Double check WMU Alert preferences
University community members who have registered to receive emergency information through WMU Alert should check the phone number they have registered to ensure prompt notification. Log into GoWMU and click the WMU Alert icon. Your current registration information will appear. Changes can be made on that page.

A new WMU Alert system that notifies registrants by both text message and phone call became operational in 2013. Its first major uses came Jan. 6 and 7 when the University closed due to severe weather.

This was the first time WMU Alert was used for a weather closure.

University landlines (387- and 964-exchanges) are not text capable, so users need to be sure they have registered a cell phone and enabled the “text” option to receive emergency information via text message. To receive a phone call with emergency information, users must enable the “voice” option in the WMU Alert registration.

Jan. 31 deadline for award nominations
Applications for the Support for Faculty Scholars and Undergraduate Research Excellence awards are due Friday, Jan. 31. Visit http://wmich.edu/research/funding-sources-internal.html for details and application forms.

Teaching With Tech Symposium set
Registrations are being accepted for the Teaching with Technology Symposium from 1 to 4 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 19, in the Fetter Center. The event will include mini-workshops; a keynote presentation by Kevin Abbott, information technology; poster presentations; and technology demonstrations. Visit wmich.edu/facdev to register.

Make flu shot appointments online
The Sincereuse Health Center has a limited supply of flu vaccine available. Employees and students who haven’t already done so this flu season are encouraged to make an appointment to get immunized. To make an appointment for routine-care visits such as flu shots, visit https://healthmanager.wmich.edu or call (269) 387-1290.

Workshops to focus on cool tools
The Office of Faculty Development will host four days of Cool Tools workshops during spring recess. Three events will be held daily from Monday through Thursday, March 3-6, in 2033 University Computing Center.

The programs will cover a variety of teaching-focused topics, including Effective In-Class Discussions, Tips for Writing ITP and IDT Grants, Textbook Alternatives, Prezi in the Classroom, and Bridging the E-Learning Gap. Visit wmich.edu/facdev for a full schedule and to learn more about programming offered by the faculty development office.

Efforts to aid former foster care youth cited
University efforts to serve and understand the higher education needs of former foster care youth have been singled out for national recognition by a leading social policy organization.

A Jan. 15 announcement in Washington, D.C., by the Center for the Study of Social Policy, or CSSP, named WMU’s Center for Fostering Success as one of 15 programs around the nation that are making a critical difference in the lives of foster care youth.

The 15 programs were selected from among more than 130 nominees after a rigorous review that included a detailed written application, extensive site visits and interviews with youth, families and staff.

“This national recognition is enormously gratifying,” says Yvonne Unrau, director of the WMU center, “but the real reward for our Fostering Success team over the past six years has been watching young people succeed and being able to learn from them about how we can better support students and make higher education a more vibrant and welcoming place for students from foster care.”

According to the CSSP, the entire center was recognized for its commitment to “building qualities that help youth—particularly those in the child welfare system—mitigate or eliminate risk and promote healthy development and well-being.”

The Center for Fostering Success includes:
• the acclaimed Seita Scholars program that was founded in 2008 and offers college access and support for some 160 students from foster care annually;
• Fostering Success Michigan, a statewide network that is dedicated to making connections with people who are working to improve educational and career outcomes for Michigan’s youth.

Hettinger, Asmonga-Knapp to lead WMU board
James F. Hettinger of Pennville, Mich., and Mary Asmonga-Knapp of Battle Creek, Mich., have been elected to serve for 2014 as chair and vice chair, respectively, of the WMU Board of Trustees.

They were elected at the board’s Jan. 22 meeting. Hettinger replaces Jeanne Carlson, who remains on the board, and Asmonga-Knapp replaces Hettinger as vice chair. Both were appointed to the WMU board in 2009 by Gov. Jennifer Granholm.

Hettinger retired in 2008 as head of Battle Creek Unlimited after 30 years of service with that economic development organization. The two-time WMU alumnus has been commended for his economic development work by presidents Bill Clinton and George W. Bush, and Gov. John Engler named him the state’s Economic Developer of the Year in 1995.

Asmonga-Knapp is manager of the Family Advocacy Program for the Department of Defense’s Defense Logistics Agency at the Hart-Dole-Inouye Federal Center in Battle Creek. A 1994 WMU graduate, she also is the sexual assault response coordinator and deployment support manager for the agency and is a certified federal mediator.

College of Aviation to celebrate 75 years of aviation education
The faculty, staff and students in one of WMU’s most technically advanced disciplines are about to spend the coming year turning back the pages of history to celebrate their roots.

Throughout 2014, the College of Aviation will mark its 75th year of providing aviation education through what has become one of the top such collegiate programs in the world.

The college’s three undergraduate degree programs date back to 1939 when WMU jumped headlong into what was still an area of study and an industry in its infancy. The Wright brothers’ first sustained flight had only taken place 36 years earlier in 1903, the year WMU was founded.

Today, the college offers bachelor’s degrees in aviation flight science, aviation management and operations, and aviation maintenance technology to nearly 800 undergraduates.

A series of events are planned to mark the storied history of aviation at the University, with the first events likely to take place later this spring. The anniversary celebration will become part of many of the college’s regularly scheduled events, and the 75th anniversary will formally conclude in the...
Research, writing clinics planned
University Libraries provides individual help at its reference desks for research projects, but will be holding special research and writing clinics in collaboration with the Writing Center over four Tuesdays. From 3 to 7 p.m. Jan. 28, Feb. 18, March 11 and April 1 in Waldo Library. Writing Center and University Libraries personnel will give advice and help search for resources in individual consultations.

Keystone talk looks at equine therapy
Tamara Homnick, program director for the Chef Therapeutic Riding Center, will speak at 8 a.m. Friday, Jan. 31, in 2150 Schneider Hall. Homnick will discuss animal-assisted therapies and resources offered by her center as part of the Keystone Community Bank Breakfast Speaker Series. The free event begins with breakfast at 7:30 a.m. Reservations are required at (269) 387-6059.

Common read with friends event set
Faculty and staff members will be reading from this year’s Universitywide Common Read book selection from 4 to 5 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 5, in Waldo Library’s Meader Room. Reading from “Anatomy of Injustice: A Murder Case Gone Wrong” will be Shari Glaser, Parent and Family Programs; Walter Burt, educational leadership, research and technology; and George Brown, College of Fine Arts. Refreshments will be served.

WMU will offer the seminar “A Call to Action: Poverty Reduction in Kalamazoo County” from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Tuesdays between Jan. 28 and Feb. 25 in 4101 College of Health and Human Services Building. All five classes will feature a moderator and panel of experts who will address a poverty-related topic. Registration is required. To register or obtain a complete list of participating panel members, visit wmich.edu/extended/reducepoverty or call (269) 387-4200.

EDITOR’S note: Visit wmich.edu/news/news for more information about events.

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Trustees approve making University tobacco free
Acting at its Dec. 5 meeting, the WMU Board of Trustees unanimously approved a measure to make WMU a tobacco-free campus, effective Sept. 1, 2014.

The policy also prohibits forms of smokeless tobacco and any nicotine delivery devices that has not been approved by the Food and Drug Administration for cessation. It applies to all members of the campus community as well as campus visitors, vendors, contract employees and others.

The policy will be in effect on all University-owned property, including at regional campuses and summer sessions. Periodic education and programs already in place on campus. WMU will spend the next eight months working to inform and educate the campus community and its regular visitors about the policy. In the fall, faculty, staff and students who choose to use the new policy as an impetus to curtail their tobacco use, additional resources will be provided for smoking cessation programs already in place on campus.

Visit wmich.edu/tobaccofree to read the complete policy or get answers to frequently asked questions.

Retirement reception
Carvyn Hanson, senior clerk in student financial aid and scholarships, will be honored for her 11 years of service to the University during a retirement reception from 2 to 4 p.m. Friday, Jan. 24, in the Faunce Student Services Building’s Kiva Room.

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.
Public gets detailed look at design plans for new alumni center

Midway through the design process, archi-
tects for the Kalamazoo firm TowerPinkster
showed off plans for the new alumni center.

The plans to date were presented during a
designated information session Jan. 14 that clarified
how the 34,000-square-foot core of East Hall
will be renovated to preserve the building’s
most historic exterior and interior features.

Those features include the columned por-
tico overlooking Kalamazoo, the cupola and
the external “skin” of the building. Inside,
the main stairwell and hallways will serve as
focal points for interior renovation.

New exterior features planned include a
ceremonial entrance on the building’s west
side, an expanded patio extending the usable
area coming off the east portico, and small
windows on the north and south sides of the
building that will house such needed ameni-
ties as elevators, stairwells and restrooms.

In addition to office space on all three
floors, the main entry floor will have a library
that includes the salvaged fireplace from
North Hall, a concierge desk and a cafe.
The top floor will include small and large
conference rooms and a banquet facility able
to accommodate up to 150 people.

There will be exterior green space for
outdoor events to the west and north of the
building only, with the existing Walwood
Hall parking area expanded to accommodate 240 cars.

Also being considered is pres-
serving North Hall’s facade and
portico, which would serve as a
membrane of the building and
a physical terminus for the north/
south parameters of the site.

During post-presentation ques-
tions from those attending the
input session, concerns were
raised about the modern exterior
finish of the new wings.

Greg Jones, representative of the Hopkins
Burns Design Studio of Ann Arbor, Mich.,
gave the historic preservation viewpoint
on the issue and noted the functional aspect
of the wings.

Miron listed among most influential education scholars

A WMU faculty member is one of the 200
most influential education scholars in the
United States and the top 10 most influential
in scholarship related to government and
policy, according to an annual ranking that
appears in Education Week.

Gary Miron, educational leadership
research and technology, is a prolific and
regularly cited expert on education policy
and school reform. He is listed at No. 55
on the 2014 Rick Hess
Straight Up Educ-Scholar
Public Influence ranking.

The publication also
offered companion lists
ranking scholars by field or discipline. Along with
appearing on the overall
list, Miron is ranked
eighth nationally among the top 10 research-
ers in scholarship related to government and
policy topics.

Among scholars from Michigan univer-
sities, he is third in the state behind two
professors at the University of Michigan.

Topping the list are academic researchers
from Stanford, Harvard and New York
universities.

Rick Hess, author of the Education Week
blog that developed the list, says rankings
acknowledge and honor U.S. university-
related scholars “who are contributing
most substantially to public debates about
education.”

Hess, who also is the American Enterprise
Institute’s director of education policy stud-
ies, notes that a scholar’s public influence is
based on factors such as the number of books
they have written, their “Google Scholar
score,” and how many times they are men-
tioned in the popular and education press.

Art’s rendering of renovated East Hall’s southwest corner.

“We’re not just trying to recreate the past,”
he said. “We’re trying to provide a gateway
to the future.” He added that the goal of the
new wings is to “add something new that is
complementary...and yet not try to pretend
that it’s some part of history that it isn’t.”

Noah Miron

Editor’s Note: This list of service anniver-
saries should have appeared in an earlier issue.
We apologize for the delay.

The following faculty and staff members are recognized for 35, 30, 25, 20, 15, 10 and
five years of service during November 2013.

35 Years—Connie L. Peruchietti, Fetzer
Institutional

30 Years—Cindy L. Zimmerman, ac-
counting

25 Years—Ferry L. Scriver, University
Libraries

20 Years—Connie L. Peruchietti, Fetzer
Center

15 Years—Karen Bowling, Valley II Din-
ing Service; Diane Briggs, Burnham Dining
Service; Donna Lee DeVries, landscape
services; Jayne F. Frayley-Burgett, Disability
Services for Students; Scott M. Keeler,
maintenance services; Harold L. Landen,
maintenance services; Stephan L. Macomb-
er, maintenance services; Michelle L. Ray,
landscape services; Nathan S. Stonerock,
building custodial and support services; Lena Ann Thurman, building custodial and
support services; Pamela K. Wine, building
custodial and support services; and Rebecca
Winkle, Valley I Dining Service.

10 Years—Cynthia E. Bradley, human
performance and health education.

5 Years—Erin M. Baker, mechanical
and aerospace engineering; Pamela S. Ball,
Davis Dining Service; Daniel M. Barrett,
Davis Dining Service; Garalda A. Barton
IV, Auxiliary Enterprises; Megan E. Brown,
University Libraries; Kayla J. Duff, Haworth
College of Business; Kelly A. Fox, Burnham
Dining Service; Melissa J. Hodgson, WMU
Dining Services; Tracy M. King, Davis
Dining Service; Nina Louise Ojala Laney,
admissions; Laura A. Moss, Burnham Din-
ning Service; Matthew J. Newton, Extended
University Programs; Robert A. Powers Jr.,
Valley I Dining Service; Erik E. Pye, special
education and literacy studies; Robert F.
Reed, Auxiliary Enterprises; Michael A.
Shelden, Smedes Health Center; Crystal
Stein, Mallinson Institute; Kevin J. Van
Fulpen, Bernhard Center Dining Service;
Cindy L. VanSparrentak, Bernhard Center
Dining Service; and Ashleigh T. Watson,
Haenicke Institute.

In the aftermath
of early January’s “snow-
storm of the decade,” land-
scape services employees
placed a WMU victory
flag at the summit of one
of the many mountainous
mounds of the white stuff
they cleared from campus.

Fifty-five full-time landscape
staffers and nine student
employees worked around
the clock in temperatures
as low as 35 degrees
below zero, counting the
wind chill, to remove 18 inches of snow. Despite the challenging conditions that closed the University
Jan. 6 and 7, they opened up 126 miles of road, 120 acres of parking lots, 39 miles of walks, and
dozens of stairs and ramps. (Photo courtesy of Facilities Management)

Brent Blomgren

Editor’s Note: Visit wmich.edu/news/obituaries for complete obituaries.

Anthony Ellis, English, will be remem-
bered during a campus memorial service at
2 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 25, in Kanley Chapel.
The service will feature photos and remem-
rances of his life and career. Ellis died Jan. 7.
Graduate College names second duo to be fellows

Julie Apker, communication, and Louise Bierlein Palmer, educational leadership, research and technology, have been selected to be Graduate College Faculty Fellows, Bierlein Palmer for a second time.

The fellows program began last year and is an opportunity to develop as a campus leader while making significant contributions to graduate education.

For 2014, Graduate College Dean Susan R. Stapleton says Apker will focus her time on student and faculty engagement and success, building on the work of her predecessor, John Adams. Among other activities, she will help roll out an online orientation program for new graduate students as well as devise training opportunities for new graduate directors.

In her first year as a fellow, Bierlein Palmer helped develop graduate program descriptions for marketing and recruiting purposes (see the website at wmich.edu/grad/academics/programs.html). In 2014, she will help implement a new application system for graduate admissions.

Students to vie for $50,000 Medallion Scholarships

Nearly 800 of the brightest high school seniors from Michigan and around the country will gather on campus Saturday, Jan. 25 or Feb. 1, for the 31st annual Medallion Scholarship Competition.

Since 1984, about $87 million in four-year scholarships has been offered to more than 15,000 students. This year’s competitors will vie for some 30 Medallion Scholarships. Worth $50,000 over four years, the Medallion is the most prestigious merit-based scholarship WMU awards to incoming freshmen. The students chosen to receive them will become members of the Lee Honors College. Finalists not awarded Medallions will receive a top-tier Dean’s Scholarship worth $6,000 over two years. Each remaining competitor receives a one-time Dean’s Scholarship worth $3,000. Continued from page 1

College of Aviation to celebrate fall with a major celebratory event.

The College of Aviation’s storied history includes numerous initiatives to promote aviation as a career.

Such efforts continue, as seen Jan. 22 when the Michigan Business Aviation Association Board of Directors convened at the college faculty in Battle Creek, Mich., to announce the launch of a major outreach effort aimed at promoting business aviation careers for the next generation of aviators.

That new effort, called the MBAA Education Initiative: Bridging the Gap Between Graduation and a Career in Business Aviation, will include internship and scholarship opportunities as well as opportunities to network with corporate aviation leaders from global companies such as Amway, Bassell, Dow, Masco and Whirlpool.

“We’re out to provide an opportunity for aviation students to gain a greater understanding of business aviation by meeting with Michigan business aviation leaders,” says Roger Salo, of Masco, who is MBAA board chair.

“We’re developing mentors and internship programs to provide pathways to business aviation careers.”

Continued from page 1

Efforts to aid former foster care youth cited

students from foster care between the ages of 12 and 25; and

• a research and evaluation component charged with understanding the challenges and solutions related to foster youth and higher education.

The programs recognized by the CSSP, the organization says, were chosen because they will provide the child welfare field with on-the-ground examples of policies and training that will influence public policy change across the country. The programs also represent a framework of five research-informed factors that the organization calls Youth Thrive.

They are youth resilience, social connections and concrete support in time of need, knowledge of adolescent development, and cognitive and social-emotional competence in youth.

“These 15 programs represent organizations and agencies that are achieving outcomes that are truly improving the well-being of very vulnerable youth,” says Susan Notkin, CSSP associate director.

“They share a deep understanding of the unique challenges and opportunities adolescents face, the impact of trauma they have experienced and the commitment needed to stick with them, no matter what.”

On Campus with Sue Ketchum

Sue Ketchum appreciates the friendly and collaborative atmosphere at WMU, having started out her career in the private sector.

The WMU alumna worked for IBM and First of America before returning to the University more than six years ago to work as an administrative specialist for the College of Engineering and Applied Sciences.

In that job, she’s responsible for the college’s budget and human resources functions, including keeping accounts balanced and handling paperwork associated with everyone from new hires to retirees. Efforts to trim costs and to keep track of spending can be challenging but rewarding, she says.

“There’s a wonderful culture here. Western is great. I loved it as a student, and I love it as an employee,” Ketchum says. “Even when the answer has to be ‘no,’ it’s a nice ‘no.’ Everyone pulls together.”

She adds that being located off of the main campus at the Parkview Campus has its benefits, such as less traffic and a strong sense of camaraderie at the college. But she also enjoys seeing the new buildings and improvements that pop up all over the main campus as she travels east on Stadium Drive.

Ketchum grew up in Niles, Mich., and now lives in nearby Gobles, Mich., with her husband, Kevin. They have three daughters, including two who graduated from WMU and one who is a freshman here, and a 2-year-old grandson.

The family owns Classic Arcade in Gobles, which features retro-arcade machines, pinball, 100 varieties of glass-bottled soda and an outdoor track for radio-controlled vehicles.

She enjoys reading and is learning how to knit from a co-worker during her lunch hour.