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Check out this great feature story on Walt's Pilgrimage in the [Los Angeles Times!](http://www.latimes.com/socal/burbank-leader/news/tn-blr-me-michigan-disney-20160722-story.html)
<http://www.latimes.com/socal/burbank-leader/news/tn-blr-me-michigan-disney-20160722-story.html>

JULY 22, 2016

Congratulations to our [2013 Medallions!](http://ciskalamazoo.org/western-michigan-university-medallion-scholars/)
<http://ciskalamazoo.org/western-michigan-university-medallion-scholars/>

JUNE 28, 2016

Congratulations, [Aaron McClendon](http://wmich.edu/news/2016/04/31544) on receiving the Gary L. Buffington Scholarship!
<http://wmich.edu/news/2016/04/31544>

APRIL 18, 2016

Integrated supply management student nets prestigious scholarships

contact: Stacey Markin
April 18, 2016 | WMU News

KALAMAZOO, Mich.—A Western Michigan University integrated supply management student has earned two national scholarships.

Senior **Aaron McClendon** of Westland is the recipient of the \$10,000 Gary L. Buffington Scholarship, awarded by the Industrial Supply Association Education Foundation. He is also the recipient of the \$5,000 R. Gene Richter Scholarship, awarded by the Richter Foundation in partnership with the Institute for Supply Management.

Opportunities for professional development

McClendon is the first WMU recipient of the Buffington scholarship and the seventh WMU recipient of a Richter scholarship.



McClendon

He will have the opportunity for professional development as part of both scholarship programs. He will attend the ISA Convention in April 16-18, where he will address approximately 1,000 manufacturers, distributors, manufacturer representatives and service providers and have the opportunity to attend sessions. He also will attend the ISM Annual International Supply Management Conference May 15-18 as part of the Richter Scholarship program and will participate in conference sessions and workshops. McClendon will also be paired with an established executive in the field for ongoing mentorship.

"I was extremely honored and humbled when I found out that I would be receiving the Gary L. Buffington Scholarship and the R. Gene Richter Scholarship," says McClendon. "I found out about both awards within a two-week time period, and I cannot thank the ISA Education Foundation and the Richter Foundation enough for their investment in my future. The awards provide much appreciated financial assistance with my tuition and only strengthens my resolve to work as hard as I can as I finish out my senior year in the strongest possible way."

As part of the screening process for the ISA scholarship, McClendon responded to the question, "What are two emerging technologies that excite you and could have a substantial impact on industrial distribution?" McClendon cited autonomous driving and its impact on supply chains, including the benefits of increased efficiency, delivery performance and lower labor costs, as a result of a reduction in the number of truck drivers needed to deliver materials. He also noted the shared-service technologies developed by companies like Airbnb and Uber, which are changing the way consumers identify opportunities to buy and sell services. "The idea of increased shared services could potentially disrupt overall product demand, resulting in decreased costs of owning. It is important for companies to accurately forecast the implications of these technologies now to adapt and capitalize before a paradigm shift occurs in industry," says McClendon.

Aaron McClendon

In addition to his ISM major, McClendon is minoring in business analytics, is a member of the Lee Honors College and serves as the ISM peer mentor and a business admissions ambassador. He is actively involved with multiple student organizations, including the business college's Student Leadership Advisory Board and APICS: the Association for Operations Management, where he holds the post of president-elect. He is the vice president of FOCUS Kalamazoo, a student volunteer-based organization dedicated to educating, connecting, and developing college students in volunteer experiences throughout the community.

He has participated in internships and co-ops in logistics, warehousing, global purchasing and negotiations and operations. He will be a returning intern at General Motors this summer. During his GM internship in 2015, McClendon led a project focused on plant conveyor systems, where he made sourcing recommendations that saved GM more than \$3 million, while improving plant throughput and aligning supplier capacity.

"Aaron has demonstrated to the judges for these scholarship programs the comprehensiveness of the integrated supply management major and shown that he is already job-ready," says **Dr. Sime Curkovic**, professor of supply chain management. "We are extremely proud of him. Aaron is a

clear leader in our program and is a motivated, committed student who is willing to go above and beyond to achieve success in the supply chain field. More importantly, he brings out the best in others when he works in a team setting."

About WMU's ISM Program

Ranked No. 5 in undergraduate supply chain education by [Gartner](#) and also by SCM World and No. 2 in the nation for emphasis on teaching technology, software and quantitative tools by [Software Advice](#), WMU's ISM program has been recognized nationally by several organizations and publications for its leadership in preparing students for careers in supply chain management. The program also includes Bronco Force Solutions Teams, which give students experience in business consulting with companies on their supply chain challenges. The WMU Center for Integrated Supply Management was established in 2014 by the Haworth College of Business.

Congratulations [Anthony!](#) Anthony Helms, director of academic advising for Western Michigan University's Lee Honors College, has been named Advisor of the Year by the Alpha Lambda Delta honor society national organization.

<http://wmich.edu/news/2016/03/30927>

MARCH 10, 2016

National honor organization honors WMU chapter advisor

contact: Deanne Puca

March 10, 2016 | WMU News

KALAMAZOO, Mich.—**Anthony Helms**, director of academic advising for Western Michigan University's Lee Honors College, has been named Advisor of the Year by the Alpha Lambda Delta honor society national organization.

Helms has served as the WMU ALD advisor since 2013 and is a newly-elected professional member-at-large on the national council. He was also honored as WMU's Registered Student Organization advisor of the month in November 2015.

Under Helms' leadership, the ALD chapter won the prestigious Order of the Torch award in 2015, two Maintaining the Flame awards in 2014 and 2013, and the Delta silver-level award for total membership percentage increase in 2014. He has been a consistent presence at the national leadership conferences, both attending and presenting.



Helms

The chapter's overall membership has increased by nearly 100 students per year since Helms became the advisor. His chapter's impressive Web and social media activity highlights the many events and service projects that take place annually, such as partnerships with the the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, American Red Cross and Relay for Life. The chapter has coined #ALDTuesdays, encouraging students at WMU and other ALD chapters across the country to show their ALD pride on a weekly basis.

"Anthony goes above and beyond to assist our executive board in accomplishing whatever our next mission might be," says **Nicole Thompson**, junior advisor of the WMU ALD chapter. "He has a very clear perspective of what it means to be an Alpha Lambda Delta advisor. He ensures that the student leaders of our chapter's executive board are given enough independence to learn and practice leadership skills. We have learned skills that will be helpful in years to come.

"Anthony Helms is hardworking, strategic and cherished by many," she adds. "I would not be the student I am today without this extraordinary chapter advisor."

Helms will be presented with the award and deliver a keynote address at the 2016 ALD National Leadership Conference in Washington, D.C, in October. The WMU chapter will also receive a \$200 cash award.

Alpha Lambda Delta

Alpha Lambda Delta is a national honor society that recognizes students' academic success in their first year at a college or university. Founded in 1924, ALD has over a million lifetime members and is present on more than 280 campuses nationwide. ALD's mission is to "encourage

superior academic achievement, to promote intelligent living and a continued high standard of learning, and to assist students in recognizing and developing meaningful goals for their unique roles in society."

For more information on ALD, contact Trish Dillenbeck at trish@nationalald.org or (585) 364-0840.

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