



## 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-, 276- 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/fundingsources-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 Fetzer Center. The event will include mini-workshops; a keynote presentation by Kevin Abbott, information technology; poster presentations; and technology demonstrations. Visit [wmich.edu/facdev](http://wmich.edu/facdev) to register.

## Make flu shot appointments online

The Sincuse 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) 387-3290.

## 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 IDP and IDT Grants, Textbook Alternatives, Prezi in the Classroom, and Bridging the E-learning Gap. Visit [wmich.edu/facdev](http://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

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## Hettinger, Asmonga-Knapp to lead WMU board

James F. Hettinger of Fennville, 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



Asmonga-Knapp

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



Instruction is aided by large gifts, such as this Boeing 727-200. (Photo by Mike Lanka)

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

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# Around campus and beyond

**Editor's note:** Visit [wmich.edu/news/events](http://wmich.edu/news/events) for more information about events.

## Series examines Muslim culture

Themes critical to understanding contemporary Muslim cultures and societies will be examined in a speaker series over eight Thursdays from today through April 3. All lectures take place from 6 to 7:30 p.m. in the Trimpe Building's Multicultural Center. Visit [wmich.edu/news/2014/01/12735](http://wmich.edu/news/2014/01/12735) for details.

## Ethics Center starting spring season

Andy Sanford from Southwestern Michigan College will present an environmental ethics talk that focuses on ecologist Aldo Leopold's land ethic environmental philosophy. The talk is set for 4 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 30, in the Office for Sustainability building.

## Seminar on poverty reduction slated

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 4010 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](http://wmich.edu/extended/reducepoverty) or call (269) 387-4200.

## 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 Cheff 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.

## Prof selected for service-learning award

Barbara Barton, social work, has received a 2014 Faculty/Staff Community Service-Learning Award from the Michigan Campus Compact. The accolade is a significant biennial award that the compact bestows on faculty and staff members from its member campuses.



Barton

Barton will be honored during the Civic Engagement Institute Awards Ceremony and Strolling Dinner Monday, Feb. 3, at Grand Valley State University's Pew Campus. A WMU selection committee collected community partner input for the award. Barton rose to the top as the person at WMU who made the most outstanding contributions to community service learning during the past two years.

Barton has been teaching service-learning courses for many years. Her commitment was clear in comments from both students and partners, as well as her joy in teaching and learning.

## Former chair is writing full time

William "Arnie" Johnston, chair and professor emeritus in English, is the author of a



Johnston

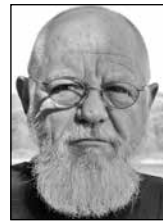
new chapbook of poems titled "Sonnets: Signs and Portents." The work, published in December by Finishing Line Press, is a collection of original sonnets in various forms.

Johnston retired in 2008 after 40 years at WMU. He chaired the English department from 1997 to 2007 and received a Distinguished Teaching Award from WMU in 1990. His poetry, fiction, non-fiction and translations have appeared widely in literary journals and anthologies.

Now a full-time writer, he also is a long time performer-singer who has played many solo concerts and some 100 roles on stage, screen and radio. He is a member of the Dramatists Guild, Playwrights' Center, Theatre Communications Group and American Literary Translators Association.

## Emeritus shares city's architecture

Charles Stroh, emeritus in art, highlights some of central Kalamazoo's most important buildings in six PDF-formatted tours he recently released on CD. Kalamazoo Architectural Tours, a six-year labor of love, includes hundreds of photos Stroh took of buildings and building features found within a one-half mile radius of Bronson Park.



Stroh

He describes the various architectural styles and features in the photos, and often comments on the history behind individual buildings and the people who owned them.

"The photographs from the tours show details you wouldn't be able to see except with a long telephoto lens and an advantageous perch," Stroh says. "My CD advances the story of Kalamazoo architecture to 2013, and all of the images are in full color except for drawn illustrations."

The CD is available for purchase at several local shops or through Charles Stroh at [charlesstroh@yahoo.com](mailto:charlesstroh@yahoo.com) or (269) 349-2330.

## 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 new policy also prohibits forms of smokeless tobacco and any nicotine delivery device 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 locations. The sole exception to the policy will be that tobacco use will be permitted within enclosed personal vehicles.

WMU will spend the next eight months working to inform and educate the campus community and its regular visitors about the policy. For 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](http://wmich.edu/tobaccofree) to read the complete policy or get answers to frequently asked questions.

## Retirement reception

Caryne 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](http://wmich.edu/hr/jobs). Please note that applications must be submitted online by the stated deadline. Complete application procedures are included with each posting.

## Western News

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**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](mailto:jeanne.baron@wmich.edu); mail, Campus Mail Stop 5433; phone, (269) 387-8433; or fax, (269) 387-8422.

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WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY

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

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

The plans to date were presented during a public input 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 portico 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 wings on the north and south sides of the building that will house such needed amenities 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 180 people.

There will be extensive green space for outdoor events to the west and north of the alumni center, and parking to the south of the building only, with the existing Walwood

Hall parking area expanded to accommodate 240 cars.

Also being considered is preserving North Hall's facade and portico, which would serve as a remembrance of the building and a physical terminus for the north/south parameters of the site.

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

Greg Jones, a 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.



Artist'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."

## 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 Edu-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 researchers in scholarship related to government and policy topics.



Miron

Among scholars from Michigan universities, 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-based scholars "who are contributing most substantially to public debates about education."

Hess, who also is the American Enterprise Institute's director of education policy studies, 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 mentioned in the popular and education press.

### NEITHER SNOW NOR COLD

In the aftermath of early January's "snow-storm of the decade," landscape 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 26 miles of road, 120 acres of parking lots, 39 miles of walks, and dozens of steps and ramps. (Photo courtesy of Facilities Management)

### Service

**Editor's Note:** This list of service anniversaries 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**—Cynthia A. Town, institutional equity.

**30 Years**—Cindy L. Zimmerman, accounting.

**25 Years**—Perry L. Scrivener, University Libraries.

**20 Years**—Connie L. Peruchietti, Fetzer Center.

**15 Years**—Karen Bowling, Valley II Dining Service; Diane Briggs, Burnham Dining Service; Donna Lee DeVries, landscape services; Jayne P. Fraley-Burgett, Disability Services for Students; Scott M. Keeler, maintenance services; Harold L. Landen,

maintenance services; Stephan L. Macomber, maintenance services; Michelle L. Ray, landscape services; Nathan S. Stonerock, building custodial and support services; Leta 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.

**Five years**—Erin M. Baker, mechanical and aerospace engineering; Pamela S. Ball, Davis Dining Service; Daniel M. Barrett, Davis Dining Service; Gerald 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-

ing 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. Sheldon, Sindecuse 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.

### Obituary

**Editor's Note:** Visit [wmich.edu/news/obituaries](http://wmich.edu/news/obituaries) for complete obituaries.

**Anthony Ellis**, English, will be remembered during a campus memorial service at 2 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 25, in Kanley Chapel. The service will feature photos and remembrances of his life and career. Ellis died Jan. 7.

# On Campus with Sue Ketchum



ADDING TO THE CAMARADERIE  
(Photo by Deanne Puca)

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.

## Graduate College names second duo to be fellows

Julie Apker, communication, and Louann 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](http://wmich.edu/grad/academics/programs.html)). In 2014, she will help implement a new application system for graduate admissions.



Apker



Bierlein Palmer

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## 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 facility 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, Bissell, 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."

## 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 20 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.

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## 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."