

THE PILLAR

A NEWSLETTER OF THE WMU COLLEGE OF EDUCATION AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

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Interim Dean Named

Van E. Cooley, chair of the Department of Educational Leadership, Research and Technology for Western Michigan University's College of Education and Human Development, has been named interim dean of the college.

Cooley, whose appointment is effective immediately, replaces John J. Wheeler, who left WMU in December to become the Director for the Center of Excellence in Early Childhood Learning and Development at East Tennessee State University. Cooley will serve as the interim dean while the University conducts a nationwide search for a new dean of the college.

Cooley has been a member of the faculty and college administration since 1996. Since his appointment to WMU, he has been the co-principal investigator on nearly 9 million dollars in grants from the Wallace Foundation and the United States Department of Education. Through grant initiatives, he has worked closely with the Michigan Department of Education, Michigan Association of Secondary Principals, Michigan Elementary and Middle School Principals Association and the Michigan Association of School Administrators. He has also worked with principals in Battle Creek, Benton Harbor, Kalamazoo, Flint, Grand Rapids, Lansing, Muskegon, Oak Park, Saginaw and other Michigan districts. He previously worked as a middle and high school teacher, an assistant superintendent and superintendent. Working with

teachers and administrators, he has developed state and national award winning programs ranging from professional development, technology programming and programs to address the needs of at risk students.



Dr. Van E. Cooley

Cooley has been a member of WMU

Faculty Senate Executive Board for 11 years. He has also been a member of the Research Policies Committee, Campus Planning and Financial Council, Research Policies Council, Academic and Information Technology Council, and the Senate Committee on Extended University Programs.

A graduate of Ball State University, Cooley also served in the United States Navy as a hospital corpsman from 1968 -1972 including one year in South Vietnam. Dr. Cooley is married and has two grown children.

25 Year Club

The Board of Trustees established the 25 Year Club in 1982 with the goal of recognizing faculty and staff who have at least 25 years of service to the University. New members are "inducted" into the Club during the



calendar year in which they achieve twenty-five years of service. Membership in the 25 Year Club is recognized at the annual 25 Year Club Gala, which is traditionally held between Thanksgiving and Fall Semester exam week. All active and retired members of the 25 Year Club are invited to this annual event. These new members receive a gift from the University, a commemorative certificate, and a 25 Year Club mug.

Congratulations to the College of Education and Human Development's newest inductee, **Shelly Carpenter** (left), Co-Project Director for GEAR UP, pictured here with **Dr. Katharine Cummings** (right), Associate Dean.

(A complete list of members is continued on page 2)

CoEHD 25 Year Club Members

Current Employees

Anderson, Ariel L. H.
Berkey, Debra S.
Burns, Amy L.
Dannison, Linda L.
DeRyke, Cynthia L.
Farber, Paul
Grover, Lou Ann
Harris, Barbara L.
Hovestadt, Alan J.
Medendorp, Judith A.
Morris, Joseph R.
Morris-Mier, Carol A.
Rosser, Marian L.
Thompson, Donald E.
Warfield, Charles C.
Wilson, Paul T.

Emeriti/Retirees

Bailey, Keith
Benne, Max E.
Bloemsma, Jeanne L.
Borr, Earl
Bosco, James J.
Brinkerhoff, Robert
Bunda, Mary-Anne V.
Burns, James W.
Cain, Mary A.
Cardwell, Carolyn E.
Carver, Charon Lynn
Chambers, Bill
Chapel, Joe R.
Cheatum, Billye A.
Clysdale, Patrick
Comer, Charles D.

Cordier, Mary H.
Cowden, David J.
Crowell, Ronald A.
Dales, George G.
DeRight, Joyce L.
Diget, David K.
Doolittle, F.W.
Ebert, Frances H.
Eisenbach, Joseph J.
France, June
Friedel, Jean
Geisler, John S.
Hannaford, Alonzo E.
Havens, Gail A.
Heinig, Edward J.
Hobbs, George W.
Inselberg, Rachel M.

Jones, Jack
Kanzler, William H.
Kotecki, Robert G.
Kramer, Jane E.
Law, Linda
Lemanski, Patricia A.
Magga, Marsha A.
McGinnis, Dorothy
Meyer, Ruth Ann
Miller, George S.
Miller, John
Miller, Pamela J.
Orlofsky, Fred C.
Petersons, Maija
Poole, Howard R.
Raklovits, Richard F.
Ray, Harold L.

Rey, Doris A.
Rowekamp, William
Sanders, James R.
Schlosser, Merle J.
Smidchens, Uldis
Smith, Carol Payne
Steinhaus, Nancy H.
Stevens, Fred L.
Thomas, Darrell B.
Viard, Patricia B.
Watson, Archie E.
Winter, Ronald J.
Withee, Deborah K.
Wyman, Robert F.
Zabik, Roger M.

A look into the future.

A view of the atrium in the new Sangren Hall.



Opening Fall 2012

Student/Alumni News

Aoi Yamanaka and **Tammi Roberts** recently presented at The National Academic Advising Association (NACADA) conference in Denver, CO. Their presentation was entitled "Using Technology in Advising: Best Practices, Tools, and Tips." Aoi received a travel grant from the Graduate College to support this presentation.



Aoi Yamanaka



Tammi Roberts

Two students from the Department of Educational Leadership, Research and Technology received awards from the Graduate College. **Ms. Aoi Yamanaka** who is a Higher Education Student Affairs master's student received \$700 for travel and presenting. This was awarded from the Graduate Student Travel Fund. **Kelsey Woodard** who is an Educational Leadership doctoral student was awarded \$1,000 to use towards doctoral research for her dissertation. Her award was granted from the Graduate Student Research Fund.

Two Western Michigan University graduates and two students were honored at the Michigan association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance (MAHPERD) at the annual conference of the organization held in Dearborn Nov 3-5, 2011. **Amy Niewenhuis** was named Teacher of the Year (TOY) - Elementary Physical Education. Amy is a teacher for Otsego Public Schools. She completed her undergraduate and graduate degrees in Physical Education. **Heather Sawyer** was named TOY- High School Physical Education. Heather teaches for Lakeview Public School System in Battle Creek. Heather completed her undergraduate degree in Physical Education and her master's degree in Coaching Education. Undergraduate students who received MAHPERD Student Honor Awards were **Trey Conner** and **Jennie Carson**. Trey and Jennie are both Physical Education majors. Trey serves as the Vice President of the Epsilon Alpha Chapter of Phi Epsilon Kappa (PEK) and the Vice President of the Future Professionals Division on the MAHPERD Board of Directors. Jennie is the secretary of PEK. Pictured with Dr. Deb



Berkey are the following graduates and students of the physical education program(s) at WMU:

Tracy Daniel- Physical Educator at Comstock HS/TOY-HS-2010

Chris Jusczyk - Physical Educator at Lawton Elementary/TOY-EI-2010

Lori Bronkema - Elementary Physical Education/Health teacher-Otsego

Amy Niewenhuis - Physical Educator at Lawton Elementary/TOY-EI-2011

Dr. Deb Berkey - MAHPERD University Educator of the Year-2009

Trey Conner - MAHPERD Student Honor Award-2011

Jennie Carson - MAHPERD Student Honor Award-2011

The ExSci student group traveled to Indianapolis, IN to attend the Midwest Regional Chapter Meeting for the American College of Sports Medicine (ACSM). There were fifteen members in attendance, breaking all records for the club and giving the best representation for any University at the meeting.



Bradley Hinman, doctoral candidate in Counselor Education and Counseling Psychology, presented at the national conference of the American Association of Marriage and Family Therapists in September, 2011. He also presented at a roundtable at the Association of Counselor Education and Supervision in October, 2011.



Several Human Performance and Health Education students enrolled in HPER 2350: Theory of Coaching received their Michigan High School Athletic Association Coaches Advancement Program



Level III Intermediate Level certificates. Students must pass three MHSAA CAP tests at 80% or above to earn certification. WMU annually is near the top in the state of Michigan in the number of students that receive the certificate.

Counselor Education doctoral student, **Allison Buller**, has received three grants (two external and one internal) to support her dissertation research. The award grants are as follows: NCACES Research Grant 2011, \$1000.00; WMU Research Grant 2011, \$1000.00; and CACREP Research Grant 2012, \$522.00. The title of Allison's dissertation is: "Exploring the Experiences of Counselor



Educators Recognized for Their Excellence in Teaching." This dissertation will engage counselor educators identified as "Excellent" teachers in an examination of the meaningful experiences that contributed to their development as faculty in counselor education.



Faculty/Staff News

Dr. Wendy Samuels, former WMU doctoral student and faculty member at Ferris State University, along with Educational Leadership, Research and Technology faculty members **Dr. Andrea Beach** and **Dr. Louann Bierlein Palmer**, recently had their work on college student retention accepted by the Journal of College Student Retention: Research, Theory & Practice. The article is entitled "Persistence of Adult Undergraduates on a Traditionally Oriented University Campus: Does Donaldson and Grahams' Model of College Outcomes for Adult Students Still Apply? (2011-2012)" and profiles findings from a qualitative study of undergraduates who, as adults, were about to complete their undergraduate degree at a very traditionally oriented university campus. Findings offer insight as to how to best serve this growing population of adult learners.

The W. E. Schaller Presidential Citation was presented to **Dr. Marianne Frauenknecht**, Department of Human Performance and



Health Education. This award is given by Eta Sigma Gamma, the national health education honorary association at the American School Health Association National Convention in Louisville, KY on Oct. 14, 2011. The award was given

in recognition of Dr. Frauenknecht's exemplary leadership and prolific scholarly, educational, and service contributions to the profession.

Allison Downey, Associate Professor in the Department of Teaching, Learning, and Educational Studies, presented her paper, "New York Stories: Perspectives from the New York City Storytelling Scene" at the American Folklore Society's Annual Conference at the University of Indiana at Bloomington. This paper is based on findings from her sabbatical research in New York City 2010-2011 where she conducted a comparative analysis of contemporary American storytelling formats, and primarily focuses on The Moth storytelling organization, which boasts more than one million story downloads weekly. Downey



performed for The Moth's Mainstage tour of Michigan this summer for sold out shows in Grand Rapids (Royce Auditorium) and Ann Arbor (The Power Center).

Three College of Education and Human Development staff members, **Anthony Helms**, Academic Advisor; **Roxann Swank**, Academic Advisor; and **M'Myia Hughes**, Program



Services Coordinator, TRiO FESP, all received the semi-annual WMU Make a Difference award. Pictured are Roxann Swank, President John M. Dunn, M'Myia Hughes and Anthony Helms.

Laura Ciccantell, Director of Admissions and Advising for the College of Education and Human Development, was selected to receive



the Lee Honors College Distinguished Service Award given to those individuals who have served the Lee Honors College students tirelessly and with distinction.

Dr. Susan Piazza,

Associate Professor of Literacy Studies, was invited to co-author an editorial piece for NBC News Education Nation: The Learning Curve. Piazza and Patricia A. Edwards, Distinguished Professor of Teacher Education at MSU titled their piece /Beyond the NAEP Reading Scores, an Education Debt/ (<http://bit.ly/w0IZrZ>). Their commentary on 2011 National Assessment of Education Progress scores highlights stagnant 4th and 8th grade reading scores since 2009, and little change since 1992. The authors raise issues about inequitable access to schools, health care, libraries, housing, and other sociological factors that are too often overlooked when educators are criticized for not closing achievement gaps. Piazza and Edwards are partnering on several projects and will present two research presentations related to culturally relevant pedagogies at this year's



Literacy Research Association in Jacksonville, FL.

Dr. James Muchmore, Professor in the Department of Teaching, Learning, and Educational Studies, has been selected as one of four candidates for the Special Interest Group (SIG) Executive Committee of the American Educational Research Association (AERA). Based in Washington, D.C., AERA is the world's largest



and most prestigious professional organization for educational researchers. The SIG Executive Committee is responsible for overseeing all of the SIGs within the organization (currently numbering more than 150). The election will be held in January, 2012. All members of AERA who belong to at least one SIG are eligible to vote.

Drs. Walter L. Burt and **Dennis McCrumb** from the Department of Educational Leadership, Research and Technology had an article published titled "Tenure of African



Dr. Walter L. Burt

American Superintendents in Michigan School Districts: A Forty-Year Recapitulation of the Michigan Experience." The article appeared in

the Summer Issue of the Journal of the Alliance of Black School Educators (JABSE).



Dr. Dennis McCrumb

Dr. Walter Burt, Associate Professor in Educational Leadership, Research and Technology facilitated a discussion at the National Alliance of Black School Educators' Annual Conference held in New Orleans, LA, in November, 2011 entitled "Surviving in Turbulent Times: A Recapitulation of Success Strategies Incorporated by School Superintendents in Three Mid-size Urban School Districts."

Faculty and Staff News

cont.



Dr. Luchara Wallace, Assistant Professor in Special Education and Literacy Studies has a new article in the Journal of Disability Policy Studies.



Gross, J. S., Wallace, L. S., Blue-Banning, M., Summers, J. A., & Turnbull, A. P. (In Press). Examining

the Experiences and Decisions of Parents/Guardians Participant Directing the Supports and Services of Adults with Significant Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (SIDD). Journal of Disability Policy Studies.

Dr. Jody Brylinsky, Professor in Human Performance and Health Education, was asked to serve as a technical advisor for US Soccer by their coach education division in Los Angeles, CA. In addition to giving two presentations, one on identifying elite coach competencies, and a second on evaluating top coaches, Jody was also able to see the women's national team practice and work with several former World Cup players and current professional team coaches.



Jessaca Spybrook, Assistant Professor in Evaluation, Measurement, and Research, was recently awarded a \$25,000 Officer's Discretionary Grant from the WT Grant Foundation. The purpose of the funded project is to track research evidence from the completed randomized trials launched by the



Institute of Education Sciences. The results from the study will help further our understanding of how research evidence from experimental studies is disseminated.

Dr. Jianping Shen and his colleagues recently had the following articles published. One of them appears in American Educational Research Journal, a flagship journal by American Educational Research Association.

(a) Shen, J., & Xia, J. (available on-line October 21, 2011). The relationship between teachers' and principals' power: Is it a win-win situation or zero-sum game? International Journal of Leadership in



Education. DOI:10.1080/13603124.2011.624643;

(b) Shen, J., Leslie, J.M., Spybrook, J.K., & Ma, X. (available on-line October 25, 2011). Are principal background and school processes related to teacher job satisfaction? A multilevel study using Schools and Staffing Survey 2003-04. American Educational Research Journal. DOI: 10.3102/0002831211419949;

(c) Shen, J., Cooley, V., Ma, X., Reeves, P., Burt, W., Rainey, J.M., & Yuan, W. (2012). Data-informed decision-making on high-impact strategies: Developing and validating an instrument for principals. Journal of Experimental Education, 80 (1), 1-25. DOI: 10.1080/00220973.2010.550338;

(d) Ma, X., Shen, J., Kavanaugh, A., Lu, X., Brandi, K., Goodman, J., Till, L., & Watson, G. (2011). Effects of quality improvement system on child care centers. Journal of Research in Childhood Education, 25, (4) 399-414; and

(e) Shen, J., Ma, X., Tackett, W., Lu, X., Brandi, K., Goodman, J., Till, L., Watson, G. (2011). Effects of quality improvement system on early childhood education practitioners. Research and Practice Advances in Early Education and Day Care, 15, 129-154.

Welcome New Faculty and Staff



Andrea Bau is the Office Assistant in the Office of Teacher/Administrator Certification



Scott Centilli is the Director of Educational Technology Services



Roxann Swank moved from TRiO FESP and is now an Academic Advisor



Sarah Stangl is an Academic Advisor



M'Myia Hughes moved from Academic Advising and is now the Program Services Coordinator for TRiO FESP

Let us know what's happening in your life! Submit your news, as well as updates to your contact information, by clicking the online update button on the home page of wmich.edu/education.

1971



Vic Fortezza, B.S. '71, Physical Education, has his fourth book available exclusively on Kindle. For more information, go to: <http://tinyurl.com/bt6a9uy>. He has had more than 50 stories published worldwide and contributes articles to buzzle.com.

1976

Carol Smallwood, M.S. '76, co-edited (Molly Peacock, foreword) *Women on Poetry: Tips on Writing, Teaching and Publishing by Successful Women Poets* (forthcoming, McFarland); *Compartments: Poems on Nature, Femininity and Other Realms* (Anaphora Literary Press, 2011). She is a National Federation of Poetry Societies winner. *Writing and Publishing: The Librarian's Handbook* was published by the American Library Association in 2010.

1994

Leni Weisl Ellwein, lives in Southern Maryland and has a private practice specializing in Post Traumatic Stress Disorder and Co-occurring disorders, as well as marital therapy.

2000

Amy (Patch) McFarland, B.S. '00, Family and Consumer Science, is an Enforcement Officer for the 15th Judicial Circuit Court in Branch County, MI.

2003

Angela Knapp, B.S. Elementary Education, (minors in English, science, early childhood education) earned the prestigious title of National Board Certified Teacher. Knapp, a teacher at John Burroughs Middle School in the Los Angeles Unified School District, has earned the highest credential available to American educators by the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards (NBPTS). National Board Certification is achieved through a rigorous, performance-based assessment of a teacher's pedagogical skills and content knowledge. The certification takes one to three years to complete.

Sara Heil, B.S. '03 alumna and Portage Central French teacher, was honored by Fox 17 news as their Teacher of the Week. Madame Heil was nominated by a former student and selected to receive the award by the West Michigan news organization. Fox 17's Jon Shaner went to Portage Central in December to interview Madame Heil for her accomplishments. Congratulations, Madame Heil!

Alumni SPOTLIGHT

Amy Nieuwenhuis, a teacher at Otsego's Washington Street Elementary School, was named Elementary Physical Education Teacher of the Year by the Michigan Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance.

Nieuwenhuis is credited with bringing several successful programs into the district, including:

- Mileage Club, in which student participants run during their lunchtime two days a week and keep track of their miles. The program is now in all three Otsego elementary schools.
- JumpStart!, a before-school program for at-risk students that allows them to run or work out for about 20 minutes as a way to stimulate the brain and help the children focus in class.
- Indoor Fitness Trails, in which each elementary school has different activity stations set up throughout the hallways in the building.

"My professors at WMU really instilled a great foundation for what should be known as physical education, not gym class," Nieuwenhuis said.



2010



Michele Eggleston, M.A., School Counseling, obtained a job in elementary school counseling in a public school in Genesee County. "I absolutely love my position and attribute a lot of my success to the curriculum and education I received from the WMU Counselor Education and Counseling Psychology Department.

2011



Kyle Liechty, B.A., Career and Technical Education, was hired in July 2011 by Jackson Community College to be the IT Literacy Outreach Coordinator. In this position, Kyle is teaching free introductory computer and employability classes to the public in Jackson, Lenawee, and Hillsdale counties.

Reconnect with fellow College of Education and Human Development alums through these social networking sites:



Keep in Touch!

We like to keep in touch with our Alumni. What's new with you? Promotion? Marriage? Retirement? Whatever your achievement or accomplishment, we'd like to hear about it and post it in the class notes section of our quarterly newsletter.

Please send us information about address changes, career changes, recognitions received and other news you would like to share with your former classmates, friends, colleagues and professors in our class notes section. E-mail updates to jillian.grosscup@wmich.edu.

The College of Education and Human Development Newsletter is published for alumni, emeriti and friends of the College of Education and Human Development at Western Michigan University. If you would like more information about the programs in the CoEHD, have questions or suggestions, or if you have a submission for the newsletter, please contact:

Jillian Grosscup, Coordinator of Marketing and Communications | 1903 W. Michigan Ave Kalamazoo, MI 49008-5229
telephone: (269) 387-2971 | fax: (269) 387-2882

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Human Performance and Health Education
Alumni Academy 2011 Inductees

Giving

Thank you for making a gift to the College of Education and Human Development. You can direct your gift to a specific department, program or scholarship or you can give an unrestricted gift that can be used where it is needed most. It's up to you. If you like, you can call and discuss your interests or ideas. We're happy to talk to you about where you would like to direct your gift.

Here are just a few ways that annual gifts have helped students:

- Providing funds for travel to professional conferences
- Helping to fund student teaching internships
- Supporting the general scholarship fund for the CoEHD (over \$300,000 was awarded in scholarships last year)
- Funding student research projects

Here's how to give:

<http://www.wmich.edu/education/giving/index.html> to donate online. If you prefer, you can use the form below.

Name: _____

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Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

My gift is:

☐ Unrestricted for the College of Education and Human Development

☐ Restricted to the following department or program

Please write department/program here

Please send your tax deductible gift to:

**Gift Processing, WMU Foundation,
1903 W. Michigan Ave., Kalamazoo, MI 49008-5403
Phone: (269) 387-8700 Fax: (269) 387-8770**

I support continued excellence at **WMU's
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with the following gift.

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