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Counselor Education and Counseling Psychology

2014 News

Professor named fellow

Dr. Beverly Vandiver, professor of counselor education and counseling psychology, has been named a fellow of the American Psychological Association's (APA) Society of Counseling Psychology.

Dr. Vandiver was already a fellow of APA's Evaluation, Measurement and Statistics Division.

Fellow status is an honor bestowed upon APA members who have shown evidence of unusual and outstanding contributions or performance in the field of psychology. Fellow status by APA indicates that a person's work has had a national impact on the field of psychology beyond a local, state or regional level.

A faculty member since 2013, Dr. Vandiver served as an Associate Professor at Penn State University before coming to WMU. She is an acknowledged expert on scale development, specifically in the area of racial identity.

She received a bachelor's degree from Western Kentucky University, her master's degree from the University of Kentucky, and her doctorate from Ball State University.



Faculty member conducts webinar

February 12, 2014

Dr. Carla Adkison-Bradley, a professor in the department of Counselor Education and Counseling Psychology, recently conducted a research webinar after being asked by Chi Sigma Iota, an international honor society of professional counseling and for professional counselors. Her webinar, titled “The Disciplinary Practices of African American Mothers and Fathers: Engaging in Culturally Responsive Research,” discussed the results of mixed-method research study of child disciplinary strategies used by African American parents.

Dr. Adkison-Bradley has also recently had two publications made available. Her book chapter titled, “Supervising counselors who work with African American Parents,” was published in *Elements of supervision: Teachings, reflections, and resources*, while her article titled “Child discipline in African American families: A study of patterns and context,” was published in *The Family Journal*, and was co-written by Jeffrey Terpstra and Benedict P. Dormitorio.



Craig Elected President-Elect

April 9, 2014

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. ACES, a Division of American Counseling Association, is committed to advancing counselor education and supervision in order to improve the provision of counseling services in all settings of society.

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.



Adkison-Johnson to Present at National Child Welfare, Juvenile and Family Law Conference

April 10, 2014

Carla Adkison-Johnson, who with her colleague Law Professor Cynthia Debose (Stetson University Law School) has 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. Dr. 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.



Wiebold Appointed to Michigan Council for Rehabilitation Services

April 10, 2014

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, AER representative to the National Research and Training Center on blindness and low vision; Board of Directors member for the American Rehabilitation Counseling Association; and Chairperson for the rehabilitation counseling division of AER . Dr. Wiebold is a Fellow of the National Rehabilitation Counseling Association.



Burns Co-presented Interactive Webinar and will be Featured Speaker

April 15, 2014

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.



2014 Awards Reception

April 17, 2014

Western Michigan University counselor education and counseling psychology students honored during an awards reception Thursday, April 17, at the Bernhard Center included the following:

Counselor Education and Counseling Psychology Graduate Teaching Effectiveness Award

Andrew D. Clay - Doctoral Level
Kelcie S. Douglas - Masters Level

Counselor Education and Counseling Psychology Graduate Research and Creative Scholars Award

Raymond L. Sheets Jr. - Doctoral Level
Danielle Smith - Masters Level

Counselor Education and Counseling Psychology Alumni Scholarship

Christen Howard-Connor, Doctoral student
Tara Rae Gish, Master's student

Robert & Diane Betz Award for Doctoral Studies in Counselor Education and Counseling Psychology

Michael D. Bobbitt, Doctoral Studies in Counselor Education
Kamille P. LaRosa, Doctoral Studies in Counseling Psychology

Kenneth Bullmer Scholarship for Doctoral Students in Counseling Psychology

Vanessa Ruth Laurent

Alan and Kristin Hovestadt Outstanding Student in Marriage and Family Therapy Award

Melissa Plair

Arthur & Margaret Manske Outstanding Master's Student in School Counseling

Damon Delano Chambers

Outstanding Master's Student in Counselor Education & Counseling Psychology

Carolyn R. Doerr

Thelma M. Urbick Outstanding Doctoral Student in Counselor Education Award

Boachun Zhou

Outstanding Doctoral Student in Counseling Psychology

Branson Lamar Boykins

Outstanding Alumni Award

Leatrice R. Brooks

Congratulations to our 2014 award recipients!

Hovestadt Co-presents at Conference and Accepts Board Appointment

April 22, 2014

Alan Hovestadt, Professor in the Department of Counselor Education and Counseling Psychology and Coordinator of the Marriage, Couple and Family Counseling Program, has accepted appointment as a Board Member of the Editorial Advisory Board for the new book titled The Sage Encyclopedia of Marriage, Family and Couples Counseling. Nationally renowned educators, researchers and authors, Jon Carlson and Shannon Dermer, will serve as General Editors for the Encyclopedia. Dr. Hovestadt also co-presented a program at the Annual Conference of the American Counseling Association (ACA) in Honolulu, Hawaii, titled Family Counseling Education in Developing and Emerging Countries. Hovestadt focused on the state of training and education in Russia, the United Kingdom and Rawanda. The program was sponsored by the International Association of Marriage and Family Counselors' (IAMFC), Couples & Family Counseling Academy. Hovestadt was a founding board member of the IAMFC which is a division of the ACA.



CECP congratulates the newest Mu Beta Members

May 30, 2014

On April 25, 2014, the Mu Beta Chapter of Chi Sigma Iota (CSI) inducted 63 new members. CSI is an international honor society with a mission to promote scholarship, research, professionalism, leadership, advocacy, and excellence in counseling, and to recognize high attainment in the pursuit of academic and clinical excellence in the profession of counseling. We were honored to have Dr. Carol Bobby, CEO of the Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs (CACREP), give the keynote address. CACREP is the accrediting body for the counselor education programs at Western Michigan University. The Department of Counselor Education and Counseling Psychology congratulates the newest Mu Beta Members and the eight



individuals who were honored with chapter awards that evening: Past President Award, Michael D. Bobbitt; Outstanding Masters Student Award, Gayle L. Garcia; Outstanding Doctoral Student Award, Stephanie R. Goodman; Outstanding Service to the Chapter Award, Danielle M. Smith; Outstanding Research Award, Carla R. Adkison-Johnson; Outstanding Alumni Award, Catherine Rich; Outstanding Supervisor Award, Shawn Bultsma; and Thomas J Sweeney Outstanding Leadership Award, Daniel R. Cruikshanks.

Students and Graduates Recently Published

July 18, 2014

Working on Professor Eric Sauer's research teams, one counseling psychology doctoral student, two counseling psychology Ph.D. graduates and one counseling psychology master's graduate had papers recently published.

Kathryn Wierda (current Counseling Psychology Doctoral Student) was a co-author on a paper published in *Training and Education in Professional Psychology* (2014) titled, "Introducing the Association of Psychology Training Clinics Collaborative Research Network: A Study on Client Expectations." This study was the inaugural study of a nationwide collaborative research network developed by the Association of Psychology Training Clinics. This multi-site study examined the impact of client pretreatment expectations on treatment duration, treatment outcome, and prior exposure to treatment.



Kristin Roberts (Counseling Psychology MA - 2013 graduate), and Dr. Angela Garrison (Counseling Psychology Ph.D. - 2014 graduate) were co-authors on a paper published in *Psychotherapy* (2014) titled, "Perfectionism Affects Changes in Psychological Symptoms." This study investigated the effects of both adaptive and maladaptive perfectionism on various indicators of symptomatic distress and interpersonal problems over the course of therapy.

Angela Garrison also had another paper accepted for publication in *Personality and Individual Differences* (in press) titled, "Emotional Avoidance and Rumination as Mediators of the Relation between Adult Attachment and Emotional Disclosure." This study examined emotional avoidance as a mediator of the relation between attachment avoidance and rumination as a mediator of the relation between attachment anxiety and emotional disclosure.

Working with Professors Eric Sauer and Gary Bischof, Dr. Christopher Richmond (Counseling Psychology Ph.D. - 2007graduate) was the principal investigator on a study recently published in the *Journal of Systemic Family Therapies* (2014) titled, "Effects of Solution-Focused versus Problem-Focused Intake Questions on Pre-Treatment Changes." This research explored if changing the language of the intake procedures would lead to improved client outcomes.

Department Hosts International Visitors

July 21, 2014

The Department of Counselor Education and Counseling Psychology hosted six international visitors on Monday, July 21, from Colleagues International. These visitors were invited to the United States under the auspices of the Department of State's International Visitor Leadership Program. As part of the Youth and Community Conflict Resolution Project visitors traveled to the U.S. from Armenia, Australia, Palestinian Territories, Romania, Rwanda and Sri Lanka. During their time in Sangren Hall, the visitors met with CECP faculty member Dr. Alan Hovestadt with three main goals in mind:



- To discuss academic, economic, and social perspectives on how to address conflict involving and affecting youth;
- To familiarize participants with federal, state, and local agencies and organizations involved in addressing community issues, improving the quality of life of at-risk youth and providing mediation and conflict resolution services to youth and their families;
- To provide practical examples of how to address community issues and needs relating to youth who live in diverse and multi-ethnic communities.

After discussion, the visitors were taken on a tour of the department's Centers for Counseling and Psychological Services (CCPS) located in Sangren Hall. This is the second time that CECP has hosted visitors from this program.

New WMU counseling course lauded at Harvard-White House session

contact: Cheryl Roland

August 5, 2014 | WMU News WMU's counseling course is referenced during the Harvard event.

KALAMAZOO, Mich.—A Western Michigan University graduate course aimed at preparing school counselors to provide better career and college choices won the attention of a national higher education conference held **July 28** at Harvard University's Graduate School of Education and sponsored by the White House.



School Counseling for Postsecondary and Career Readiness is a new course offered through WMU's Department of Counselor Education and Counseling Psychology. The course, which makes its debut this fall, was recognized during the College Opportunity Agenda event held at Harvard. Presenters praised its development and inclusion in a preparation program for school counselors.

About the course

The WMU course was developed through a grant from the Michigan College Access Network obtained by **Dr. Mary L. Anderson**, associate professor of counselor education and counseling psychology. Brandy Johnson, executive director of MCAN, highlighted the course as a best practice to an audience of 100 participants at the Harvard event. An additional 500 participated online from locations around the country.

Another Michigan educator in attendance was **Dr. Christopher Tremblay**, WMU's associate provost for enrollment management, who received an invitation from the White House to attend. His doctoral research and dissertation was on the topic of college admissions counseling, and he has written extensively on the topic—including for a post-conference blog.

About the event

The White House's College Opportunity Agenda was convened to bring together "thought leaders and decision makers focused on increasing access to college for all Americans." Specifically, the gathering was to highlight innovative practices in the areas of professional development and training, college counseling tools and exemplar initiatives and partnerships.

Faculty members have manuscript accepted for publication

Nov. 12, 2014

Dr. Janee Steele, Counselor Education doctoral program alumni and adjunct CECP faculty member, Dr. Gary Bischof, Professor and Chair of Family and Consumer Sciences, and Dr. Stephen Craig, CECP faculty member, had their manuscript "Political Ideology and Perceptions of Social Justice Advocacy Among Members of the American Counseling Association", accepted for publication in the *International Journal for the Advancement of Counseling*. The article is based on some of Steele's dissertation research, for which Dr. Bischof served as her doctoral chair.



From left to right: Dr. Gary Bischof, Dr. Janee Steele and Dr. Stephen Craig

Alumnus has Article Appear in Journal

Nov. 12, 2014

Dr. Darryl Plunkett, Counselor Education doctoral alumnus and part-time CECP instructor, had an article appear in the October 2014 issue of the journal *Counseling and Values*. In the paper Dr. Plunkett discusses the recent increase in the amount of attention given in the counseling literature to addressing clients' religion and spirituality. However, Black American churchgoers are rarely the target population in the discourse, and little is known about how the Black church shapes their views. This article provides information on values of the Black church and the church's influence on Black American churchgoers regarding secular counseling. Implications for counselor education and practice are also discussed.



Dr. Darryl Plunkett

Faculty Members Published in APA Handbook

Nov. 12, 2014

Dr. Mary L. Anderson, along with her co-author Dr. Jane Goodman, and Dr. Stephanie Burns have contributed chapters for the APA Handbook of Career Interventions. The two-volume APA Handbook of Career Intervention aims to consolidate and advance knowledge about the scientific foundations and practical applications of career intervention. It offers an inclusive resource for understanding and applying principles and practices of career intervention to assist diverse individuals and groups across developmental stages to construct personally meaningful and socially relevant work lives. The handbook presents information about the historical, contemporary, theoretical, demographic, assessment-based, and professional foundations of career intervention (Volume 1), as well as specific career intervention models, methods, and materials within each career service noted above and applied to easing career transitions (Volume 2). In whole or in part, the Handbook aims to be useful to researchers, practitioners, educators, consultants, policy-makers, and students alike across a full array of professions, including psychology, counseling, education, and business and industry.



Dr. Mary L. Anderson

In their chapter entitled Professional Development: Who We Are and What We Do, Dr.'s Goodman and Anderson discussed professional development, especially as this relates to career practitioners working within the diverse field of career counseling and finding their way into

various specialized, yet inter-connected fields. Professional development was discussed in terms of a life-long process with the turning points and challenges that may occur along the way. The authors also addressed the necessity of advocacy and supervision, along with self-care and career-sustaining strategies necessary for continuing on the journey of professional development.

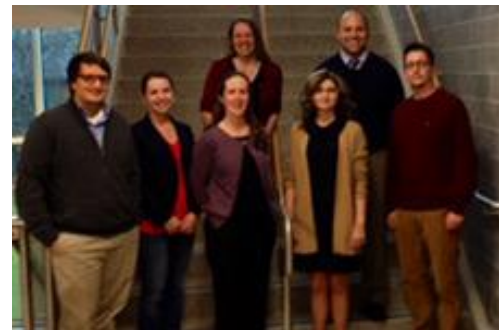
In her chapter entitled Person Matching for Career Exploration and Choice, Dr. Burns discusses the three psychometric methodologies used to currently score career interest inventories: empirical, theoretical, and person-match approaches. Next she explains person-matching as a postmodern model of prediction in career interests and how person-matching is performed as a psychometric scoring methodology. The remainder of the chapter offers counselors a process for incorporating person-matching into career counseling sessions. The person-matching theory, method, materials, and intended populations are described and further explained using a case study example.



Dr. Stephanie Burns

CECP Presents at Conference

Two Counselor Education faculty members, several students, and alumni presented at the North Central Association for Counselor Education and Supervision Conference in St. Louis, MO Oct. 16-18, 2014. NCACES is the 13-state regional division of the Association for Counselor Education and Supervision, the preeminent professional organization for counselor educators and supervisors. Following is a list of the counselor education unit **faculty** and **current students** who presented at the conference:



Front row left to right: Drew Clay, Laura Kellicut, Ashley Wildman, Dr. Stephanie Burns, Brian Russ. Back row left to right: Dr. Jennifer Foster, Dr. Stephen E. Craig.

Kellicut, L. (2014, October). Student's Experiences of Grief While in a Counselor Education Program. Poster presented at the North Central Association for Counselor Education and Supervision Conference, St. Louis, MO.

Russ, B. (2014, October). Preparing Our Graduates to Address the Clinical Mental Health Needs of the Adolescent Population. Roundtable presentation at the North Central Association for Counselor Education and Supervision Conference, St. Louis, MO.

Fickling, M. J., **Burns S. T.**, & Tang, M. (2014, October). Teaching Social Justice and Multiculturalism in Career Courses. Presentation at the North Central Association for Counselor Education and Supervision Conference, St. Louis, MO.

Cruikshanks, D. R., & **Burns, S. T.** (2014, October). Clinical Supervisors and Professional Identity: Fostering Development. Presentation at the North Central Association for Counselor Education and Supervision Conference, St. Louis, MO.

Burns, S. T., & Cruikshanks, D. R. (2014, October). Chi Sigma Iota – Promoting Professional Identity and Advocacy through Statewide and Regional Networks of Chi Sigma Iota Chapters. North Central Association for Counselor Education and Supervision Conference, St. Louis, MO.

Burns, S. T., & Cruikshanks, D. (2014, October). Teaching Counselors about Chronic Pain Counseling Assessments and Interventions. North Central Association for Counselor Education and Supervision Conference, St. Louis, MO.

Wildman, A. J. (2014, October). Best. Presentation. Ever!. Presentation at the North Central Association for Counselor Education and Supervision Conference, St. Louis, MO.

Foster, J., Clay, D., & Doerr, C. (2014, October). A Qualitative Analysis of Boys' Narratives about Sexual Abuse. North Central Association for Counselor Education and Supervision Conference, St. Louis, MO.

Department Awarded \$999,782 Rehabilitation Counseling Grant

Nov. 13, 2014

The Department of Counselor Education and Counseling Psychology (CECP) in Western Michigan University's College of Education and Human Development (CEHD) was awarded a five-year, \$999,782 Rehabilitation Long-Term Training -- Vocational Rehabilitation Counseling grant from the U.S. Department of Education, Rehabilitation Services Administration. The grant supports students seeking the rehabilitation counseling degree with an emphasis in employer relations option offered at WMU. Rehabilitation Counseling is the profession of working with individuals with disabilities to attain or maintain competitive employment through counseling, employer relations, job placement services, and advocacy.

CECP offers a 53 credit hour generalist rehabilitation counseling Master's degree; a 65 credit hour rehabilitation counseling Master's degree with an emphasis in employer relations; and, a 76



Wiebold Jennipher

credit hour dual Master's degree in rehabilitation counseling specializing in blindness and low vision.

The purpose of the long term training grant in vocational rehabilitation counseling is to prepare 30 qualified rehabilitation counselors (RC) with an emphasis in employer relations to facilitate job placement for/with people with disabilities seeking competitive employment. The grant is also designed to produce rehabilitation counseling graduates to meet the significant personnel shortages in the field. Graduates understand the benefits of employment as a rehabilitation counselor in State Federal Rehabilitation Services Agencies such as the Michigan Department of Human Services (DHS)/Michigan Rehabilitation Services (MRS) and the Department of Energy, Labor, and Economic Growth (DELEG)/Bureau of Services for Blind Persons (BSBP). The grant averages \$200,000 per year with subsequent funding based on annual performance through the five year grant cycle. The total cost of the Rehabilitation Counseling with an emphasis in employer relations grant is \$1,123,444, of which 89% is supported by U.S. Department of Education, Rehabilitation Services Administration's Long Term Training Grant in Rehabilitation Counseling.

Nearly 81% of the Federal grant budget directly funds rehabilitation counseling students at WMU. Grant supported funding for a qualified applicant includes in-state tuition, fees, and approved professional conference/development attendance expenses. Dr. Jennipher Wiebold, Associate Professor and the Rehabilitation Counseling Program Coordinator, is the Principal Investigator with Co-Principal Investigator Dr. Patrick Munley, Professor and Chair of the Department of Counselor Education and Counseling Psychology. If you would like to learn more about the rehabilitation counseling programs at WMU, please contact the Rehabilitation Counseling Program Coordinator, Dr. Jennipher Wiebold at jennipher.wiebold@wmich.edu.

Counseling Psychology Faculty and Students Attend American Psychological Association Convention

Nov. 17, 2014

WMU counseling psychology faculty and students attended the annual convention of the American Psychological Association held in Washington, DC from August 7 to August 10. Three doctoral students, Mark S. Barajas, Dawnielle Simmons, and Vanessa R. Laurent presented posters, all of which focused on multicultural issues.



Mr. Barajas, who recently defended his dissertation and is currently on a pre-doctoral internship at the counseling center at the University of California, Berkeley, presented a poster on his dissertation titled "Pedagogical Approaches to Multicultural Education Within Teacher Preparation Programs." A pre-posttest

experimental design was used to examine the effectiveness of two approaches of multicultural education and the effect of placement sites on pre-service teachers completing a field-based internship. The initial findings are promising: Regardless of the teaching approach, pre-service teachers reported a meaningful change in attitudes regarding multiculturalism and diversity in comparison to other pre-service teachers who received no cultural intervention. This body of work is significant in that little, if any, experimental research have examined potential best practices in teaching multicultural education to teachers. These findings provide directions for future use in working with teachers to become informed about cultural issues and their application in working with a diverse group of youth.

Dawnielle Simmons, a second year doctoral student, presented a poster, along with Dr. Vandiver as her co-author. The focus of the poster, titled “Examining the Factor Structure of the Lesbian Gay Bisexual Identity Scale (LGBIS) for LGB African Americans,” was on whether scores on the LGBIS is valid for use with African American men and women. Collecting data online via Twitter and Facebook, Ms. Simmons obtained a sample of 183 LGB African Americans. Confirmatory factor analysis indicated that the eight-factor model approached a good fit in comparison to reduced models. These findings provide a foundation to examine the intersection between racial identity and sexual orientation identity.

In her fourth year at WMU, Vanessa R. Laurent along with three WMU co-authors—Robert L. Harrison, Mark P. Orbe, and Lydia Kauffman—presented a poster titled “Navigating Two Worlds: How Multiracial Identity Development Informs the Counseling Process.” Through semi-structured interviews, Ms. Laurent explored the racial identity development of 20 biracial college women. Three central dimensions were identified: (a) saliency of family dynamics, (b) social interactions in homogenous settings, and (c) variations in biracial identity. These findings confirm that biracial identity development has a variety of outcomes: No specific type of identification is more prominent than others, underscoring the heterogeneity of biracial identity.

Completing her first year as new faculty at WMU, Beverly J. Vandiver, professor of counseling psychology, also chaired a symposium and gave a fellow’s talk. The symposium was titled “Forty Years of Cross’ Theory of Nigrescence—Its Impact on the Past, Present, and Future,” which focused on the work of William E. Cross, Jr., one of the preeminent scholars on Black racial identity. Vandiver also presented on the influence of the Civil Rights Movement and becoming Black on Cross’s early work. Frank Worrell, professor at University of California, Berkeley presented on the revision and expansion of the nigrescence model, followed by the presentation of Kevin Cokley, professor at University of Texas, Austin, on the evolution of William Cross’s work and its impact in the 21st century. Cross, currently a professor at his alma mater, the University of Denver, was the discussant. Professor Vandiver was acknowledged as an APA fellow for the Society of Counseling Psychology and was invited to give a fellow’s address. This honor is given to APA members who have made an outstanding contribution to a specific field of psychology, in this case, counseling psychology. Her address was titled “The Measure of an Identity,” in which she noted the importance of rigorous scale development and the impact on developing a culturally sound scale. In 2012, Vandiver received her initial APA fellow from the Division of Evaluation, Measurement, and Statistics.

WMU commits to expanding college access at White House event

contact: Cheryl Roland

December 4, 2014 | WMU News

KALAMAZOO, Mich.—Today, Western Michigan University President **John M. Dunn** will join President Barack Obama, the First Lady, and Vice President Joe Biden along with hundreds of college presidents and other higher education leaders to announce new actions to help more students prepare for and graduate from college.

The White House College Opportunity Day of Action helps to support the President's commitment to partner with colleges and universities, business leaders, and nonprofits to support students across the country to help the nation reach its goal of leading the world in college attainment.



Dunn

College Opportunity Day of Action

Dunn will announce WMU's commitment to increase the college and career readiness knowledge of high school counselors around the state by requiring the University's own pre-service counseling students take a new course in School Counseling for Postsecondary and Career Readiness. The course, which also will be offered online to counselors in training at other universities as well as guidance counselors already working in Michigan schools, is designed to positively impact the college-going rate in the state of Michigan.

The immediate goal of the new course work, Dunn says, is to increase both the college enrollment level and the number of students who complete financial aid paperwork at high schools whose counselors complete the WMU course. The new course, which was rolled out for fall 2014, fits the vision and goals of state organizations that WMU works with, including the Michigan College Access Network. That group works for college readiness, especially for marginalized populations and first-generation college students. WMU is taking the lead on one new front by ensuring that school counseling graduates will be equipped to become leaders and advocates for college and career readiness in the schools.

"For many students, a high school counselor is the critical guide through the college application and financial aid process," Dunn says. "We're out to ensure current and new school counselors are prepared to help students achieve their higher education dreams."

Dunn's panel begins at 1 p.m. and can also be viewed [online](#).

About the course

The WMU course was developed by **Dr. Mary L. Anderson**, associate professor of counselor education and counseling psychology, with a grant from the Michigan College Access Network. The course content was lauded earlier this fall during a College Opportunity Agenda event held at Harvard.

Participants in today's White House summit were asked to commit to new action in one of four areas: building networks of colleges around promoting completion, creating K-16 partnerships around college readiness, investing in high school counselors as part of the First Lady's Reach Higher initiative, and increasing the number of college graduates in the fields of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics.

President Obama is expected to announce new steps on how his administration is helping to support these actions, including announcing \$10 million to help promote college completion and a \$30 million AmeriCorps program that will improve low-income students' access to college.



Anderson

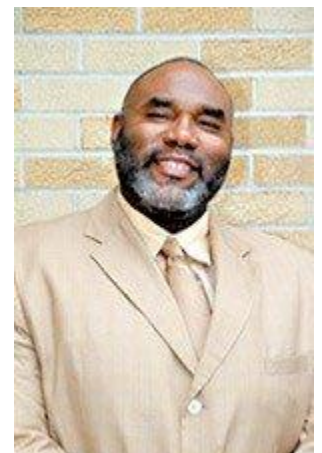
Watch the event live

Today's event is the second College Opportunity Day of Action, and will include a progress report on the commitments made at the first day of action in January 2014. The summit will be live streamed at whitehouse.gov/live, beginning at 9 a.m.

Dr. Lonnie Earl Duncan Memorial Scholarship Fund

Sadly, Dr. Lonnie E. Duncan, a native of Flint, Michigan, and associate professor of counselor education and counseling psychology at Western Michigan University, passed away on January 1, 2014. Dr. Duncan was Co-Training Director of the counseling psychology doctoral program. He will be greatly missed by counselor education and counseling psychology students and faculty.

A faculty member at WMU since 2000, Dr. Duncan was licensed as a psychologist in Michigan and, in addition to teaching, worked as a psychological supervisor for professionals in the community. He was nationally recognized for



his work in mental health treatment with racial minorities, including on such topics as help-seeking, assessment, treatment, training and supervision. Dr. Duncan was highly regarded in the profession. He was as a regular American Psychological Association site visitor for doctoral programs in counseling psychology and served on the national board for training directors of doctoral programs in counseling psychology.

Dr. Duncan was the recipient of a WMU 2013 Excellence in Diversity Award for the work he did to strengthen and enhance his department's focus on multiculturalism, and was singled out in particular for his work in recruiting students from historically black colleges and universities to WMU's graduate programs. In addition, he won the 2011 Trailblazer Award from the College of Education and Human Development for his work, with colleague Dr. Susan Piazza, to examine after-school literacy programs for struggling readers and provide additional service to youth who have incarcerated parents. And in 2009, he was awarded the Griselda Daniel Award by WMU's Graduate Students of Color for his commitment to diversity and inclusion.

In August 2013, Dr. Duncan was the unanimous selection from among five Kalamazoo candidates interviewed by the Kalamazoo School Board, to fill out a term that was set to expire at the end of 2014. In addition, Dr. Duncan was also active in the Kalamazoo community as a licensed minister through his church Christ Temple and regionally through their 5th episcopal district of the Pentecostal Assemblies of the World.

Prior to coming to Kalamazoo, Dr. Duncan was a staff psychologist at Northern Illinois University and with a family service agency in DeKalb, Ill. He also was an instructor in NIU's Black Studies Department and with the Department of Psychology at Kishwaukee College.

Dr. Duncan earned his bachelor's degree at Central State University in 1989 and his master's and doctoral degrees from Ball State University in 1992 and 1996, respectively.

Dr. Duncan was passionate about social justice, diversity and inclusion, issues related to African American males, and literacy. The Dr. Lonnie Earl Duncan Memorial Scholarship will help support a student pursuing a graduate degree in Counselor Education/Counseling Psychology. Dr. Duncan leaves behind his legacy to cherish, his wife, Yolanda Duncan, and sons Lonnie Juwan and Alonzo Clark.

