also is where he grew up. He holds an associate degree in visual communications from Ivy Tech State College and a bachelor’s degree in fine arts from the University of Southern Indiana. He and his fiancée, Caitlin Soderstrom, live in Kalamazoo with their four cats. Sweet One, James “Fresh” Townsend, Chum and Tinkadumb. Horstman also has a son, Otto, 8, who lives in Texas.

Outside of work, he likes to unplug and enjoys playing poker and chess, camping, gardening and traveling.