

PSSO social gathering set for today

The Professional Support Staff Organization invites its members and all PSSO-eligible staff members to beat the winter blues by gathering from 5 to 7 p.m. today at TGI Fridays in Kalamazoo. Reservations are not required. The event will include a \$3 appetizer, drink specials and door prizes. Direct questions to Kris Kenz at kris.kenz@wmich.edu or (269) 387-2170.

Annual diversity program scheduled

This year's Respecting Differences program for all employees will feature Kimberly Dark presenting "Complicated Courtesies" at 1:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 25, and 9 a.m. Wednesday, March 26, in Chenery Auditorium.

Dark, a sociologist and performance artist, uses entertainment to illuminate potentially contentious cultural themes. Admission is free, but a "postcard" ticket is required. Tickets are good for either day's session and should arrive in campus mail boxes the week of March 10. Visit wmich.edu/hr/respectingdifferences for more information.

Distinguished alumni nominations

Anyone may make a nomination through Friday, March 14, for WMU's Distinguished Alumni Award, the University's most prestigious honor for alumni. The 2014 awards will be presented during a Universitywide gala the Friday of Homecoming weekend.

A nomination form, the award criteria and a list of past recipients are available at MyWMU.com/DA. Questions should be directed to Renee M. Pearl at renee.pearl@wmich.edu or (269) 387-8790.

Don't be fooled by phishing scams

Information technology has created a website at wmich.edu/phishing to document phishing emails that have been sent to University accounts and to share information about how to avoid phishing scams. By falling for these scams, you may compromise your WMU Bronco NetID and allow access to change your personal data within GoWMU. You could also allow viruses or other malware to infect your computer.

Office seeks campaign participants

The Office of Lesbian, Bisexual, Gay and Transgender Student Services is seeking new participants through Monday, March 10, for its OUT at WMU—Faces of Pride poster campaign. The poster features individuals from the campus community who self-identify as part of the LGBT and ally community.

The poster will be distributed around campus during the office's Day of Silence, Week of Action observance in mid-April. Allies are encouraged to participate in the campaign to show their role in and support of the campus LGBT and ally community. More information is available at wmich.edu/diversityandinclusion/lgbt.

Project will result in broader autism services

Those suffering from autism and their families are getting some much needed help thanks to a \$500,000 grant from the Michigan Department of Community Health to two psychology department faculty members.



Fuqua



Peterson

The grant has been awarded to Chair Stephanie M. Peterson and R. Wayne Fuqua, who are implementing the grant project as co-investigators. It will fund a sweeping array of initiatives that will use high-tech methods to help train mental health practitioners, parents and others dealing with autism spectrum disorder, ultimately leading to wider certification of other professionals trained in treating autism.

"The need is really huge," Peterson says. "We're taking a bite out of the elephant."

The grant project comes after the state reviewed existing autism services and passed legislation requiring insurance companies to cover treatment. Peterson and Fuqua looked closely at the gaps that were identified by the state and wove their grant proposal around those needs.

"We think what we're doing is very compatible with the overall state mission of improving services for those with autism spectrum disorder and their families," Fuqua says. "Services have been pretty spotty until now. This is an important part of a larger state plan to ramp up services in the state of Michigan. We're pleased to be a part of it."

Projects that will be funded under the grant include:

- A tele-consultation initiative in which WMU will work with service providers and possibly teachers to increase their behavioral assessment and intervention skills when working with the autistic population. Five sites will be equipped with camera systems to give providers the necessary tools to effectively carry out both assessment and treatment.
- A podcasting project in which autism experts from across the country would explore important issues in behavior analysis related to autism assessment and treatment. Podcasts geared toward parents and family are also a possibility.
- Continuing the Michigan Autism Conference, bringing autism experts from across the country to Kalamazoo. The first such conference was held in October.

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Design meetings set for dining center initiative

The campus community can take part in the site development process for the new Valley Dining Center by participating in public meeting sessions at 4 or 7 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 25, in 159 Bernhard Center.

The sessions will focus on building placement for the new 1,000-seat dining center, which will provide innovative, state-of-the-art food service options to enhance the Valley Residential Neighborhood. Actual construction of the new Valley Dining Center is expected to begin in spring 2015.

The Feb. 25 meeting is the first in a series of such meetings that will take place during different stages of the design process. They have been set for the beginning of the design process.

Additional meetings will be scheduled midway through the process, likely in June, and at the end of the process, as the final plans are ready for presentation.

The upcoming meeting sessions will feature design professionals from SmithGroup

JJR, a firm selected early in the planning process. They will present an overview of the project that will explore project goals, site details, building placement options and logistical needs specific to this facility.

Additional topics to be covered include:

- core design elements, focused on the Valley area attributes,
- approaches to entry points and flow from parking and pedestrian areas into the building, and
- benefits for Valley residence hall students.



Campus neighborhoods are a key part of WMU's strategic plan to blend housing and dining needs with the academic success goals of a new generation of students.

WMU's Valley Residential Neighborhood encompasses six residence halls in three complexes that were completed in 1965 and currently house more than 2,800 students. The complexes primarily house first-year students and are also home to five specialized academic communities and three interest-based communities.

At present, the Valley residence halls are served by two full-service dining rooms and one limited service dining room along with MugShots Coffee House.

Around campus and beyond

Editor's note: Visit wmich.edu/news/events for more information about events.

Environmental justice is lecture topic

Environmental protection for all Americans will get a closer look at 6 p.m. tonight when Peggy Shepard, co-founder and executive director of WE ACT for Environmental Justice in West Harlem, speaks in 2452 Knauss Hall.

The environmental justice activist will present "Advancing Environmental Health and Justice: A Community Perspective," as part of the University Center for the Humanities 2013-14 Changing Climates Series.

Hockey team helping to raise funds

The hockey team will host its 2014 Hockey Cares Weekend Friday and Saturday, Feb. 21-22, in Lawson Ice Arena. In addition to beating their University of Nebraska Omaha rivals, the hockey team will be focused on raising money to support research that will find a cure for Duchenne muscular dystrophy. This is a personal cause for the Broncos, as Associate Head Coach Rob Facca's son, Louie, is afflicted with DMD.

Those attending the game will have a variety of ways to make a donation and will be treated to special activities, including a pre-game performance by the Synchronized Skating team and free "no bad days" rally towels to the first 2,000 fans.

Worker motivation to be discussed

David M. Kreps, the Adams Distinguished Professor of Management in the Stanford University Graduate School of Business, will speak at 3 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 26, in 2028 Brown Hall. His presentation, "The Economics and Psychology of Worker Motivation," is part of the Sichel Lecture Series.

Youths invited to explore two careers

Accelerated Weekend Experience courses for academically talented youths to explore video game creation and veterinary science will be offered from 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, March 1-2. Multi-Media Games (with Scratch software) is for grades five through seven while Veterinary Science is for grades seven through nine. Visit ctd.northwestern.edu/sep/program/awe for cost and details or call (269) 387-3230.

Cloud company exec to give talk

Melissa Gray, senior director of sustainability for Rackspace, will present "What We All Want from Work" at 3:30 p.m. Thursday, March 13, in 2000 Schneider Hall as part of the Haworth College of Business Distinguished Speaker Series. Rackspace has been featured on Fortune's list of 100 Best Companies to Work For. Register at wmich.edu/business/dss-rsvp, cynthia.reeves@wmich.edu or (269) 387-5069.

Aviation museum president to make presentation

The president and chief executive officer of the Kalamazoo Air Zoo will be on campus to share his insights on building customer satisfaction and brand recognition for the museum. Troy Thrash will speak at 8 a.m. Friday, Feb. 28, in 2150 Schneider Hall as part of the 2013-14 Keystone Community Bank Breakfast Speaker Series.

The event is free and begins with breakfast at 7:30 a.m. Reservations are required

and can be made at wmich.edu/business/keystone-rsvp or (269) 387-6059.

In addition to heading the Air Zoo, Thrash volunteers for the First Robotics regional and international championships as an emcee and has worked to advance other industry groups, such as the federal Interagency Task Force on Aerospace Workforce Revitalization and the Aerospace States Association.

Correction

The location for tomorrow's Fridays with Friends employee mixer was incorrect in the Feb. 6 issue of the *Western News*. That event will be in the Gilmore Theatre Complex atrium, as will the March 21 mixer.

Exchange

For sale—Cozy, furnished all-weather cottage. Nearly three-acre wooded lot with 300-foot frontage on the Muskegon River. Just north of Big Rapids, Mich., 2.25 hours from Kalamazoo. Congenial, mostly retired neighbors. Will accept land contract or mortgage. Contact: jerry.hemmye@wmich.edu.

Jobs

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

Two serving as statewide instructors

Mary L. Anderson, counselor education and counseling psychology, and Christopher Tremblay, enrollment management, are



Anderson



Tremblay

two of four statewide instructor-facilitators for an inaugural eight-month, hybrid professional development course that focuses on the college-going process.

The High School Counselor Postsecondary Planning Training Course was launched last year by the Michigan College Access Network and Michigan Virtual University.

School counselors are uniquely positioned to change the postsecondary trajectories for all students. They are expected to know the ins and outs of college admissions and financial aid, but most never received formal training on this content.

Executive elected to national board

Dawn M. Gaymer has been elected to the University Professional Continuing Education Association Board of Directors for a term that begins in late March.



Gaymer

The association builds greater awareness of the vital link between adult learners and public policy issues. It is the leading association for those in professional, continuing

and online education. It serves more than 365 institutions, including a majority of North America's foremost public and private colleges and universities.

Gaymer, associate provost for Extended University Programs, was elected as a director-at-large. At WMU, she is responsible for off-campus education and professional development programs, as well as online education and the University Studies degree program. She joined the staff in 2009.

Journal names professor top editor

Mark Hurwitz, political science, has been named editor-in-chief of *Justice System Journal*, a peer-reviewed publication sponsored



Hurwitz

by the National Center for State Courts, which collaborates with the Conference of Chief Justices, the Conference of State Court Administrators and other associations of judicial leaders.

An interdisciplinary publication, *Justice System Journal* aims to use the latest in advanced social science research and analysis to bridge the gap between practicing and academic law and the judicial and political communities. Along with other types of writings, it publishes original research articles on all aspects of law, courts, court administration, judicial behavior and the impact of all of these on public and social policy.

Hurwitz came to WMU in 2005 and has a joint appointment with gender and women's studies. His research focus includes judicial politics, behavior, selection and diversity.

Western News

Volume 40 Number 11

EDITOR: Jeanne Baron. CONTRIBUTORS: Cara Barnes, Paula M. Davis, Deanne Puga, Cheryl P. Roland and Mark E. Schwerin. GRAPHIC DESIGN: Tammy M. Boneburg. DISTRIBUTION AND MAILING: Teresa Ventimiglia.

WESTERN NEWS (USPS 362-210) is published by the Office of University Relations, Walwood Hall, Western Michigan University, 1903 W. Michigan Ave., Kalamazoo, MI 49008-5433, every other week during the fall and spring semesters and Summer I session. Periodicals postage paid at Kalamazoo, MI 49008-5165.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to *Western News*, Office of University Relations, Western Michigan University, 1903 W. Michigan Ave., Kalamazoo, MI 49008-5433.

DEADLINE: Items to be considered for publication should be submitted to the Office of University Relations by 5 p.m. Friday the week preceding publication. Spring publication dates are **Jan. 9 and 23; Feb. 6 and 20; March 13 and 27; and April 10.** Items may be submitted to Jeanne Baron via: email, jeanne.baron@wmich.edu; mail, Campus Mail Stop 5433; phone, (269) 387-8433; or fax, (269) 387-8422.

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WMU earns sixth Tree Campus certification, finds rare tree species

The Arbor Day Foundation announced in January that it has named WMU a Tree Campus for the sixth consecutive time, in recognition of WMU's commitment to effective community forestry management.

"Being recertified as a Tree Campus for 2013 recognizes the hard work and dedication of our landscape services staff and so many others across the University," says Darrell Junkins, a University grounds supervisor in landscape services.

Tree Campus USA is a national program that honors colleges and universities and their leaders for promoting healthy trees as well as engaging their students and employees in the spirit of conservation. WMU and the University of Michigan-Ann Arbor were among the nation's 30 inaugural Tree Campuses and until 2012, were the only state schools to earn the certification.

The University's deeply rooted emphasis on environmental stewardship is helping to preserve a recently discovered population of dwarf hackberry trees on campus property. Rarely found as far north as Michigan, these trees are listed as a species of special concern in the state and are protected under Canada's Species at Risk Act.

WMU's dwarf hackberries were located by Todd J. Barkman, bio-



Stephan Keto, front far left, and Todd Barkman, back far right, are working to preserve WMU's record-breaking dwarf hackberry tree, which is seen in the background. Also contributing to the effort are volunteer faculty members as well as students and alumni, some of whom are pictured. (Photo by Cameron Tarnas)

logical sciences, and his fall 2011 and 2013 Systematic Botany classes. The classes were exploring campus natural areas when students began spotting the trees in woodlots southeast of the Stadium Drive Apartments. WMU's trees are unusually large, so students in last fall's class used DNA sequencing to help confirm the identity of several trees.

So far, 29 dwarf hackberries have been identified near the apartment complex by Stephan Keto, WMU's manager of natural areas and preserves, and his student assistant Dean Tomel Simionescu.

They include possibly the tallest dwarf hackberry known to exist in the country: a 46-foot specimen that unofficially surpasses the current national champion by 5 feet. Official measurement for the Michigan Botanical Club Big Tree Program and the National Registry of Champion trees will be completed this spring.

"These trees were associated with the now rare bur oak savannas that were part of the pre-settlement vegetation of Kalamazoo County. The ones we've discovered at WMU have been slowly surrounded by a forest of invasive species and larger trees that will eventually shade them out," Keto says.

"Volunteers, including faculty, staff and students, are working with our landscape services personnel to conserve these rare trees by removing invasive species, establishing associated native plants and managing the area to encourage dwarf hackberry survival."

Researchers focusing on northern Michigan for CO2 storage

For nearly a decade, WMU researchers have been studying Michigan geological features to determine the state's capacity and potential to store large amounts of carbon dioxide in a process called sequestration.

They showcased the potential in a Feb. 12-13 workshop for industry professionals by presenting physical evidence that the Northern Niagaran Reef Trend running under Otsego, Kalkaska and Grand Traverse counties can be developed further for carbon sequestration.



One of WMU's sample cores (Photo by Mike Lanka).

The researchers' findings can be readily observed in the actual sample cores collected from wells in the area. Those cores show the pore spaces are capable of storing large quantities of carbon dioxide.

The process that could further Michigan's new carbon sequestration industry entails

capturing and extracting CO2 from the emissions produced by power plants or other large, stationary, industrial emissions sources. Liquefied CO2 is then delivered into deep geological reservoirs, thousands of feet beneath the surface.

WMU has been a partner since 2005 in the Midwest Regional Carbon Sequestration Partnership. The partnership consists of representatives from leading universities, state geological surveys, nongovernmental research organizations and private companies from nine Eastern states.

In Michigan, its partners are studying data and samples from subsurface geological formations relevant to CO2 storage, CO2 containment and the potential for enhanced oil recovery. This regional effort is led by Battelle Memorial Institute, a Columbus, Ohio, research organization. Industry partners include Core Energy, LLC of Traverse City, Mich.

William B. Harrison III, emeritus in geosciences and director of the Michigan

Geological Repository for Research and Education, says WMU's research suggests that in addition to the CO2 storage potential, the technology involved in carbon sequestration could recover some 180 to 200 million barrels of "stranded" oil in old fields.

Harrison along with David Barnes and Duane Hampton, geosciences, also created a carbon sequestration research center called MichCarb in 2009 with more than \$600,000 in federal funding.

Award nominations due soon

Nominations are being accepted through Sunday, March 16, for awards recognizing WMU's lesbian, bisexual, gay and transgender communities and their allies.

Nominations are being accepted in the individual category as well as the unit, team and organization category. WMU students, employees, units and organizations are eligible to receive the awards, and anyone on or off campus may make a nomination.

For guidelines and a nomination form, visit wmich.edu/diversityandinclusion/lbgt.

Service

The following faculty and staff members are recognized for 35, 25, 20, 15, 10 and five years of service during February.

35 Years—Lunny D. Green, Registrar's Office, and Sharon L. Nicholson, information technology.

25 Years—Mary J. Carpenter, landscape services.

20 Years—Teresa Ann Coburn, Sindecuse Health Center, and Michael A. Matthews, building custodial and support services.

15 Years—Steven R. Cartwright, University Libraries; Elizabeth A. Dalzell, Davis Dining Services; Brien S. Leonard, Sindecuse Health Center; Melanie Parish, landscape services; and RoseMarie Roberts, Office of the Vice President for Legal Affairs.

10 Years—Donald W. Gribbin, accountancy, and Luann M. Harden, WMU-Southwest.

Five Years—Adam Adrianson, University Libraries; Cindy L. Beebe, building custodial and support services; Kevin J. Birdsall, information technology; Darrell E. Claey's, information technology; Sara A. Decker, Haworth College of Business; Maria L. French, Burnham Dining Service; Jeremy Michael Glefke, student financial aid and scholarships; Khristin B. Jones, building custodial and support services; Stacy-Ann M. Lindner-Travis, Auxiliary Enterprises; Mark Terrell Robinson, building custodial and support services; and Patrick M. Williams, information technology.

Obituaries

Michael A. Myckowiak, a former regional director of continuing education, died Jan. 23. He was 89. Myckowiak retired in 1984 after 10 years of service.

Richard R. Williams, a former associate professor in the College of Health and Human Services, died Feb. 5. He was 77. Williams founded WMU's holistic health program in 1982. A memorial service will be held in April.

Joseph T. Work, emeritus in music, died Feb. 7. He was 82. Work retired in 1993 after 30 years of service.



Work

On Campus with Lewis Hamilton



INSPIRED AND INSPIRING
(Photo by Deanne Puca)

In his own words, Lewis Hamilton jokes that he's worked at WMU so long, "They've kind of built the University around me!"

During his 33 years as an employee and prior years as an undergraduate student, he says the people at the University have made him look forward to coming to work every day for more than three decades.

"I've worked for Western a long time and have met a lot of nice people," he says. "I've looked forward to coming in and doing my job every day."

Those jobs have included his start in 1981 in accounts payable as well as positions in accounts receivable from 1984 to 1997. The latter year, Hamilton moved from the Seibert Administration Building to Walwood Hall, where he works as a financial assistant processing cash and in-kind gifts for the Office of Development and Alumni Relations.

A native of Portage, Mich., he earned his bachelor's degree in advertising from WMU in 1979. Hamilton now lives in Kalamazoo with his wife, Mary. The couple have a grown son, Matthew, who graduated from WMU in 2012 with a bachelor's degree in computer information systems.

The sudden death of their young daughter from an illness in 1992 drove Lewis to writing poetry to help with his grief. When his poems began piling up, he published a book of his work, "The Gardener and my Garden," in 1997 with illustrations by his sister, Sharolyn Hamilton.

Writing that book led him to start a blog, lightenload.wordpress.com two years ago, where he continues to share stories of inspiration and observation.

During the past two years, his site has had more than 13,000 views from people in 87 different countries.

Students to vie for \$16,000 scholarships

Some 140 high school seniors will compete in the Multicultural Leader Scholarship competition at WMU from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 22, in the Bernhard Center.

WMU established the by-invitation-only event in 2012 to broaden diversity and multiculturalism on campus. Only qualifying students from select high schools are invited to compete.

During the competition, they will vie for membership in WMU's Martin Luther King Jr. Academy as well as one of about

50 Multicultural Leader Scholarships, each totaling \$16,000 over four years. Since the event's inception, some 100 students have received nearly \$1.6 million in scholarships.

Students who receive a Multicultural Leader Scholarship automatically become part of WMU's Martin Luther King Jr. Academy. The academy is a comprehensive program that offers academic, social, and professional development support and services to students from their first year on campus through graduation.

Area high school students competing in Brain Bee

Southwest Michigan high school students will use their brains while learning about the brain during a neuroscience competition Saturday, Feb. 22, in Wood Hall.

The fourth Southwest Michigan Brain Bee is open to the public and begins at 10 a.m. It is a key part of Brain Awareness Week, an educational outreach mission aimed at increasing awareness about neuroscience.

Following the competition, neuroscience labs personnel will conduct tours and offer participants hands-on neuroanatomy demonstrations.

WMU's event is being organized by

psychology and biological sciences faculty members and graduate students. The winners of local brain bees will compete in the National Brain Bee held each March in Baltimore during Brain Awareness Week.

Registration for the Southwest Michigan Brain Bee is at swmichbrainbee.webs.com. The official study material for the Brain Bee is a book titled, "Brain Facts," which can be downloaded for free at www.sfn.org.

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Project will result in broader autism services



Michigan Lt. Gov. Brian Calley at the first Michigan Autism Conference (Photo by Amber Hutson)

- Online and on-site training of supervisors for practitioners wishing to become board certified behavior analysts for autism spectrum disorder.

- Forming partnerships with organizations providing services to those with autism and their families as well as assisting with plans to create a parent navigation system that would put families in touch with autism services in their communities.

Implementing all phases of the grant project will require the commitment of a team of WMU faculty with the help of a small army of graduate students. Some 25 to 30 people from WMU will be involved, as well as community partner agencies and national figures who will lend their expertise.

Funding technology seminar set

A networking seminar titled "Building University-Industry Research Partnerships to Secure Federal Funding for Your Technology" will take place from 1 to 3 p.m. Friday, March 14, in Schneider Hall. Registration is open at misbtcd.net/events.aspx.

This interactive program will explore questions for faculty members and small businesses in the context of funding programs for translational research, university spin-out companies and small business product development. It also will cover new programs for technology transfer at NSF NIH, and other federal agencies, as well as the well-known SBIR and STTR programs that award more than \$2 billion annually in research and development funding to small business.

Michael Kurek from BBC Entrepreneurial Training and Consulting will be the guest facilitator. In addition, representatives from WMU research centers and business development offices will offer consultation and support to attendees. There will be plenty of time for questions, discussion and networking. Light refreshments will be served.

First WMU Grad Talks slated

The Graduate Student Advisory Committee's new graduate student symposium, WMU Grad Talks, takes place at 5 p.m. Friday, Feb. 21, in the Lee Honors College Building lounge.

Inspired by TED Talks, it gives graduate students a chance to present their research in 10-minute public presentations. Visit wmich.edu/gsac/gradstalk.html for details.

Western News

FEBRUARY 20, 2014
Volume 40, Number 11

wmich.edu/westernnews