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Lee Honors College News - 2015

Media coverage of First Lady Sue Snyder's and Dr. Rebecca Campbell's visit to campus.

http://www.mlive.com/news/kalamazoo/index.ssf/2015/11/michigans_first_lady_visits_wm.html

NOVEMBER 9, 2015

Click [here](#) to listen to the WMUK interview with Gloria Steinem, a fall Raise Your Voice featured speaker.

<http://wmuk.org/post/wsw-who-knew-gloria-steinem-says-gandhi-got-some-tactics-women>

OCTOBER 15, 2015

Honors student Kristen Canavan awarded [Critical Languages Scholarship to study in Jordan](#).

<http://wmich.edu/news/2015/06/23885>

JUNE 1 2015

Student awarded Critical Languages Scholarship to study in Jordan

contact: Linda Hanes

June 1, 2015 | WMU News

KALAMAZOO—A Western Michigan University student from Ortonville, Mich. will study Arabic in Jordan for the summer semester through a prestigious federal scholarship.

Kristen Canavan, a senior majoring in global and international studies, received a full scholarship from the Critical Languages Scholarship program to participate in an eight-week summer course at the Jordan Language Academy in Madaba, Jordan, where she will focus on Arabic language.

Canavan was selected as one of 100 awardees from a pool of 10,000 applicants representing more than 500 colleges and universities across the U.S. to study one of the 13 languages offered through the CLS program: Azerbaijani, Bangla, Hindi, Indonesian, Korean, Punjabi, Turkish, Urdu, Arabic, Persian, Chinese, Japanese and Russian. With an acceptance rate of less than 10 percent, the CLS is one of the most competitive study abroad scholarships available to citizens of the United States.



Canavan

Kristen Canavan

A graduate of Brandon High School, Canavan is WMU's second CLS recipient. She plans to graduate after the summer II term and begin a master's degree program in Middle Eastern and North African studies at the University of Michigan in the fall.

About the Critical Languages Scholarship

An initiative of the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, the CLS program provides both undergraduate and graduate students the chance to develop their language and international skills in areas of language in which there is a great demand for speakers at the professional level and a lack of speakers. Students receiving the scholarship receive full funding, including airfare, visa fees, language instruction, food and lodging.

Support for Canavan's application was provided by **Dr. Mustafa Mughazy**, professor of Arabic, Department of World Languages and Literatures, and **Dr. Vincent Desroches**, associate professor of French, Department of World Languages and Literatures.

Many more student and faculty funding opportunities are accessible on the Haenicke Institute for Global Education [website](#).

For more information about the Critical Languages Scholarship, visit clscholarship.org.

For more news, arts and events, visit wmich.edu/news.

Congratulations to Stephen John and Joseph Barnett on their many awards for their invention, the NeoVent

<https://lemelson.mit.edu/winners/joseph-barnett-and-stephen-john>

MAY 19, 2015

<https://wmich.edu/news/2015/08/25963>

Student-designed neonatal ventilator wins two more prestigious awards

contact: Mark Schwerin

August 4, 2015 | WMU News



From left: Stephen John and Joseph Barnett

KALAMAZOO, Mich.—NeoVent, a low-cost neonatal ventilator designed by Western Michigan University students, has been chosen as the first-place winner in the 2015 [BMESstart competition](#) for undergraduate biomedical and bioengineering students. With this latest win for their invention, **Joseph Barnett** and **Stephen John** earned a \$10,000 cash prize. The two will be honored at the 2015 Biomedical Engineering Society Annual Meeting in Tampa, Florida, this fall.

Their invention also was recently named the U.S. National Winner of the 2015 James Dyson Award, besting runner-up inventions from the likes of Stanford University, Clemson University and the University of Houston.

The Dyson award competition saw a record number of entries, with 690 entered designs worldwide.

NeoVent will receive \$3,500 from the James Dyson Foundation and progress to the international stage of the award, where it will be in the running for a \$45,000 international prize and \$7,500 departmental prize.

The World Health Organization lists respiratory problems as one of the leading causes of death among children under the age of five. NeoVent enables healthcare workers around the world to deliver safe, low-cost, low-energy, and easy-to-use noninvasive positive pressure ventilation to treat premature infants in respiratory distress.

About NeoVent

The winning design by John and Barnett was inspired by the designers' experience working in Central America, the Middle East, and Asia—with a focus on health disparities in Nepal. Globally, an estimated one million babies born die each year due to prematurity and respiratory problems. John and Barnett realized the need for affordable medical equipment to address this issue, particularly in developing countries. NeoVent is their solution.

Latest in a string of accolades

This is just the latest award bestowed upon NeoVent. The invention recently won the \$10,000 [Lemelson-MIT National Collegiate Student Prize Competition](#) as well as the [Brian Patrick Thomas Entrepreneurial Spirit Award](#), a WMU accolade that also carried a \$10,000 cash prize.

For more news, arts and events, visit wmich.edu/news.

<https://wmich.edu/news/2015/11/28697>

NOVEMBER 19, 2015

NeoVent duo wins innovation prize sponsored by U.S. Patent Office

contact: Cheryl Roland
November 19, 2015 | WMU News

KALAMAZOO, Mich.—The creation of a lifesaving medical tool for use in developing nations has resulted in a Western Michigan University student team capturing the top spot in the Collegiate Inventors Competition, a program of the National Inventors Hall of Fame sponsored by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office and the AbbVie Foundation.

WMU May alumnus **Stephen John** of Portage and senior **Joseph Barnett** of Kalamazoo, were named winners of the undergraduate gold medal during an event held **Nov. 17** at the patent office's headquarters in Alexandria, Virginia. With the win against undergraduate finalists from Columbia, Harvard, Johns Hopkins and Penn State universities as well as the University of Virginia, the WMU duo takes home a \$12,500 cash prize.



From left: Joseph Barnett, Stephen John and Mo Rocca

Barnett and John's invention, NeoVent, which has now earned five national innovation prizes, is a respiratory support mechanism designed to treat critically ill infants, particularly those who live in developing nations. NeoVent converts a low-tech respiratory device into one that provides the additional benefit of a ventilator, but at much less cost. The invention could help thousands of babies in underdeveloped parts of the world.

Long list of accolades

Earlier this year, John and Barnett were named winners of the:

- Lemelson-MIT National Collegiate Student Prize Competition.
- Brian Patrick Thomas Entrepreneurial Spirit Award at WMU.
- 2015 James Dyson Award, U.S. Division.
- 2015 Biomedical Engineering Society competition for undergraduate biomedical and bioengineering students.

In October, Barnett traveled to Beijing to attend the Grand Challenges Global Health Summit, an international meeting co-hosted by the Gates Foundation, USAID, and China's Ministry of Science and Technology, among others. The summit was intended for leaders in global health to collaborate on healthcare solutions for the underserved. Barnett's trip was sponsored by the Lemelson Foundation, which has partnered with Barnett and John to get their technology to hospitals in the developing world.

About the latest competition

Established in 1990, the Collegiate Inventors Competition encourages innovation, entrepreneurship and creativity by recognizing undergraduate and graduate students for breakthrough inventions.

"Each year, these emerging innovators transform their ideas into solutions for real world problems," says **Michelle K. Lee**, under secretary of commerce for intellectual property and director of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office—USPTO. "They are an inspiration to those of us committed to promoting innovation and the value of intellectual property."

Winners were announced at an awards ceremony hosted by **Mo Rocca**, CBS Sunday Morning correspondent and host of The Henry Ford's Innovation Nation. Leading up to the ceremony, finalists showcased their inventions and interacted with thousands of USPTO patent and trademark examiners, sponsors, media and the public at the Collegiate Inventors Competition Expo, held **Nov. 16-17**.

About the team

Stephen John grew up in Nepal and returns every summer to volunteer at the United Mission Hospital in Tansen. In Nepal, he helped repair medical equipment in a biomedical department and worked on clinical trials of NeoVent. In May, he graduated summa cum laude from WMU with two undergraduate degrees—one in biomedical studies and another in mechanical engineering. He began medical school at the University of Michigan this fall.



Joseph Barnett started working with students in Honduras after hearing of a shortage of teachers there. He has been to Honduras six times in the past five years, where he has driven school buses, led clothing donation efforts and volunteered in a local hospital, also fixing medical equipment. He plans to volunteer as a teacher in Honduras for one year before attending medical school.



Also a critical part of the team, notes Barnett, was **Dr. Peter Gustafson**, associate professor of mechanical and aerospace engineering, who has served as the team's advisor for more than two years. As advisor to the winning undergraduate team, he was also honored at the competition awards ceremony.

The team spent two years developing NeoVent. They were helped by a Research and Creative Activities Award they received from WMU's Lee Honors College, and they were a part of WMU's Haworth College of Business student business accelerator, Starting Gate. Starting Gate helped them set goals, develop a business plan, meet regularly with mentors, attend workshops and pitch to investors.

A video explaining their work is at youtube.com/watch?v=z985abJITQE&feature=youtu.be.

For more news, arts and events, visit wmich.edu/news.

Related articles

[WMU student invention wins \\$10,000 Lemelson-MIT 'Cure it!' prize](#) | May 19, 2015

[WMU inventors win \\$10,000 Brian Patrick Thomas Award](#) | July 3, 2015

[Student-designed neonatal ventilator wins two more prestigious awards](#) | Aug. 4, 2015

Longtime WMU friend, honors college namesake Carl Lee dies at 96

The Lee Honors College staff, faculty and students were saddened to learn of the passing of

Carl E. Lee Sunday, Feb. 22. The generosity of Carl and his beloved wife of more than 60 years, Winifred Lee, who preceded him in death on Oct. 23, 2012, has benefited thousands of WMU honors students. A public memorial service will be held at 10:30 a.m. Saturday, March 14, 2015 at the Carl and Winifred Lee Honors College. Memorials may be directed to the Carl and Winifred Lee Honors College or Kalamazoo First Presbyterian Church. [More information](http://wmich.edu/news/2015/02/22184)
<http://wmich.edu/news/2015/02/22184>

FEBRUARY 25, 2015

Longtime WMU friend, honors college namesake Carl Lee dies at 96

contact: Cheryl Roland
February 25, 2015 | WMU News

Kalamazoo broadcast pioneer **Carl E Lee**, who with his late wife Winifred Lee was the namesake for Western Michigan University's honors college, died **Feb. 22**. He was 96.

Lee worked for 60 years in the radio and television broadcasting industry and was president and CEO of Fetzer Broadcasting Co. He enjoyed a longstanding and strong relationship with the University, serving on the board of the WMU Foundation and actively supporting a number of initiatives.

In 1988, Lee and his wife, Winifred, who died in 2012, pledged \$500,000 for construction of a home for what is now the Carl E and Winifred Lee Honors College. The building was completed in 1990, and in late 2012, a \$1.1 million gift from the couple made possible a renovation and expansion of that original building. The Lee Honors College will be the site of a **March 14** public memorial service for Carl Lee.



Carl E Lee

"With the death of Carl E Lee, we have lost a great friend to Western Michigan University and a wonderful supporter who truly understood the value and need for a strong honors component to undergraduate education," says WMU President John M. Dunn. "We'll remember him as a man who lived life fully and contributed so much to the betterment of all."

Carl E Lee

Lee joined the Fetzer Broadcasting Co. in 1939, shortly after graduating from the Michigan Academy of Radio Science. The move launched his lifelong association with John E. Fetzer, who owned both a Midwest television and radio empire and was the owner of the Detroit Tigers.

Lee moved quickly up through the Fetzer organization and by 1958, was executive vice president and general manager of the company. In 1973, he became president of both Fetzer Broadcasting and Fetzer Television Co. The companies included what are now WWMT-TV and WKZO radio. Lee also headed up six other CBS affiliates around the nation.

Lee's involvement with the broadcast industry's professional organizations was extensive. His service included roles as president or director of the Broadcasters Foundation, National Association of Broadcasters and National Broadcast Pioneers. He was chairman of the CBS Television Affiliates Board and was instrumental in establishing the Region 4 Emergency Broadcast System and inspecting early Radio Free Europe facilities.

Lee was the recipient of a 1990 Lifetime Achievement Award from the Michigan Association of Broadcasters. The organization continues to honor Lee annually by offering its Carl E Lee Broadcast Engineering Excellence Award.

Locally, Lee was active as director of the Chamber of Commerce and served on a wide variety of corporate and civic boards and organizations. He was honored repeatedly by local groups with such accolades as the Liberty Bell Award and the Chamber of Commerce's Community Service Award.

Lee is survived by his daughter and son-in-law, Cheri and Jeffrey Weedman of Cincinnati, and two grandchildren.

Services

A public memorial service is set for **10:30 a.m. Saturday, March 14**, at the Lee Honors College. Guests may park in Lot 41, which is behind Sangren Hall. A shuttle will run from Lot 41 to the honors college.

Remembrances

Memorial donations may be directed to the Carl E and Winifred Lee Honors College or Kalamazoo First Presbyterian Church.

Anita Hill to kick off new 'Raise Your Voice' speaker series

Anita Hill, the woman who captivated the nation with her testimony of sexual harassment directed at then-U.S. Supreme Court nominee Clarence Thomas, will launch a new speaker series at Western Michigan University.

<http://wmich.edu/news/2015/01/21125>

JANUARY 15, 2015

Anita Hill to kick off new 'Raise Your Voice' speaker series

contact: Mark Schwerin

January 15, 2015 | WMU News

KALAMAZOO, Mich.—**Anita Hill**, the woman who captivated the nation with her testimony of sexual harassment directed at then-U.S. Supreme Court nominee Clarence Thomas, will launch a new speaker series at Western Michigan University.

Hill will speak at **7 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 3**, in Kalamazoo's Chenery Auditorium, five days after an award-winning documentary about Hill and the famous Senate hearings is screened at Alamo Drafthouse. The documentary, "Anita: Speaking Truth to Power," will be shown at **5:30 and 8 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 29**, at the downtown theatre at the corner of Portage and South streets.

The talk has been postponed due to bad weather on the East Coast causing travel difficulties. It will be rescheduled later this semester.



Hill (Photo credit: Jack White)

'Raise Your Voice' series

The new "Raise Your Voice" speaker series arose from discussions at the Lee Honors College about issues of violence and hostility against women that have surfaced in recent months, says **Dean Carla Koretsky**.

"I think especially a lot of us were aghast at the statistic that as many as one in five women on college campuses may be experiencing sexual violence of some kind," Koretsky says. "It's obviously an enormous societal problem. It's a problem that affects not just these women, but men on our college campuses as well. We decided to bring a series of speakers to campus who could address these issues from many different perspectives and engage the campus and broader community in a deep discussion."

Koretsky and Jane Baas, honors college associate dean, formed a committee to create a yearlong speaker series bringing nationally known scholars, artists and activists to campus.

"We think it's an issue that we can and really should be addressing on college campuses and we thought the best way to do that is to bring it out into the open and make everyone aware of the issues," Koretsky says.

Two additional speakers are set for the spring, while an appearance by noted feminist and activist **Gloria Steinem** is tentatively slated for September.

Anita Hill

For now, Hill's Feb. 3 presentation is sure to garner widespread attention. Hill currently is a professor of social policy, law and women's studies at Brandeis University's Heller School for Social Policy and Management. She was thrust into the national spotlight in 1991 when she accused U.S. Supreme Court nominee Clarence Thomas, her supervisor at the U.S. Department of Education and the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, of sexual harassment.

The nation watched with rapt attention as Hill detailed the alleged harassment before a U.S. Senate committee. Thomas vehemently denied the allegations and eventually was confirmed to the high court.

Directed by Academy Award-winning filmmaker Freida Mock, "Anita: Speaking Truth to Power," has been praised by critics. With it, Hill broke her silence about the famous hearings.

Other upcoming presentations

March 3: Soraya Chemaly, 7 p.m., 2000 Schneider Hall, "Effecting Change through Social Media."

April 4: Tatyana Fazlalizadeh, 5:30 p.m., 1004 Richmond Center for Visual Arts, "Stop Telling Women to Smile" street art project.

Steinem heads the cast of speakers tentatively slated for fall. Others include **Gail Griffin**, formerly the Ann V. and Donald R. Parfet Distinguished Professor of English at Kalamazoo College and author of "The Events of October: Murder-Suicide on a Small Campus;" **Jackson Katz**, an American educator, filmmaker and author; and **Wagatwe Wanjuki**, a survivor, activist and writer.

Additional tie-ins with the series also are planned. Those include bringing in a Theatre of the Oppressed group to work with First Year Experience students, an honors college common read of the book "The Events of October," and presentations by WMU faculty and staff exploring gender and violence as part of the honors college's Lyceum Lecture Series at noon Wednesdays at the college.

About the series

The speaker series has found broad support across campus, with a long list of co-sponsors signing on. They include the College of Arts and Sciences, College of Fine Arts, College of Engineering and Applied Sciences, Haworth College of Business, University Center for the Humanities, Department of Spanish, Frostic School of Art, School of Music, School of Communication, Center for the Study of Ethics in Society and University Cultural Events Committee.

Funding for the spring portion of the series has been raised from on-campus sponsors.

"So really it's all been internal funding up until now," Koretsky says. "For the next phase, we'll be going out into the community and looking for individual and corporate sponsors who would like to help us with the fall series. I think it's very feasible that that will happen."

For more information, visit wmich.edu/honors/events/raise-your-voice.

For more news, arts and events, visit wmich.edu/news.

Six receive Inspired Learning Grants through the Learning Network of Greater Kalamazoo

Five individuals have been awarded \$2,500 Inspired Learning grants and one person will receive a \$1,000 grant from the Learning Network of Greater Kalamazoo and the Kalamazoo Community Foundation.

http://www.mlive.com/news/kalamazoo/index.ssf/2015/01/6_receive_inspired_learning_gr.html#incart_river

JANUARY 8, 2015