

## College of Fine Arts



Caroline Gore, Frostic School of Art Assistant Professor and Metals/Jewelry Area Coordinator

### Staff Accolades

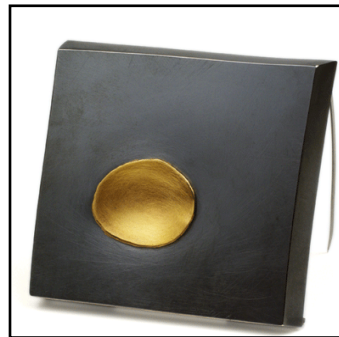
**Caroline Gore**, assistant professor of Art and Metals/Jewelry area coordinator, was invited to present an exhibition titled "Site: Interventions, Observations, and Simulation" as part of the Society of North American Goldsmiths conference program at Lawndale Art Center in Houston, Texas. Exhibition details are available at [www.carolinegore.com/site\\_interventions](http://www.carolinegore.com/site_interventions).

Classical music recording label, NAXOS named Soviet Russian Viola Music by School of Music Professor, **Igor Fedotov**. One of the new recordings presents examples of virtually forgotten music written for viola by exceptionally talented Russian/Soviet composers. The stature of these composers and



Professor Igor Fedotov, School of Music

their contribution to Russian musical life give this music its intrinsic value. The rediscovery and recording of this particular body of Soviet music preserves a part of Russian cultural heritage and significantly expands the viola repertoire. Dr. Fedotov, 2006-



Brooch by Caroline Gore, sourced from on Via della Bella Donne - Florence, Italy (sterling silver, 24K gold)

07 Fulbright Scholar, teaches viola and serves as a member of the Board of Directors for the Stulberg International String Competition.

### Student Accolades

Dance major, **Chelsie Jackson**, (BFA, 2010) extended her undergraduate course research for her senior capstone project into a meaningful



Chelsie Jackson (front) in Sharon Garber's *Shades of Glass* at the WMU Winter Gala Dance Concert

service-learning project. Jackson is collecting gently-used and new ballet-wear to donate to the new Institute of Dance in the city of Suleimaniya in the Kurdish region of northern Iraq. In addition to collecting attire and funds, Chelsie is working with WMU associate professor of dance **Sharon Garber** to form a beginning ballet curriculum for the institute. Her project is designed to support the unification of heritages and religions in the Kurdish region through ballet. The Institute of Dance in Suleimaniya is currently operating solely on donations. Students are admitted to the Institute of Dance in Suleimaniya on the basis of talent, not religion. This is an unusual practice in Iraq where people of different religions have been fighting each other for hundreds of years. The city of Suleimaniya is one of the most modern and progressive cities

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in Iraq. Chelsie sees the progressivism of Suleimaniya as fertile ground to develop dance as "a tool for peace." To donate to the Institute of Dance in Suleimaniya through Chelsie's project, contact the WMU Department of Dance at (269) 387-5830.

**Gabriel Craig** (BFA, 2006) and **Amy Weiks** (BFA, 2005) are currently serving as Artists in Residence at the Houston Center for Contemporary Craft. Craig is the founding Editor of [conceptualmetalsmithing.com](http://conceptualmetalsmithing.com), has authored numerous magazine articles for *American Craft*, *Metalsmith*, and *Fiber Arts Magazine*. He recently participated as a panelist at the symposium Making Meaning in the Marketplace, sponsored by Savannah College of Art and Design and the American Craft Council. Additionally his work was featured in the curated exhibition "Adornment and Excess: Jewelry in the 21st century" at Ohio University where he was invited as a visiting artist. Craig recently gave a lecture titled Altruism, Activism, and the Moral Imperative in Craft at the Society of North American Goldsmiths.

American College Theatre Festival regional finalist **Crystal Lucas-Perry** (BFA, 2010) and her scene partner Louis Sallan (BFA, 2010) will be travelling to Washington to complete in the national Irene Ryan Competition beginning April 13. Perry and Sallan have also been awarded generous scholarships to the prestigious MFA program in performance at New York University.



*Morgan Medor, Frostic School of Art, earns prestigious internship at the Smithsonian Institute in Washington D.C.*

**Morgan Medor**, a senior art history major, has been awarded a prestigious Katzenberger Foundation Art History Internship at the Smithsonian Institute in Washington DC. She is one of six art history students in the country to win this paid summer internship for 2010. Morgan will be working at the Freer / Sackler Galleries with an expert arts conservationist on precise identifications of a large collection of Central Asian textile art.

**Mary (Sieklucki) Murphy** (BFA, 1986) will be honored as dance educator of the year at the May 2010 Michigan Youth Arts Festival. Mary earned her BFA in Dance, with Special Studies in Ballet and K-12 Teaching Certification in Dance Education and Psychology from Western Michigan University. She later received her MAT from Marygrove College. She studied ballet with the late Jrgen Schneider, of the American Ballet Theatre, and Alonzo King of Alonzo King Lines Ballet. While at WMU, Mary studied with modern dance pioneers Erick Hawkins and Alwin Nikolais. Mary is currently the Director of Dance for Livonia Public School's Creative and Performing Arts (CAPA) program.

## Upcoming Events

**James Daniel**, professor of Theatre, will direct "An Italian Straw Hat" by Eugene Labiche and Marc-Michelat (English version by Lynn and Theodore Hoffman) at the Hope Summer Repertory Theatre in downtown Holland, Mich. This classic and hilarious French farce runs from July 9 to August 14 in the DeWitt Theatre. For ticket information visit: [www.hope.edu/hsrt](http://www.hope.edu/hsrt).



*Ballet Classes at the American Voices Unity Youth Performing Arts Academies in Erbil, Suleimaniya and Kirkuk.*

## College of Health and Human Services



*James Daniel, WMU Professor of Theatre*

## Staff Accolades

In March 2010, **Debra Lindstrom-Hazel**, professor in the WMU Department of Occupational Therapy, and Karen Kafantaris, Michigan AARP Associate State Director for Livable Communities, were presented with the AARP Member Value Innovation Award for their work in developing the Home Fit Program, a program that helps people over 65 evaluate whether their home "fits them for a lifetime." The award was given by AARP's national office in Washington, D.C. in a virtual ceremony that connected Michigan's AARP office and offices in eight other states, where other award recipients reside. Lindstrom-Hazel and Kafantaris were awarded \$10,000 to further Home Fit for national dissemination. Home Fit was initiated at the WMU College of Health and Human Services in October of 2009. Programs are planned for April in Okemos, Mich. and in May in Ann Arbor. OT assistive technology class (5730) students are involved in the planning and presentations of Home Fit programs.

**Dr. Carla Chase**, assistant professor in the WMU Occupational Therapy Department, has been named as WMU's alternate Institutional Representative to the Association for Gerontology in Higher Education (AGHE). **Dr. Donna Weinreich**, associate professor, School of Social Work, is WMU's Institutional Representative. Drs. Weinreich and Chase were program co-chairs of AGHE's 36th Annual Meeting and Educational Leadership Conference held in Reno Nevada March 4 through March 7 this year. WMU faculty interested in gerontology and geriatrics are invited to contact Drs. Weinreich or Chase in order to develop campus-wide focus and action in aging studies. AGHE is the international leader

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in advancing education on aging and is the only institutional membership organization devoted primarily to gerontology and geriatrics education. It has been in existence since 1974, and WMU was an inaugural member. AGHE's mission is two-fold: 1) to advance gerontology and geriatrics education in academic institutions; and 2) to provide leadership and support of gerontology and geriatrics education faculty and students at education institutions.

A study conducted by interdisciplinary health sciences doctoral program Associate Professor **Dr. Kieran Fogarty**, with a team of researchers, has drawn attention from national news web sites. The study article was written by Stephanie Krajnik, former Kalamazoo Area Mathematics and Science Center student and current Aquinas College student. It was first published in *The Journal of Pediatrics* last year. The research focused on increasing rates of shoulder injuries among young female softball players and has been featured on several national websites, including the *Atlanta Journal Constitution*, *US News and World Report* and *USA Today*. The study found that shoulder injuries were common among boy's baseball pitchers, in particular. Young women softball players suffered the same injuries, but in multiple team positions. Additionally, for boys, these injuries happened during games, while girls experienced them during practice. The study analyzes risk factors related to shoulder injuries and suggests several interventions to prevent them.

Over the past several weeks, **Dr. Sharie Falan**, assistant professor in WMU Bronson School of Nursing, has seen some very positive results from her diligent efforts. She recently had two articles accepted for publication in international journals: Using similarity theory to examine inconsistencies in nursing communication in Communications of the ICISA and Concept analysis of similarity applied to Nursing Diagnoses: Implication for educators in the International Journal of Nursing Terminologies and Classifications. Falan was also a significant contributor to a major national initiative in health informatics: Technology Informatics Guiding Education Reform, or the T.I.G.E.R. initiative. She is credited on page 24 and 25 of the T.I.G.E.R. Initiative Collaborative Report. In addition, she has played a key role in establishing the Western Michigan University Center for Health Information Technology Advancement (WMU-CHITA), a project to adopt and implement required Health Information Technology (HIT) for Health Care Reform in Southwest Michigan. The center is a collaborative effort between faculty members of the Department of Business Information Systems at the Haworth College of Business and the Bronson School of Nursing at the College of Health and

Human Services. The center is intended to integrate faculty talents to pursue external resources for quality research, better train and prepare students, and partner with the community. The proposal was approved by the Deans' Council on March 23, 2010 and the Faculty Senate on March 26, 2010.

Recent honors, publications and presentations from faculty members of the Department of Speech Pathology and Audiology include the following:

- **Prof. Bharti Katbamna**, Ph.D. will receive the Distinguished Alumni Award from the University of Cincinnati Department Of Communication Sciences and Disorders in May this year.
- Department Professor and Chair **Dr. Ann Tyler** recently published the following: Ann A. Tyler & Toby Macrae (2010). *Stimulability: Relationships to other characteristics of Children's phonological systems*, *Clinical Linguistics & Phonetics*, Vol. 24, 300-310.
- **Dr. Helen Sharp**, associate professor, will present "Moral Distress in the Context of Interdisciplinary Team Care," at the conference "Recognizing and Managing Moral Distress in Rehabilitation" at the Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago on April 19. On April 21, she will present "Speech, Language and Communication Considerations," at the conference "Developmental Disabilities" at Michigan State University.



Andy Hilliard from County Donegal is pictured left of center with WMU students at a peat bog site from which peat was recently harvested and used for turf fires in Ireland.

## Student Accolades

Department of Occupational Therapy (OT) alumna **Heather Edwards**, MS DipCOT and **Dr. Diane Durette**, OT faculty member, have co-authored and published the following article: Edwards, H. & Durette, D. (2010). The relationship between professional identity and burnout among occupational therapists.

Occupational Therapy in Health Care, 24(2), 119-129. Heather is currently employed at the Sunnyside Royal Hospital in Angus, Scotland. This paper was revised from Ms. Edwards' master's thesis, which examined the results of the Maslach Burnout Inventory and a Professional Identity Questionnaire with 126 practicing occupational therapist.

**Dr. Maureen Mickus** and occupational therapy graduate student **Kristen Schetzle** led an interdisciplinary group of 11 CHHS students on a ten-day trip to Ireland and Northern Ireland this spring semester, 2010. This is the third year the elective course titled "International Perspectives on Care of the Older Person" has been offered. During the trip, students interacted with Irish students at the University of Ulster, participated in clinical experiences throughout Belfast, and

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visited older adults in the community and various nursing homes. In addition, students experienced a range of cultural activities, including tours and an evening of Celtic music, storytelling and dance.

School of Social Work students **Nicki Lynn Hurley** and **Ramona Lumpkin** were recently named 2010 Whitney Young Scholarship recipients. A committee of faculty and staff selected them based on their representation of Whitney M. Young Jr.'s ideals in scholarship, community service, awards and recognitions, and social justice leadership roles. The Whitney Young award culminates in an annual event, which features a ceremony and a speaker whose life and work exemplify Young's spirit. Rozell "Prexy" Nesbitt is no exception. He was keynote speaker at the 2010 Whitney Young Scholarship Award Celebration on Tuesday, March 23 in room 4010 at the College of Health and Human Services. Hurley and Lumpkin were recognized at the event and awarded a certificate and monetary stipend. Throughout his career, Nesbitt has been involved in labor and equality movements around the world. He is a noted lecturer in the U.S. and abroad, has published a book and written extensively for international journals and television. His work has garnered him numerous awards and, today, he remains active in a number of areas. Whitney Moore Young, Jr., was an African American social work administrator and one of America's most influential civil rights leaders during the 1960s. He served as President of the National Association of Social Workers and Executive Director of the National Urban League, and was Convocation speaker for the dedication of the School of Social Work at Western Michigan University in 1968. In March 1971, while attending an African-American Dialogue conference in Lagos, Nigeria, Young and several other American delegates went swimming at a nearby beach where he had a heart attack and died. To celebrate Young's life and ideals, that same year, the WMU School of Social Work established the Whitney Young Scholar Award.



*Nicki Lynn Hurley*



*Ramona Lumpkin*

Several speech pathology and audiology students have been recognized for academic accomplishments recently.

- **Tracy Barsheff** received the James Jerger Award - a certificate and \$500 cash - for her presentation at an AAA meeting in San Diego, Calif. Tracy is

also a Departmental Scholar for 2009-10 and was recognized at the graduate school's reception to honor Graduate Research and Creative Scholars on April 22.

- **Joyce Irvine** is the Departmental Scholar in the Speech-Language Pathology Master's program and was recognized at the same event for her poster - Comparing Student, Parent, and Teacher Responses on a Language and Literacy Questionnaire.
- Also, at the Fourth Annual WMU Research and Creative Activities Poster Day on April 9, audiology graduate student **Kristy Deiters** presented "Daily Sound Exposure among College-Level Musicians" mentored by **Dr. Greg Flamme**.
- **Michelle Magalski** presented her thesis research in "A Sentence Combining Task: Scoring Methods for Differentiating Abilities" mentored by **Dr. Nicki Nelson**. Both Deiters and Magalski received monetary awards.

Speech pathology and audiology alumna **Anita Marzonie** is employed by the University of Michigan Hospitals as a speech-language pathologist. At a recent Michigan Speech-Language Hearing Conference in Kalamazoo, she presented a short course on dysphagia in young children. In April, her article "Swallowing the Hard Truth, Feeding specialists and intervention in the NICU," co-authored with Trisha Mozdierz, OTR, was published online at [therapytimes.com](http://therapytimes.com).

## Upcoming Events

Currently on exhibit in the College of Health and Human Services (CHHS) second floor art gallery is "A World of Faces and Places," a collection of black and white photographs of people and scenes from Peru, Ecuador, Mexico, South Africa, Cambodia, Vietnam and Thailand by **Sally Putney**. A reception was held on Mon., April 12 from 4-6 p.m. in the CHHS gallery. Photographer Sally Putney graduated from Western Michigan University in 1976 with a master's degree in counseling and since has worked as a certified social worker in human services and mental health settings. The photographs in this exhibit document her travels to developing countries with a social worker's sensitivity. They portray the apparent simplicity of life in these counties and the poignant beauty of the people with dignity and respect. "Obviously, their lives are much harder and less comfortable than ours," says Putney. "On the other hand, their sense of community seems to be greater, their resourcefulness impressive, their relationship to the land closer and their pace of life less hectic." She hopes that viewers of the show will discover the interconnectedness of the world's people, whether rich or poor. The exhibit is offered as a complement to the CHHS book *Read Mountains Beyond Mountains*, Tracy Kidder's story of Dr. Paul Farmer's work in Haiti. It will be on display through April 30 and can be viewed Monday through Thursday, 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. and Friday and Saturday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more information, contact **Gay Walker** at (269) 387-3839 or [gay.walker@wmich.edu](mailto:gay.walker@wmich.edu).



# College of Education and Human Development

## Items of Academic Interest

**Drs. Van Cooley, Patricia Reeves, Jianping Shen, Jessaca Spybrook, and Gary Miron** of the Department of Educational Leadership, Research and Technology, have been invited by the Michigan Department of Education to advise and assist with the State of Michigan's new application for the federal Race to the Top Awards. The Obama administration is devoting \$4.3 billion for states who are competing for these grants.

The Department of Health, Physical Education and Recreation participated in two outreach events in April. Department and professional student organizations hosted the Minds in Motion reception for all majors, minors, and interested students in health, physical education, and recreation fields. The department also participated in the fifth annual College Sports Career Day hosted by the Office of Athletics. This unique opportunity for high school students, staff and parents to explore a variety of career opportunities in the world of intercollegiate athletics took place on April 16.

## Staff Accolades

**Dr. Amos O. Aduroja**, associate professor in the Department of Health, Physical Education and Recreation, has been named the Outstanding Faculty Sponsor of the Year for 2009 by Eta Sigma Gamma, the national health education honor society. Each year, chapters have the opportunity to nominate their faculty sponsor as the Outstanding Faculty Sponsor of the Year. Selection criteria include length of service and evidence of exceptional leadership and mentoring of students. The honor is presented yearly at the annual business meeting by the current national president. WMU students nominated Aduroja for not only teaching and sharing his love of health education throughout the years, but also for ensuring that all Gamma Mu members develop the skills and professionalism necessary to succeed in this field.



Dr. Amos O. Aduroja

**Dr. Robert Bensley**, professor in the Department of Health, Physical Education and Recreation, was awarded funding through the Technology Development Fund. Dr. Bensley will receive funds for his proposal, iManageHealth, which is designed to operate as a front end system to fit

within existing health promotion resource systems.

**Dr. Gary Miron**, professor in the Evaluation, Measurement, and Research graduate program in the Department of Educational Leadership, Research, and Technology, has been invited to serve on the Great Public Schools Indicators Advisory Panel. This panel of experts from universities across the country will focus on key state and school-level policies and practices that ensure that every child can succeed. The group will cover seven major topics ranging from school readiness to school accountability. The final set of indicators for Great Public Schools, as well as a set of related white papers, will be released in March 2011.



Dr. Robert Bensley



Dr. Gary Miron



Minds in Motion

## Student Accolades

Students in the interior design program in the Department of Family and Consumer Sciences participated in the annual American Society of Interior Designers (ASID) Michigan Chapter Student Design Competition. Students were asked to program and design an assigned project over the course of one eight-hour session. This year, in combination with a resort community's business association and the state of Michigan, students were asked to design a tourist welcome center located in one of the following areas: Southwest Michigan, Northern Lower Peninsula, Upper Peninsula, or Southeast Michigan/Thumb Region. Competition entrants were judged on the creativity of the design and ideas presented, the graphic quality of the presentation boards, the functional quality of the design concept, the quality of lighting design, and the sustainable nature of the selected materials, fixtures, furnishings, and equipment. Awards were presented April 9 during Student Career Days, held at the Michigan Design Center in Troy. **Claire VanBemmelen** and **Kirsten Strauss** won first and second places respectively in the senior division. **Elizabeth Riggan** won first place in the junior division.

**Dr. Tony McLain**, WMU alumnus, has been named president of Lake Superior State University. Dr. McLain holds a master's degree in counseling and personnel administration and a bachelor's degree in English, both from Western Michigan University. He received a doctorate in K-12 education administration from Michigan State.



Dr. Tony McLain

The Department of Family and Consumer Sciences scholarship/award ceremony was held on March 31.

Congratulations to all who received awards. The 2010 FCS Alumni Academy Inductees are: **Molly Marsh, Pamela Graskewicz, Barb Grinwis, Terry Wall** (accepted by her daughter Amber Wall), and **Joyce Ross**.



2010 FCS Alumni Academy Inductees

## Upcoming Events

Grand Rapids is hosting a fashion design competition "Runway on Monroe." West Michigan fashion designers entered the contest by submitting photos of several of their designs, and a jury selected the top 20 designers to go forward in the competition. Six of the top 20 are WMU students (four undergrads, one graduate, and one alum): **Courtney Engle, Heather Mclead, Jolene Parrichiani, Ashley Pepper, Dora Theodoropoulos, and Zoe Valette**. The top 20 will be featured in a fashion show in Rosa Parks Circle on May 15. The public is invited to vote for the winner at <http://www.runwayonmonroe.com/> starting April 23.

## Emeriti Council

### Upcoming Events

At a Wednesday meeting, the current status of the Business, Technology and Research Park will be presented by Associate Vice President **Robert Miller** of the Office of Community Outreach. He will discuss the history and progress of the park, the types and numbers of companies and their products and services, and the current status of some of the original companies. Join us May 12 at 2 p.m. in the Emeriti Lounge at Walwood Hall.



Metro Detroit logo

## Extended University Programs

### Items of Academic Interest

Extended University Programs and the College of Health and Human Services are pleased to announce that the Grand Rapids site for the Occupational Therapy program has received full accreditation status. The Kalamazoo and the Grand Rapids entry-level Occupational Therapy master's degree programs are accredited by the Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education (ACOTE) of the American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA), located at 4720 Montgomery Lane, P.O. Box 31220, Bethesda, MD 20824-1220. ACOTE's telephone number c/o AOTA is (301) 652-AOTA. Graduates of the programs are eligible to sit for the national certification examination for the occupational therapist administered by the National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy (NBCOT). After successful completion of this exam, the individual will be an Occupational Therapist, Registered (OTR). In addition, most states require licensure in order to practice; however, state licenses are usually based on the results of the NBCOT Certification Examination. Note that a felony conviction may affect a graduate's ability to sit for the NBCOT certification examination or attain state licensure.

WMU is committed to supporting Michigan's economy in the MetroDetroit area with education solutions. We're proud to announce the opening of the MetroDetroit site in Royal Oak, on Woodward Avenue. The selection of the Royal Oak site was guided by three basics: (1) The importance of tradition of Southeast Michigan as a recruiting base for WMU. (2) An analysis of sites in the region with the potential to need and support new academic programming. (3) The desire for a location that is easily accessible to students from both the city of Detroit and the suburbs. EUP is currently

engaged in research to determine educational programming needs for the Metro-Detroit area and contacting sister institutions to discuss how WMU can complement existing curricula offered in the region. Programs currently under consideration for the region include a graduate certificate, Specialty Program

in Alcohol and Drug Abuse, and the General University Studies bachelor degree completion program. Programs will be offered after approval by the Higher Learning Commission, WMU's institutional accrediting body.



## Staff Accolades

**Dr. Bradford Winkler**, part-time instructor Educational Leadership, Research, and Technology, is the recent recipient of the Mary L. Dawson Teaching Excellence Award. This award recognizes two individuals (one "regular appointment" faculty member and one part-time or adjunct faculty member) who demonstrate exceptional creativity, enthusiasm and passion for teaching at the undergraduate and/or graduate level(s). Winkler teaches in both Kalamazoo and Grand Rapids. He is also a professor for Aquinas College. Along with other award winners, Winkler will be recognized at the Tenth Annual College of Education and Human Development Awards and Recognition Celebration will take place on Fri., April 23 from 5 to 7:30 p.m. at the Gilmore Theatre Complex. The awards program is designed to honor faculty, staff and students who have distinguished themselves through extraordinary service to the College, University and community through teaching, research, leadership and professional activities.

## Upcoming Events

On June 16-18, Kalamazoo will host the third annual PromiseNet conference: Investing in Youth for Community Transformation. The conference is part of the larger community celebration of The Kalamazoo Promise including a 6th grade KPS student visit to WMU (Bronco Buds), the first bachelor degree Kalamazoo Promise graduates, and the W.E. Upjohn Institute's first comprehensive evaluation. "The goal of PromiseNet 2010 is to connect communities that are working together to transform themselves," says Janice Brown, executive director of The Kalamazoo Promise. The conference is designed to bring together individuals from all over the U.S. who are invested and engaged in education-based economic renewal like Kalamazoo, as well as those in the planning stages. Says Brown, "The Kalamazoo Promise is the flagship scholarship initiative and teams from communities around the country will attend to learn how greater Kalamazoo and other communities have rallied around the Promise." Conference sessions will focus on educational excellence, student support, community vitality, economic development, and research and evaluation. Conference attendees will also have the opportunity to tour over 10 Kalamazoo sites and organizations, such as the Epic Center, Linden Grove Middle School, Goodwill Industries, and Southwest Michigan Innovation Center that have programs working in conjunction with The Kalamazoo Promise. Dr. Michael Rice and his leadership team are playing a significant role in planning and sharing KPS innovations during the conference. For more PromiseNet 2010 information and registration, visit [www.promisenet.us](http://www.promisenet.us).



*PromiseNet logo*

## The Evaluation Center

### Items of Academic Interest

A journal article written by **Dr. Stephen Magura**, director of The Evaluation Center, was published recently: Magura, S. (2010). Validating reports of illegal drug use to evaluate national drug control policy. *Evaluation and Program Planning*, 33, 234-237.

On Fri., April 9, Dr. Thomas Koballa, Jr., University of Georgia-Athens, presented "The Science Learning Assessment System Workshop" as a part of the National Association of Geoscience Teachers Distinguished Speaker Series. The workshop included an interactive exploration of four key

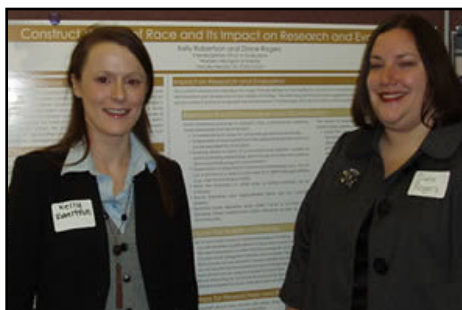


*Dr. Thomas Koballa, Jr.*

assessment elements including learning goals, beginning-of-instruction assessment, during-instruction assessment, and end-of-instruction assessment. Dr. Koballa's visit was sponsored by WMU, the Mallinson Institute for Science Education, The Evaluation Center's Assessment for Learning Scholars: Capacity Building in Mathematics and Science Education project, the Department of Geosciences, the National Association of Geoscience Teachers, and Deep Earth Academy and the Consortium of Ocean Leadership.

### Student Accolades

The 4th Annual WMU Research Creative Activities Poster Day event was held at the Fetzer Center on April 9. Two posters were presented, one titled "Comparing Heroin-Dependent Offenders' Experience With and Perceptions of Methadone vs. Buprenorphine Maintenance" by **Ezechukwu Awgu**, graduate student in the Interdisciplinary PhD Program in Evaluation and **Dr. Stephen Magura**, director of The Evaluation Center. A second poster, titled "Construct Validity of Race and its Impact on Research and Evaluation," was submitted by **Kelly Robertson**, Evaluation Center project manager/IDPE graduate student, and **Diane Rogers**, IDPE graduate student. Kelly and Rogers were awarded \$200 for their poster. Forty-one graduate students and 20 faculty members showcased posters, and 15 posters received awards.



*Kelly and Rogers on Poster Day*

# Office of Faculty Development

## Upcoming Events

The Office of Faculty Development is pleased to announce our Summer 2010 program offerings. We have loads of great programming being offered throughout the summer including the e-Teaching Endorsement Program, Blended Learning, Teaching & Learning for Millennials and Cool Tools for Teaching Workshops.

- e-Teaching Endorsement will be offered on Thursdays May 13 – June 17 from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. This program will also be offered on Tuesdays and Thursdays July 6 – July 22 from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.
- Blended Learning will meet on Wednesdays and Fridays July 7 – July 23 from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.
- Teaching & Learning for Millennials will meet daily July 5 – July 9 from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.
- Cool Tools for Teaching workshops will also be offered during the summer. Topics will include Web 2.0 – Cool Applications for Teaching, Effective Use of Clickers, Making Group Projects Work and other popular topics. A full schedule will be uploaded to our website by May 15.

For more information on any of these programs please feel free to visit our website at [www.wmich.edu/facdev](http://www.wmich.edu/facdev). To reserve your place in any of our summer programs please contact us at [faculty-development@wmich.edu](mailto:faculty-development@wmich.edu).

# College of Arts and Sciences

## Items of Academic Interest

Three faculty from the college recently took part in a panel discussion following the viewing of the film "Waterlife" at the Saugatuck Center for the Arts. The film follows the flow of Great Lakes' water from the Nipigon River and Lake Superior to the Atlantic Ocean through the film. Presenters included: **Lynne Heasley**, associate professor of History and Environmental Studies at Western Michigan University and a member of the board of directors at Tillers International. She is currently working on a book called *The Paradox of Abundance: An Environmental History of the Great Lakes*. **Michael Chiarappa**, associate professor of History and Environmental Studies at Western Michigan University. His research focuses on American environmental history, the history of America's built environments, American maritime history, and cultural resource management. **Denise Keele**, assistant professor of Political Science and Environmental Studies at Western Michigan University. Her principle research focus is

environmental and natural resource policy, administration, law and conflict management. The "Real to Reel" documentary series is sponsored by Bob and Bobbie Gaunt, the Maplewood Hotel, members of the art center's Cinema Club, and media partner WGVU. For more information, call (269) 857-2399 or visit [www.sc4a.org](http://www.sc4a.org).

## Faculty Accolades

**Dr. Sherine Obare**, associate professor of chemistry, is the recipient of three recent awards. Obare received a Materials World Network award from the National Science Foundation titled 'Materials World Network: Rational Design of Metallic and Bimetallic Nanoparticles for Opto-Electrochemical Biosensing.' This collaborative grant with scientists at the University of 7 November in Tunisia will establish a research program to develop sensors for toxic biological agents. Obare also was awarded the 2009 George Washington Carver Teaching Excellence Award at the National Association for the Professional Advancement of Black Chemists (NOBCChE) Midwest Regional Conference. This award is given to teacher-scholars who have demonstrated excellence in scientific research as well as a strong dedication to mentoring students and the grooming of future scientists. In 2009, Obare was named International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry (IUPAC) Young Observer by the National Academies. This award is given to young scientists that have demonstrated outstanding scholarly accomplishments early in their careers and have a strong commitment to international research collaborations.



Sherine Obare

M.P.A. student **Doreen Harrison** put her course assignments in PADM 5830, Grant Writing for Nonprofit Organizations to successful workplace application and financial rewards for S.A.F.E. Place, a nonprofit organization in Battle Creek, Mich. Harrison's coursework required her to research a nonprofit organization's program, purposes, and needs, with an eye toward developing a grant proposal for a nonprofit organization. Ms. Harrison selected S.A.F.E. Place in Battle Creek. This organization, established in 1983, is committed to helping victims of domestic violence and their families in Barry, Eaton, and Calhoun Counties by providing quality shelter and crisis intervention services at no cost and advocating for safety as prescribed by law. Harrison's grant proposal, on behalf of the S.A.F.E. Place, was submitted to the City of Battle Creek for a Community Development Block Grant in support of direct services. The asking for \$75,000 was met with the award of \$61,608. **Dr. Melisa J. Beeson**, faculty member of the course, noted that the conversion of the class assignment into an award for S.A.F.E. Place is "outstanding news." Hard work in class paid off financially for S.A.F.E. Place and professionally for Ms. Harrison. **Dr. Barbara S. Liggett**, interim director of the School of Public Affairs

*Continued on next page*



and Administration added, "This is another example of how WMU graduate coursework plus a student's initiative can lead to success for Michigan's organizations and agencies, and therefore assist Michigan's citizens."

**Dr. Susan R. Stapleton**, associate dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, has been named American Council on Education Fellow for the 2010-11 academic year. The ACE Fellows Program, established in 1965, is designed to strengthen institutions and leadership in American higher education by identifying and preparing promising senior faculty and administrators for responsible positions in college and university administration. Forty-six fellows, nominated by the presidents or chancellors of their institutions, were selected this year following a rigorous application process.



*Susan Stapleton*

Those selected were announced in Washington, D.C., March 30 by Molly Corbett Broad, president of ACE. Stapleton, who is a professor of chemistry/biochemistry and biological sciences, is a candidate for the position of dean of her college at WMU. She has served as associate dean since 2007, and her areas of responsibility include oversight of curriculum, assessment, accreditation, enrollment and diversity programs. She joined the WMU faculty in 1989 and has conducted extensive federally funded research in biochemistry with grants from such agencies as the National Science Foundation, National Institutes of Health, and Diabetes Research and Education Foundation. Her focus has been on gene expression and understanding diabetes and insulin resistance. As a member of the WMU faculty, she has served as a visiting scientist at Pharmacia Corp., and since 1997, she also has been director of co-op and internship opportunities in chemistry.

**Dr. Ilana Nash** (English and Gender & Women's Studies), has published her essay "The Innocent Is a Broad: American Virgins in a Global Context," in the newly-released collection "Virgin Territory: Representing Sexual Innocence in Film," ed. Tamar Jeffers McDonald (Wayne State University Press, 2010). Nash's essay analyzes four comedic films -- two from the World War II era, and two from the Cold War era -- to demonstrate how American films have used the virginal female body, during periods of global conflict, as a symbol for national ideals and national safety.

**Elena Lisovskaya and Slava Karpov** (Sociology) spoke at Baylor University about "Orthodoxy, Islam, and the Desecularization of Russian State Schools" at the Sixth Annual Hugh and Beverly Wamble Lecture series, which highlights issues relating to religious freedom. See more: <http://www.baylor.edu/lariat/news.php?action=story&story=68955>.



*Elena Lisovskaya and Slava Karpov  
(Sociology)*

## Student Accolades

**Laura J. Citino**, a Western Michigan University senior from Ypsilanti, Mich., earned a second-place creative writing prize at the 2010 Sigma Tau Delta International Convention last month in St. Louis, Mo. She took second place in the program's creative nonfiction category for "Souvenirs," a story about her experience studying in Bonn, Germany. A double major in German and creative writing, Citino expects to graduate in May 2010, then pursue graduate studies in both of those fields. She has been serving as the communication officer for the University's Sigma Tau Delta chapter. Her award-winning story grew out of experiences she had as a member of WMU's Lee Honors College when she studied in Bonn in spring 2009. Citino was named WMU's Presidential Scholar in Foreign Languages earlier this year. The Presidential Scholar designation is the highest undergraduate award the University can bestow. The honor goes to the most outstanding seniors in each of WMU's academic schools, departments and specialty programs. Only 46 out of more than 5,600 seniors were named 2010 Presidential Scholars. Citino is a recipient of WMU's prestigious Medallion Scholarship. She co-edits the Laureate, the honors college's undergraduate literary journal; works as a consultant for the Writing Center; is a disc jockey for 89.1 WIDR FM, the student-run indie radio station; and twice served as a peer consultant for the Writing Studio program.

The JRN 4100 Environmental Reporting website featuring stories by School of Communication journalism students, and taught by **Jocelyn Steinke**, is now online at: <http://homepages.wmich.edu/~steinke/GreenScene/index.html>.

Sociology undergraduate student **Amanda Vig** is one of 46 students who were named a 2010 Presidential Scholar. The annual Presidential Scholar designation is the highest honor the university can bestow on an undergraduate. Vig, who graduated from Lake Fenton High School, said she was pleased to receive the Presidential Scholar in sociology. After her orientation at WMU, Vig said, she made academics a priority so that she could continue to study sociology in graduate school.

**G. William Zorn**, a graduate student in the creative writing program, has won the prestigious Mark Twain Prize for Comic Playwriting from the Kennedy Center's American College Theatre Festival. Zorn won the nationwide prize for his play, "Metropolis Has No Superman." His award includes a \$2,500 cash prize, a playwriting residency with a professional theatre company, possible publication from Dramatic Publishing Co., a production grant and a trip to the Kennedy Center-ACTF national festival April 12-18 in Washington, D.C., where he will receive his award and participate in a weeklong playwriting workshop with theatre professionals and fellow award-winning college playwrights. A portion of Zorn's play also will be read at the Kennedy Center.



From left: Dr. Richard Gershon (School of Communication) co-director; Dr. Pairin Katerattanakul (Computer Information Systems), Chad Stec (team captain), Shane Mittan (TIM paper award), Kurt Gillispie and Greg Guyette (team members); and Dr. Michael Tarn (chair, Department of Business Information Systems).

Four Western Michigan University TIM and CIS students swept both the International Telecommunications Education and Research Association (ITERA) National Case Study Competition and the individual best undergraduate research paper award competition at the 2010 ITERA Conference in Nashville, Tenn. This marks the first time that WMU has won the ITERA National Case Study Competition. It is the third time in the past four years that a WMU student has won the best paper award. Members of the winning team included **Chad Stec**, team captain (CIS) of Gobles, Mich., **Kurt Gillispie** (TIM) of Southfield, Mich., and **Greg Guyette** (TIM) of Farmington Hills, Mich. **Shane Mittan** (TIM) of Clare, Mich. was the winner of the best undergraduate research paper award competition. The competition titled "Connected Tennessee: Telecommunications Economic Development Case Study," challenged teams to create a strategic technology plan for bringing broadband and information technology service to a portion of rural Tennessee. The plan had to include both technology solutions as well as a proposed budget and implementation plan. In February, ITERA announced that WMU team had made the final round of four, including Purdue University, Murray State University, and James Madison University. The final-round competition and public presentation were held during ITERA's national conference on April 10 and 11 in Nashville, Tenn. The Telecommunications & Information Management (TIM) Program, co-directed by **Dr. Richard Gershon**, professor of telecommunications management, and **Dr. Pairin Katerattanakul**, associate professor of computer information systems, is offered through the Department of Business Information System, Haworth College of Business, and the School of Communication, College of Arts & Sciences. The TIM major is designed to train students in a variety of telecommunications and data communication subdisciplines. The program's mission is to give students a well-balanced education in a variety of business and technical management issues. See more here: <http://hcobwmu.blogspot.com/2010/04/wmus-tim-and-cis-students-sweep.html>.



Major Excitement

## Upcoming Events

May 4

- Event: Sustainability Across the Curriculum Luncheon
- Description: A locally-sourced, vegan luncheon for faculty to help initiate a campus-wide conversation on sustainability across the curriculum.
- Location: President's Dining Room, Bernhard Center
- Time: 12:15 to 2:15 p.m.
- RSVP

May 19

- Event: Shirley and Michael Bach Workshop on Teaching Ethics, Ethics Center
- Description: Participants will learn theories, techniques and activities suitable for the ethics classroom, whether it is a single ethics unit or an entire course in ethics. The sessions will emphasize topics that cut across disciplines.
- Location: 159 Bernhard
- Time: 9 a.m. – 5 p.m., May 19-21

May 20

- Event: Shirley and Michael Bach Workshop on Teaching Ethics, Ethics Center
- Description: Participants will learn theories, techniques and activities suitable for the ethics classroom, whether it is a single ethics unit or an entire course in ethics. The sessions will emphasize topics that cut across disciplines.
- Location: 159 Bernhard
- Time: 9 a.m. – 5 p.m., May 19-21

More than 3,000 students visited 36 information stations during the fourth annual Major Excitement event, sponsored by the College of Arts and Sciences on Sept. 17, 2009. A repeat of the event is planned for Fri., Sept. 24, 2010 and you're invited. The event provides students with a great opportunity to explore as many majors as they find interesting with visiting alumni, faculty, graduate students, advising and more. Visiting academic units help students make personal connections and get advice on which courses and programs are

most valuable to their chosen profession. Faculty, chairs and graduate students meet with upwards of 3,000 first-year students during the event to advise and share stories. More details will be available in August or contact **Cheri Bales** at [cheri.bales@wmich.edu](mailto:cheri.bales@wmich.edu) or 387-4578 for more information.



## Assessment of Student Learning

Western Michigan University is the recipient of the 2008-09 American Humanics Program Excellence Award, a prestigious national honor awarded to institutions dedicated to preparing the next generation of nonprofit sector leaders. The WMU program was honored for "demonstrating best practices in all nonprofit leadership program areas, with strengths in the areas of institutional support, fundraising, nonprofit management curriculum, and community service," by American Humanics. "The students did a great job with their presentation and responding to questions from the committee. And, I note that **Janice Maatman** as WMU campus director for the American Humanics program has done an excellent job in preparing the students for their participation at the Institute," said **Dr. Barbara Liggett**, WMU interim director of the School of Public Affairs and Administration. Founded in 1948, American Humanics is a national alliance of nearly 70 colleges and universities nationwide and more than 60 national nonprofit organizations. The American Humanics program at WMU is part of the undergraduate minor in nonprofit leadership, which is housed in and supported by the School of Public Affairs and Administration. The University also offers a Graduate Certificate in Nonprofit Leadership and Administration and a concentration in nonprofit leadership within the Master of Public Administration program. During the 2008-09 academic year, Campus Compact and the Fidelity Charitable Gift Fund granted WMU American Humanics students \$15,000 to re-grant to local nonprofits and \$3,000 for administrative costs. Students studied community needs, set priorities, issued requests for proposals, analyzed 23 proposals, completed site visits and held a Students4Giving Grant Celebration. The WMU group has received another \$15,000 to distribute to local nonprofits in spring 2010. The student association also completed an additional four fundraising projects, including an Annual Letter Appeal and Santa's Village, raising a total of \$26,695. WMU students also served a total of 1,190 community-

service hours planning and implementing seven community service projects, including Bowling for Kids' Sake and a Head Start Christmas Party. For more information, contact Janice Maatman, director of nonprofit education programs in the School of Public Affairs and Administration, at janice.maatman@wmich.edu or (269) 387-8945.



*Nonprofit leadership program participants include Colleen Ames, William Bales, Lauren Berry, \*Aaron Booth, Joanna Bozin, Geena Holman, \*Candice Kinsey, Amanda Kuchnicki, Jacqueline Luedtke, Meghan MacDonald, \*Kerstan Ryan, Michael Schrum, Kyle Smith, Aleesa Toman, \*Elizabeth Tompkins, and \*Jennifer Wheeler. (\*Pictured above, and part of the winning team.)*

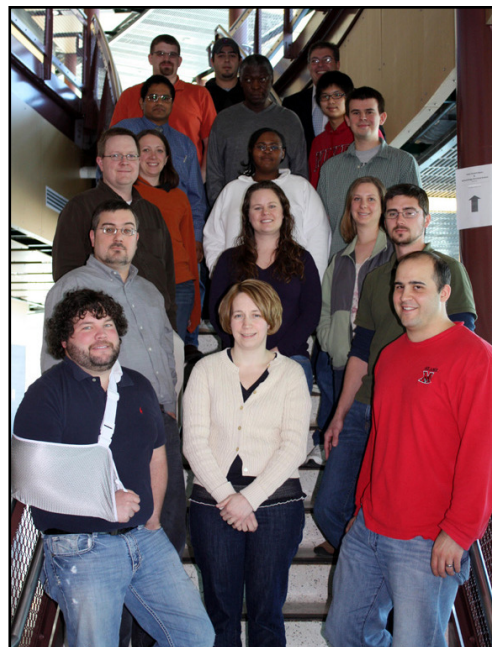
## College of Engineering and Applied Sciences

### Items of Academic Interest

The Department of Civil and Construction Engineering (CCE) conducted a two-day national workshop on Finite Element Basics & Refined Bridge Structural Analysis to 11 engineers from the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT). **Dr. Upul Attanayake**, CCE assistant professor, and **Dr. Haluk Aktan**, CCE chair and professor, directed the event held at the Parkview Campus computer center in early March. The aim of the workshop was to train bridge engineers on fundamentals of finite element analysis and provide opportunity for hands on knowledge and experience to analyze complex bridge structural systems.

This is the fourth workshop conducted by Drs. Attanayake and Aktan as a joint outreach activity of the department and the Center for Structural Durability to help professional engineers fulfill their continuing education requirements. The workshop was co-sponsored by the Michigan's Local Technical Assistance Program (LTAP), National Association of County Engineers (NACE), American Council of Engineering Companies (ACEC) of Michigan, and Western Michigan University (WMU). Several people assisted in coordinating and organizing the workshop. Terry McNinch from Michigan's LTAP was instrumental in dissemination of workshop information throughout the U.S. **Ryan McGoff** and **Michael Romkema**, graduate students, provided the technical support to the workshop participants who needed help with the software program used for bridge modeling and analysis. **Omar Kanaan** and **Cheekian Teng**,

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*Those who attended the Finite Element Basics & Refined Bridge Structural Analysis workshop pose at the WMU CEAS Parkview Campus.*

student assistants, organized the workshop materials and folders. **Nancy Landsberger**, CCE office coordinator, and **Estella Burdick**, CCE office assistant, contributed to numerous tasks such as ordering food and refreshments for the participants.

About 50 students attended the fourth annual IME Night held earlier this semester at the CEAS Parkview Campus. For three hours, attendees learned about IME programs and projects, received advice on preparing for employment, and networked with representatives from area companies, faculty, alums, and students working at co-ops and internships. **Slobodan Urdarevik**, a faculty member in the Department of Industrial and Manufacturing Engineering (IME), coordinated the event, which included prizes, games, and a meal of specialty sandwich treats. The event was designed to introduce students who are undecided about their majors to the career possibilities offered by IME. IME offers four undergraduate programs: manufacturing engineering technology (MFT), engineering management technology (UEM), engineering design technology (EDT), and industrial and entrepreneurial engineering (IEE). **Fred Sitkins**, IME faculty and CEAS director of co-operative education emceed the event. Stryker's Ryan Needham, an alumnus of the IME manufacturing program, presented an overview of his educational and career experiences. In addition, Glassmaster Controls' Wayne Nicolen and Tenneco's Mark Wallace shared information about their respective companies. **Nicole Maggio**, CEAS career advisor, coordinated the check in and collected names for the prizes. Several IME students participated in the event.



IME faculty members Fred Sitkins (left), who is also the CEAS director of co-operative education, emceed IME Night, and Slobodan Urdarevik, coordinated the event.

**Jason McCubbin, Dan Gusestella, Lindsay Mukans, Allison Doty, Allison Porrett, and Nicole Clement.** The WMU canoe display, which won third place in the "Western" theme product-display was designed and constructed by several students. Display coordinators included **John Hannich**, for the canoe stand and display; Mukens, for poster and table-top displays; and **Mike Wesolski**, for the canoe painting. According to Pagano, WMU's canoe project leader, the 20-foot-long Sheriff weighed 260 pounds and held up to 4 paddlers for the two- and four-person endurance and sprint events. Pagano said the canoe had a space-frame structural rib design and "green"

sustainable concrete mix design. "The space-frame is similar to the old birch bark and animal skin canoe," he said. "The ribs carry the load of the canoe and a lightweight skin keeps the water out." The concrete used recycled glass and crumb rubber (from shredded tires) as aggregates in place of virgin natural materials. Pagano acknowledged "the hard work and dedication by everyone on our team." The faculty advisor for WMU's teams is **Dr. Osama Abudayyeh**, associate dean for the CEAS.

**Dr. Tony Vizzini**, dean of the CEAS, honored the top student in each of the 16 CEAS undergraduate programs. The



WMU concrete canoe team with Sheriff at Ramona Lake, in Portage, at the 2010 ASCE NCRC competition.

students were selected based on their having the highest grade point average (GPA) in their respective programs. Each student invited a faculty member of his or her choice to the luncheon ceremony

where the award winners received commemorative plaques. The event was coordinated by **Johanna Wells**, CEAS office coordinator, and **Tammy Bergman**, CEAS office associate. The following list includes by department the program for each award-winning student, and the faculty member whom the student invited to the luncheon. If the student did not attend the luncheon, no faculty member was selected.

Department of Civil and Construction Engineering (CCE):

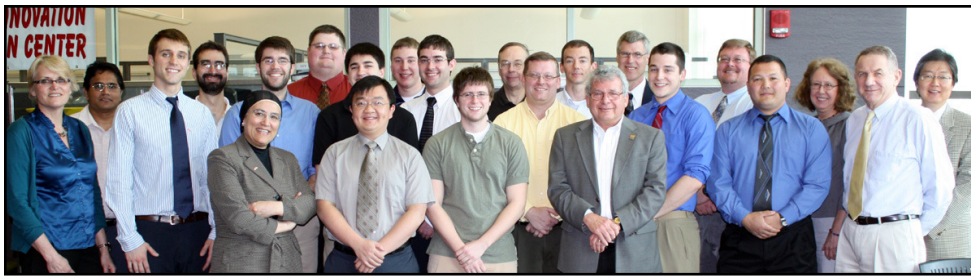
- **Geoffrey S. Britton**, Construction Engineering: **Dr. Upul Attanayake**
- **Bradley T. Gerbasich**, Civil Engineering: **Dr. Yufeng Hu**

## Student Accolades

WMU won second place last March at the 2010 American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) North Central Regional Conference (NCRC). WMU hosted the event, which included the concrete canoe and steel-bridge competitions and other "fun" contests. Nine schools from Michigan and Ohio participated. **Kim Warners**, a civil engineering senior, chaired the 2010 NCRC event. WMU's 27-member canoe team won several awards for Sheriff, its entry in the contest's four parts: formal presentation, technical paper, product display, and canoe races. WMU students **Paul Pagano, Britney Richmond, Andy Peruski, and Alex Frazier** won first place for the formal presentation. WMU's fourth-place technical paper was prepared by **Mike Romkema**, Warners, Richmond, Peruski, and Pagano. Canoe paddlers were Pagano, Peruski, Richmond,

*Continued on next page*





The 2010 CEAS dean's scholars and their faculty guests pose at the CEAS Dean's luncheon. Photo by Laura Decker, CEAS.

Department of Computer Science (CS):

- **Jesse Wick**, Computer Science-Theory and Analysis
- **Jerald A. Grochowski**, Computer Science-General

Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering (ECE):

- **Kevin J. Key**, Computer Engineering: **Dr. Ikhlas Abdel-Qader**
- **Richard J. Corsi**, Electrical Engineering: **Dr. Damon Miller**

Department of Industrial and Manufacturing Engineering (IME):

- **Christopher D. Reniger**, Engineering Graphics and Design Technology: **Dr. Sam Ramrattan**
- **James Burns**, Industrial and Entrepreneurial Engineering: **Dr. Bob White**
- **Joseph M. Mydosh**, Manufacturing Engineering Technology: **Fred Sitkins**
- **Matthew J. Scarbrough**, Engineering Management Technology
- **Douglas N. Whitener**, Manufacturing Engineering: **Deb Newson**

Department of Mechanical and Aeronautical Engineering (MAE):

- **Nicholas L. Pohl**, Mechanical Engineering: **Dr. Daniel Kujawski**
- **Nicholas K. McKermot**, Aeronautical Engineering: **Dr. Kapseong Ro**

Department of Paper Engineering, Chemical Engineering, and Imaging (PCI):

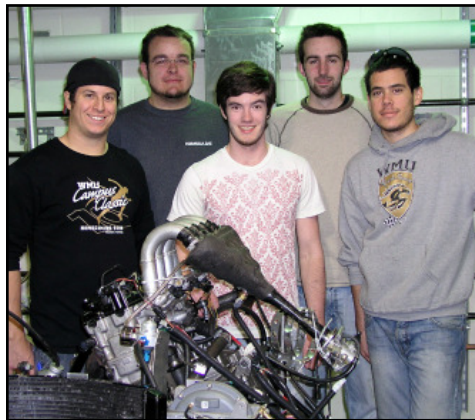
- **Michael D Paepflow**, Imaging-Multimedia: **Dr. Alexandra Pekarovicova**
- **Andrew W. Loveland**, Paper Engineering
- **Andrew J. Conrad**, Chemical Engineering: Energy Management: **Dr. Peter Parker**

## Upcoming Events

The Formula SAE team is preparing a new vehicle for the 2010 International Annual Formula SAE Michigan event at Michigan International Speedway in Brooklyn, Mich., from May 12 to May 15. According to **Geoff Van Gemert**, Formula SAE project manager and suspension team leader, the team is busy completing the components of the team's 2010 vehicle in preparation

for the race. Other members of the FSAE team include **Jeff Terry**, president; **Zach Tuyls**, vice president; **Chris Harman**, multimedia, secretary & webmaster; **Antonio Giraldi**, treasurer; **Chris Briolat**, drivetrain team leader; **Ernesto Matos**, engine team leader; and **Charlie Spitzley**, frame and body team leader. **Dr. Claudia Fajardo**, MAE assistant professor, is the Formula SAE faculty advisor. Those who want to support the WMU Bronco SAE team are encouraged to

attend on Fri., May 14 and Sat., May 15. The Formula SAE team will be holding an unveiling event for the 2010 Formula SAE vehicle after at the CEAS Parkview Campus some time after the race.



Posing with the 2010 Formula SAE engine are student team members (from left) Kevin Thompson, Geoff Van Gemert, Charlie Spitzley, Matt Paiva, and Ernesto Matos.

## Assessment of Student Learning

An eight-member WMU team competed in the steel-bridge competition at the 2010 American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) North Central Regional Conference (NCRC) held in March at WMU's Parkview Campus. Seven teams from Michigan and Ohio colleges participated in the competition sponsored by the American

Institute of Steel Construction (AISC) and the ASCE. For the competition, college students work together to design, fabricate, build, and test a scale model steel bridge. This year's bridge requirements included being a maximum 21-feet long, standing no taller than 33 inches; having the capability to hold 2,500 pounds, and being structured easy assembly from pieces no longer than three-feet six-inches long by six-inches square. Other bridge requirements involved aesthetics and a limitation on its ability to bend. For the competition, student teams built the bridge models under simulated field conditions, and then the bridge is load tested. The winning bridge is based on bridge assembly time, number of people it takes to assemble the bridge, weight of the bridge, and bridge deflection. "Each of these factors has a cost associated with it and the lowest cost wins," said **David Schmidt**, a civil engineering senior who led the WMU team. The team members sported "Steel Broncos" logos on their shirts with the motto, "We just don't do concrete" - a reference to WMU's concrete canoe team. Six

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Steel Broncos participated in the bridge construction competition. **Zack Deary, Joe Johnson, Caleb Batts, Brad Gerbasich, Josh O'Keefe, and Chris Sawyer** took 19 minutes to construct the bridge. **Lavern Filipunas** was also a member of the team. Schmidt acknowledged **Glen Hall**, an IME lab coordinator for machine shop support; and Scott Bolzman, an engineering friend who contributed to the joint design. Deary was elected lead next year's team. "He'll do a great job," said Schmidt, who graduates in December.



*WMU's Steel Broncos took 19 minutes to construct the team's entry in the 2010 ASCE NCRC Steel-bridge competition.*

## Graduate College

### Items of Academic Interest

The National Society of Black Engineers held its 36th Annual Conference "Engineering a Global Impact," in Toronto this year from March 31 to April 4. This is the first time it has been held outside the United States and it attracted an international crowd. Over 7000 black engineers from all over the world attended. The conference featured a Graduate School Conference with sessions including "Dissertation or Bust: A Glimpse into the Dissertation Process," "How to Apply to Graduate School" and "How to Succeed in Graduate School: Understanding the Graduate School Lingo," by the National Consortium for Graduate Degrees for Minorities in Engineering and Science, Inc. as well as MCAT, LSAT, GMAT AND GRE preparation workshops sponsored by Kaplan. Western Michigan University, represented by **Mr. Tony Dennis**, director of Graduate Student Research and Retention and **Dr. J. Frederick Bland**, AGEP Mentor Coordinator, hosted a reception and presentation on Fri., April 2 which featured **Dr. Sam Ramrattan**, professor of Industrial and Manufacturing Engineering at Western Michigan University. Dr. Ramrattan gave a talk titled "New Frontiers in Graduate Education Engineering." Intended to inspire and recruit potential students, it attracted prospective students from England, Finland, Ghana and Nigeria as well as all over Canada and the United States. Representatives from colleges and universities as well as industry attended. In addition, there were workshops for middle school, high school and undergraduate students, robotic contests, professional development seminars, and a career fair. The National Society of Black Engineers has a mission to help youth entering engineering fields to be prepared for the rigors of entrance exams and to internationalize its scope. Both these goals were amply demonstrated by the choice of location and the workshops developed for young people who attended.

### Staff Accolades

Graduate College Dean **Lewis Pyenson** was the guest of the editor of the Einstein Papers at California Institute of Technology (CalTech) when he lectured at the nearby Huntington Library. "Empires of Science in the Long Nineteenth Century," is an international conference, which explores the relationship during the long nineteenth century (1789-1914) between rapidly developing science and technology and the expansion of territorial empires.

It explores such issues as how science was actually practiced on national and imperial frontiers and the role science and technology played in the development of political and intellectual empires. The Dibner History of Science Program at the Huntington funds this conference, which features five sessions. Session Four, titled Imperial Spaces, includes Pyenson's paper "Two Incarnations of Athena: Scientists in the Service of lebensraum in the Nineteenth Century in United States, Argentina and Russia." The Huntington Library, founded by railroad magnate Henry Huntington in 1919, is one of the largest and most complete research libraries in the United States in its areas of specialization, which include English Renaissance collection, medieval manuscripts, maps, travel literature, British and American history and literature and the history of science, medicine and technology. Every year more than 1,700 scholars from all over the world come to study these rare manuscripts and their resulting work is published in books, journals and textbooks for colleges and universities.

### Student Accolades

The Graduate College, the Graduate Studies Council and the Graduate Student Advisory Committee are proud to announce the 2009-10 recipients of the Graduate Research and Creative Scholars Awards at Western Michigan University. This is the twenty-sixth year that outstanding students have been acknowledged with this award for their contributions to the scholarly and artistic productivity of the university. All the recipients will be honored at a public reception on Thurs., April 22 from 5 to 7 p.m. in the South Ballroom of the Bernhard Center. Students who won the All University Graduate Research and Creative Scholar Awards are **Doris B. Becker**, Geosciences; **Krystal Bresnahan**, Communication; **David E. Charlton**, Philosophy; **Angelique Day**, Interdisciplinary Health Sciences; **Ileana Dumitriu**, Physics; **Irene Geisler**, History; **Jill Gibson**, History; **Gary L. McDowell**, English; **Zhanay Sagintayev**, Geosciences; and **Marc Weeden**, Psychology. The All-University Scholars will be invited to make short presentations on their activities. In addition, thirty students were named Departmental Graduate Research and

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Creative Scholars for 2009-10. They are **Nabeel T. Alshabtat**, Mechanical and Aeronautical Engineering; **Jeffrey A. Barney**, Science Education; **David Barry**, Sociology; **Tracy Barsheff**, Speech Pathology and Audiology; **Joshua R. Berkenpas**, Political Science; **Amanda Brooks**, Anthropology; **Chaoli Cai**, Computer Science; **Carolina Calvillo**, Sociology; **Marlene Camacho Ochoa**, Spanish; **Ryan J. Clark**, Mechanical and Aeronautical Engineering; **Todd Curry**, Political Science; **Ivan A. Duran Diaz**, Economics; **Michael Ellinger**, Electrical and Computer Engineering; **Joseph Gross**, English; **Brian Gunderson**, Spanish; **Travis G. Hayden**, Geosciences; **Ashley Hovencamp**, Industrial and Manufacturing Engineering; **Joyce Irvine**, Speech Pathology and Audiology; **Mrinal Khanvilkar**, Computer Science; **Lars Kohler**, Chemistry; **Kyle Kolasinski**, Mathematics; **Erik Kostandyan**, Industrial and Manufacturing Engineering; **Chinmay Peshave**, Paper Engineering, Chemical Engineering, and Imaging; **Daniel Reynolds**, Music; **Kelly Sparks**, Geography; **Christina Stuve**, Counselor Education and Counseling Psychology; **Shino Toma**, Chemistry; **Jessica Urschel**, Psychology; **John-Mary Vianney**, Biological Sciences; and **Renee Zaya**, Biological Sciences.

For the thirteenth year, The Graduate College, the Graduate Studies Council and the Graduate Student Advisory Committee proudly award Graduate Student Teaching Effectiveness Awards to graduate students whose teaching activities have been outstanding. Recipients of the Graduate Teaching Effectiveness Awards will be honored at a public reception on Thurs., April 22 from 5 to 7 p.m. in the South Ballroom of the Bernhard Center. Students who won the All-University Graduate Teachers for 2009-10 will be invited to make short presentations on teaching. They are **Dawn L. Anderson**, Interdisciplinary Health Sciences; **Erinn J. Bentley**, English; **Maribel Colorado-Garcia**, Spanish; **Katherine Ellison**, History; **Lisa Kruse**, Sociology; **Jacinta M. Mutambuki**, Chemistry; **Stephanie M. Ruhl**, Communication, and **Tessa Ziebarth**, Spanish. The Department Graduate Teaching Effectiveness Awards for 2009-10 will be given to **Joseph Baird**, Computer Science; **Michelle L. Barger**, Geosciences; **Fodei Batty**, Political Science; **Anthony Bonita**, Psychology; **Patti Borello**, Family and Consumer Sciences; **Mary Sajini Devadas**, Chemistry; **Christopher Duchesneau**, Biological Sciences; **Reem El Asaleh**, Paper Engineering, Chemical Engineering, and Imaging; **Jacquelyn Gardner**, English; **Anthony Helms**, Anthropology; **Ryan Jones**, Mathematics; **Angela Kent**, Counselor Education and Counseling Psychology; **Megan Knight**, Psychology; **Tyng Tyng Lee**, Mechanical and Aeronautical Engineering; **Andrew Martzke**, Computer Science; **Shawn M. McCloskey**, Geosciences; **Lindsay Mouchet**, Philosophy; **Caitlin Murphy**, History; **Uwaoma George Nwaogu**, Economics; **Bruce M. Pahl**, Geography; **Phyllis Haugabook Pennock**, Science Education; **Michael C. Pergiel**, Paper Engineering, Chemical Engineering, and Imaging; **Raine**, Nursing; **Miles Rogers**, Biological Sciences; **Erik Walton**, Political Science, and **Julie Wilder**, Music.

Several students were honored at a Graduate Student Appreciation Reception on Fri., April 16 at Richmond Center for the Arts. This beautiful building was the perfect setting for an hors d'oeuvre reception awarding students for their outstanding service to the Graduate Student Advisory Council (GSAC). The GSAC is the primary Registered Student Organization for graduate students, and it provides opportunities for leadership, networking, socializing and involvement with university life for active graduate students. This year, three people won the Graduate Student Appreciation Award for going above and beyond for the cause of graduate students and graduate education throughout the university. While all the recipients of the Certificates of Appreciation have been active in volunteer efforts on behalf of graduate students in their departments and for campus-wide causes, these three were truly outstanding. **Krystal Bresnahan**, **Emily Powell**, and **Nayane Udawatte** received Graduate Student Appreciation Awards for their service. In addition, **Ms. Brandi Pritchett**, chair of GSAC, gave **Clara Adams**, **Mohammad Al Amar**, **Dev Apiyo**, **Alicia Austin**, **Krystal Bresnahan**, **Stephany Coffman-Wolph**, **Mary Sajina Devadas**, **Katya Gallagos**, **Gregory Laing**, **Michelle McWilliams**, **Lotfi Ben Othmane**, **Cheyla Milo**, **Dani Reynolds**, **Stephanie Ruhl**, **Tova Samuels**, **Raed Salih**, **Abdullah Shebabat**, **Ilse Anne Schweitzer**, **Zach Sullivan**, **David Tannor**, **Christina Triezenberg**, **Nayane Udawatte**, **Naidra Walls**, and **Imad Zyout** Certificates of Appreciation for their service to graduate students and graduate education in 2009-10. The event also featured graduate student work in the form of poster presentations and art projects on display at the Richmond Center.

On Fri., March 26, the Graduate Student Advisory Committee (GSAC) sponsored its Third Annual Bowling and Karaoke Night at Airway Lanes in Portage. This event is one of the largest social gatherings of the school year and is especially popular among the graduate student population. The event was designed to allow graduate students who are parents or married to bring their spouses and children so it is an event made to share with the family. Graduate students spend much time in their departments and can become consumed by research deadlines and course work. Events like this allow families and friends to enjoy a night out. The GSAC assists in building networks between graduate students, assisting in professional development, and also providing an environment in which to occasionally let loose and have fun. Bowling and Karaoke night allows students and their families to participate in many activities besides bowling and karaoke, including miniature golf, laser tag, arcade games, bumper cars, and much more! The GSAC provided a buffet of various food options from pizza and soda to a full taco bar. This event is always well attended and this year included over 100 graduate students plus their spouses and children.

Dissertation Completion Fellowships for 2010-11 have been awarded. Two students, **Irene Geisler** of History, and **Marchion Hinton**, of Psychology, have been awarded Full Year Fellowships, while four graduate students won Half Year Fellowships. They are **Nabeel Alshabtat**, Mechanical and Aeronautical Engineering; **Lars Kohler**, Chemistry; **Andrew Riley**, Psychology; and **Ilse Schweitzer**, English. Dissertation Completion Fellows receive a stipend and tuition award equivalent to a doctoral associateship. Recipients must be full-time doctoral candidates who can demonstrate at the time of application the completion of numerous requirements. Students who win Dissertation Completion Fellowships must demonstrate superior academic achievement, exemplified by previously won awards, publications, top grades, and high recommendations from nominating faculty, among other considerations. Candidates for the Dissertation Completion Fellowship must have a doctoral dissertation committee appointed and have their dissertation proposal approved by their committee. Except the dissertation, they must have completed all courses and program requirements, including research tool requirements, comprehensive exams and residency requirements.

## Haworth College of Business

### Items of Academic Interest

Rich Wade, deputy chief of staff for U.S. Secretary of Commerce Gary Locke, spoke on the current state of the economy and discussed how the U.S. Department of Commerce can be of assistance to businesses as part of Faculty Specialist in the Department of Business Information Systems **Dr. Tom Rienzo's** MBA Information Technology Management Class in Battle Creek in early April.

During an April 15 meeting, Western Michigan University's Board of Trustees approved the creation of a new Center for Health Information Technology Advancement. The new center will address both state and federal priorities aimed at using technology to reform health care delivery. Faculty members from both the Department of Business Information Systems and WMU's Bronson School of Nursing will collaborate and pursue external resources to support research in an initiative



From left WMU President Dr. John M. Dunn and Interim Dean, Haworth College of Business Dr. Ajay Samant cut the ribbon to the new MBA Program Office and Global Business Center in Schneider Hall.

that has already received support from area hospitals, health care companies and communities.

University President **John M. Dunn** and members of the University community were on hand in mid-April to celebrate the ribbon cutting ceremony and grand opening of the new Master's in Business Administration Program Office and Global Business Center in the Haworth College of Business. After months of construction, the center occupies an area in the northeast corner of the large

student study lounge on the main floor. "Global business is the norm rather than the exception," says **Dr. Ajay Samant**, interim dean of the Haworth College of Business. "The primary focus of the Global Business Center is to facilitate and enhance the internationalization of the curriculum, faculty and students through multiple opportunities, including international internships, study abroad programs, competitions, conferences, partnerships and speaker series. "In addition, the suite provides a permanent presence for our MBA program, which has been in existence for more than 50 years," Samant says. "Our graduate students are encouraged to use the space as a meeting place to interact with one another, work on team

projects or hold networking events." **Dr. Zahir Quraeshi**, professor of marketing, is director of the Global Business Center, while **Dr. Jack Ruhl**, acting associate dean for the Haworth College of Business, is the MBA program director. **Barb Caras-Tomczak**, is the MBA academic advisor.



From left, Dr. Tom Rienzo talks with Rich Wade.

### Staff Accolades

Business information systems professors **Dr. Kuriakose Athappilly**

and **Dr. Muhammad Razi**, and **James Anoop** had their research paper, "Buying Patterns at a Retail Chain Store: Neural Net, Affinity and Market Basket Analysis," published in *Communications of the ICISA - An international journal*.



Dr. Kuriakose Athappilly



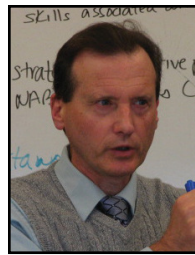
Dr. Muhammad Razi





Dr. K.C. Chen

**Drs. K.C. Chen, Muhammad Razi and Tom Rienzo** have co-authored "Exploring Factors that Influence Continued ERP Learning: Acceptance, Belief and Support" for publication in the Summer 2010 issue of *Decision Science Journal of Innovative Education*.



Dr. Tom Rienzo

**Jagjit Saini**, professor of Accountancy, has successfully defended his dissertation "Information Asymmetry, Segment Disclosure, and the Cost of Equity Capital," at Oklahoma State University and will graduate in early May.



Jagjit Saini

**Drs. Tom Rienzo and Bernie Han**, have co-authored "Does ERP Hands-on Experience Help Students Learning Business Process Concepts?" accepted for publication in the January 2011 issue of *Decision Science Journal of Innovative Education*.



Dr. Bernie Han

**Dr. Wes Martz**, marketing instructor, recently published "Validating an Evaluation Checklist Using a Mixed Method Design" in *Evaluation & Program Planning*.



Dr. Wes Martz

The United States Army Cadet Command recently recognized WMU's Bronco Battalion for excellence during the school year 2008-09. The Bronco Battalion achieved its assigned mission during 2008-09 by commissioning 26 new Army lieutenants and is among the top performers of Cadet Command's 273 units for the school year, exemplifying hard work and dedication of the WMU cadets, cadre and staff.

Michigan's economy is ailing, but what will help regenerate growth? Two Western Michigan University students think they have a prize-winning answer, and their proposal is one of 10 selected statewide for the semifinals of the Motivate Michigan campaign. Motivate Michigan gathers creative ideas to improve the state's economy by staging the competition. Incoming freshmen and enrolled students at Michigan colleges and universities are invited to compete for scholarships and internships provided by sponsoring organizations. Participating teams and individuals initially submitted their ideas online. The ideas were judged on creativity, originality, practicality and potential economic

impact. The top one will be developed into a project plan and presented to the logical organization for funding and support. A proposal titled the "Financial Literacy Pilot Program" was submitted by WMU students **Jacob Berkey**, a junior marketing major from Comstock Park, Mich., and **Kylie Vasa**, a senior finance major from Rock Springs, Wyo. It notes that students are not taught personal finance skills that can lead the state out of recession and that today's financial problems lay in the hands of tomorrow's leaders. Berkey and Vasa call for implementing a program to educate high school seniors in personal finance practices, addressing such issues as budgeting, investing, retirement, loans, mortgages, taxes and financial aid. Skilled teachers, extensive curriculum and parental involvement are critical components of the program, which could lead to less debt, fewer loan defaults and a higher saving rate in the state. Other semifinal ideas were submitted by such institutions as the University of Michigan, St. Clair County Community College, and Michigan Technological, Wayne State and Lake Superior State universities. Overall, 280 students from 63 Michigan schools entered the competition.

## Student Accolades

A team of four Western Michigan University MBA students placed first in the Association for Corporate Growth (ACG) Cup, a competition that provides students with experience and insight into mergers and acquisitions, investment banking and private equity. The team of **Faisal Allaboon**, **Jon Andrews** and **Phillip Hammond**, all of Kalamazoo, and **Vincent May** of Plainwell, Mich., won a \$5,000 cash prize in the competition held at Grand Valley State University in late February. They defeated participants representing leading west Michigan MBA programs from Davenport University and Grand Valley State University. As part of the competition, teams analyzed complex business cases and presented strategies including valuations, identifying capital markets, developing merger/acquisition strategic alternatives and financing options. The

WMU students are currently enrolled in the Seminar in Finance course at the WMU Grand Rapids Regional Site, taught jointly by **John Boll**, BBA '77, and **Dr. Robert Balik**, associate professor of finance. "There are seven students in the class," says Balik. "We formed two teams. Each team received a case two weeks prior to the presentation date. The first round of the cup competition was held in late



From left are the ACG Cup winning team members Jon Andrews, Faisal Allaboon, Vincent May, and Philip Hammond.

Continued on next page

January. We were at somewhat of a disadvantage as both the two other schools had formed teams last fall, while our teams were formed just prior to the presentation. "This is the second year for the ACG cup competition," says Balik. "The crux of this year's case is firm valuation. Both rounds of the competition dealt with the valuation of a privately held regional broadband service provider," says Balik, adding that the case was highly complex. The winning team was announced at the ACG awards ceremony on Tues., Feb. 23.

A team of business students from Western Michigan University placed second in a statewide competition designed to test their knowledge of the human resources field. The Haworth College of Business played host to HR Games 2010 "Sharing Our Resources -- Benefitting Our Students," a fast-moving day of student competition, food and fun held in late March. Throughout the Jeopardy-style matches, students answered



From left are Ris Landeros, HR Games judge, Satish Deshpande, WMU team advisor, and WMU second-place team members Jenna Breen, Justin Szostek, and Alison Fettig.

questions on different human resource areas such as strategic management, total rewards, employee and labor relations, selection, leadership and risk management. The second place WMU team members are **Justin Szostek** of Allen Park, Mich., **Jenna Breen** of Allendale, Mich. and **Alison Fettig** of Battle Creek, Mich. An Eastern Michigan University team took first place overall. "Student leaders from the WMU Society of Human Resource Management (SHRM) chapter planned the event," says **Dr. Satish Deshpande**, professor of management. "This is the first time for the competition to be held at WMU, and what a great way to showcase our campus. There were nine teams in all participating from Eastern Michigan University, Central Michigan University and WMU, who were accompanied by family members and friends. There were over twenty community HR professionals, including many WMU alumni, who spent their Saturday as volunteers serving as speakers, scorekeepers, judges, etc. We could not have run the event without their help." "The competition prepares the students for the upcoming Professional in Human Resources (PHR) certification exam," says Deshpande. "It also provides them with the opportunity to network with HR professionals serving as volunteers." The Michigan HR Games were developed by the SHRM and open to all schools in Michigan. In addition to the Michigan Council of SHRM and the Haworth College of Business, the following sponsors provided supported for the event: Domino's Pizza, Kalamazoo Human Resources Management Association, Kellogg's, Target, Walker Parking Consultants and Walmart.

## Haenicke Institute for Global Education

### Items of Academic Interest

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A new Chinese Instruction and Research Collection was added to Waldo Library as part of a book exhibition hosted by the Confucius Institute at Western Michigan University April 8 to 10. Beijing Language and Culture University Press and the Chinese Language International Council (Hanban), sponsored the exhibition and donated the new collection. More than 3,000 Chinese language books and teaching materials were on display, providing the campus and area school districts the opportunity to explore some of the newest Chinese language teaching aids available. Informational break-out sessions led by BLCU Press representatives on April 9 and 10 were attended by more than 25 local teachers, administrators and students. The sessions were provided at various language-learning levels, offering attendees suggestions for utilizing the textbooks and proposed curriculums. The new collection is accessible on the library's lower level.

## Prism Newsletter

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