January 2018, Global News

Public invited to discuss gender inequality in higher education

CONTACT: JEANNE BARON
JANUARY 10, 2018 | WMU NEWS

KALAMAZOO, Mich.—Two upcoming events at Western Michigan University that are free and open to the public will delve into the complexities of gender inequity in higher education.

This timely exploration will begin with a discussion of the 2014 award-winning book "Disrupting the Culture of Silence: Confronting Gender Inequality and Making Change in Higher Education." Hosted by the College of Arts and Sciences Women's Caucus, the event is set for 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Friday, Jan. 19, in Brown Hall's second-floor Clifford Media Center.

Free copies of "Disrupting the Culture of Silence" will be available to the first 20 people who register for the event at goo.gl/forms/KNfYL3bwXZCCmuZj2.

The book discussion will be followed Thursday, Feb. 8, by a one-hour, on-campus ethics talk titled "The Relevance, Reward and Risk of Feminist Activism in the Academy" at 5:30 p.m. in 1910 Sangren Hall. The talk will be presented by Dr. Kristine De Welde, director of the women's and gender studies program and professor of sociology at the College of Charleston.

De Welde co-edited "Disrupting the Culture of Silence" along with Andi Stepnick, professor of sociology at Belmont University. She conducts research and teaches in areas such as gender, the sociology of families, sustainability, service learning, and women in STEM—science, technology, engineering and math. De Welde won the 2016 Feminism Activism Award from the Sociologists for Women in Society.

For more about the book, visit the "Disrupting the Culture of Silence" page on the Stylus Publishing website at bit.ly/2qmTRVd.
KALAMAZOO, Mich.—A screening and panel discussion of "The 'S' Word," a film about young adults and suicide, is planned for 7 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 7, at Chenery Auditorium, 714 S. Westnedge Ave., as part of a spring Lee Honors College Lyceum Lecture series, which begins Wednesday, Jan. 17, at Western Michigan University.

The screening, which is the fifth event being offered in the series, includes an appearance by Lisa Klein, director of the documentary. The entire series is free and open to the public, with seating offered on a first-come, first-served basis.

In addition to directing "The 'S' Word," Klein co-directed "Of Two Minds," a journey into the lives of people living, struggling and triumphing with bipolar disorder. She is also the survivor of her father's and brother's suicides and has struggled with the "whys" for years, along with the guilt, shame and confusion that lingers in suicide's wake. There is no more highly charged personal issue for Klein, and for that reason she has been driven to document it and open a much-needed discussion.

"It is time for us to boldly talk about suicide because no family should have to experience that which radiates outward for generations to come," says Klein.

"The 'S' Word" shines a light on a topic that has long been stigmatized and buried with the lives it claims. The goals of the film are to open conversation, reduce the shame and silence that have shadowed suicide for far too long, and strive toward prevention of the 10th leading cause of
death in the United States. One of the main causes of suicide is disconnection. A major objective of this film is to reduce that isolation by showing people that they are not alone.

Titled "Mental Health Matters: College Student Mental Health in the 21st Century," the spring 2018 Lyceum series is intended to respond to the college student mental health issues that are rising in both frequency and severity. The series addresses common mental health concerns in this population, offering practical strategies to maintain wellness and assist those who are struggling. Speakers will focus on awareness, prevention and resilience as they relate to mental health challenges.

The speaker series topic arose from discussions initiated by the current dean of the Lee Honors College, Dr. Gary H. Bischof, who is also a marriage and family therapist, as he began his role as dean in 2017. It was apparent that the honors college and WMU are similar to many campuses in the United States that have seen a marked increase in the incidence and severity of mental health challenges among college students.

Bischof notes the lecture series is part of a multi-pronged approach to improve education, prevention and early intervention, as well as reduce stigma around mental health issues. A multidisciplinary committee was formed to plan the series that included WMU personnel Brian Fuller, counseling services; Dr. Scott Gaynor, psychology; Dr. Kathy Lewis-Ginebaugh, interdisciplinary health programs; Dr. Glinda Rawls, counselor education and counseling psychology; graduate students Kate Hibbard-Gibbons and Alexander Hamilton; undergraduate and honors college student Emily Smith; and community member Lacee Lyons of Gryphon Place.

"The intent of the series is to raise awareness of common mental health issues, offer solutions and provide encouragement and hope that those dealing with these types of challenges can be successful and thrive," says Bischof.

SPRING LYCEUM LECTURE SERIES SCHEDULE

The lecture series is held at noon every Wednesday in the Lee Honors College lounge, unless otherwise stated.

- **Jan. 17**, "Mental Health as a Public Health Issue: Local Initiatives and Resources," Lacee Lyons, chief operating officer, Gryphon Place; Dr. Lia Gaggino, medical director, Bronson Behavioral Health; Jane Konyndyk, deputy director of program services, Kalamazoo County Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services; Dianne Shaffer, director of systems development, Kalamazoo County Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services; and Dr. Amos Aduroja, WMU associate professor of interdisciplinary health programs.


- **Jan. 31**, "13 Reasons Why Not," Dr. Kathy Lewis-Ginebaugh, licensed psychologist, WMU associate professor of interdisciplinary health programs and director of Campus-Wide Suicide Prevention Program.
- Feb. 7, "Healthy Minds Study: Current Issues and Trends in Campus Mental Health," Sara Abelson, Healthy Minds Study staff and former vice president of Active Minds.
- Feb. 7, "The S Word: A Screening and Panel Discussion of a Film about Young Adults and Suicide," featuring Lisa Klein, director of the documentary, Chenery Auditorium, 714 S. Westnedge Ave., Kalamazoo, 7 p.m.
- Feb. 14, "What to Do When Someone You Know is Struggling," Kenneth Martin Jr., Licensed Master Social Worker, case manager, WMU Student Affairs.
- Feb. 21, "The Pulse of Anxiety is Rising," Dr. Amy Naugle, WMU associate professor of psychology.
- March 21, "Technology and Mental Health: Challenges and Resources," Dr. Emily Lattie, Center for Behavioral Intervention Technologies, Department of Medical Social Sciences, Northwestern University.
- March 28, "Medications 101 and Mental Health Treatment Options," Dr. Gayle Ruggiero, WMU Sindecuse staff psychiatrist.
- April 4, "Healthy Relationships," Dr. Gary H. Bischof, dean of WMU's Lee Honors College, and Dr. Jou-Chen Chen, WMU assistant professor of family and consumer sciences.
- April 11, "Grit, Resiliency and Self-Care," Brian Fuller, interim director, WMU Counseling Services.
- April 18, "Stories of Recovery and Resilience: A Student Panel."

For more information, visit [wmich.edu/honors/spring-2018-lyceum-lecture-series](http://wmich.edu/honors/spring-2018-lyceum-lecture-series).

For more WMU news, arts and events, visit [wmich.edu/news](http://wmich.edu/news).

**Spring ethics series begins with MLK panel presentation**

CONTACT: CHERYL ROLAND  
JANUARY 16, 2018 | WMU NEWS
KALAMAZOO, Mich.—The spring 2018 offerings in the Center for the Study of Ethics in Society lecture series will kick off **Thursday, Jan. 25**, with a panel presentation revolving around the Kalamazoo community's annual celebration of the life of the **Rev. Martin Luther King Jr.**

"Where Do You Stand in Times of Trouble?" is the title of this free, public event set for **7 p.m. in 157 Bernhard Center**. The panel moderator will be **Dale Brown**, a master's student in WMU's Department of Philosophy. Panelists include:

- **Andy Marquis** of WMU's Prison Education Program.
- **Demetrias Wolverton**, mission impact manager for the Kalamazoo YWCA.
- **Dr. Linwood Cousins**, WMU professor of social work and director of African American and African studies.

The panel is expected to argue that in troubled times, mere interpretation of the world must give way to sustained activity to change the world. The panel's aim is to elevate activity over theory by calling attention to efforts within southwest Michigan communities to alleviate systemic harms and reform unjust systems. The discussion is co-sponsored by the WMU Department of Philosophy.

Upcoming events in the spring series include the following presentations on these days and times. All are free and open to the public, and the presentations on **Feb. 8, March 22 and April 12** are part of the Center for Humanities spring series, "Promise of Education."

**OTHER SERIES EVENTS**

- **Thursday, Feb. 8, 7 p.m.:** "The Humanities in the Age of Demagoguery," **David Denby**, staff writer and former film critic for The New Yorker, 3508 Knauss Hall.
- **Wednesday, Feb. 28, 4 p.m.:** "Legal Ethics in the Media," with panelists **Norman Hawker** of WMU, and **Tonya Krause-Phelan** and **Victoria Viletich** of WMU Cooley Law School, Bernhard Center Brown and Gold Room.
- **Thursday, March 22, 7 p.m.:** "Education Reform and the Promise of Public Education," **Dr. Diane Ravitch**, research professor of education at New York University, Dalton Center Recital Hall.
- **Thursday, March 29, 7 p.m.:** "Why We Don't Have a Peace Memorial: The Vietnam War and the Distorted Memory of Dissent," **Dr. Christian Appy**, professor of history at the University of Massachusetts Amherst, 1028 Brown Hall.
- **Monday, April 2, 6 p.m.:** "Educational Equity: From the 'Kalamazoo Case' to the 'Kalamazoo Promise' and Beyond" panel with WMU's **Kathy Purnell** and **Ashley Atkins**, **James Robb** of WMU Cooley Law School, **Cykeia Lee** of the Kalamazoo Promise, **Michael Evans** of the Kalamazoo Literacy Council and **Sandra Standish** of KC Ready 4s, 204 Bernhard Center.
- **Thursday, April 12, 7 p.m.:** "Inequality, Citizenship, and the Promise of Education," **Dr. Danielle Allen**, professor of government, Harvard University, 2452 Knauss Hall.

**For more information**, visit [wmich.edu/ethics/events/lectures](http://wmich.edu/ethics/events/lectures).
For more WMU news, arts and events, visit wmich.edu/news.

Industrial Organizational Behavior Management Graduate Trip

During July 2017, one faculty member and 10 graduate students of the Industrial Organizational Behavior Management graduate program travelled to Israel to present at a conference and network with the local academics and practitioners. The Industrial Organizational Behavior Management graduate program is part of WMU’s Department of Psychology and is recognized as a world leader for the discipline of Organizational Behavior Management (OBM)—the application of behavior analysis principles to workplace settings.

The origins of the trip can be partially traced back to 2014. In February 2014, arrangements were made for three faculty members (Stephanie Peterson, Jessica Frieder, Douglas Johnson) and seven graduate students from the Department of Psychology to travel to Israel for the purpose of research collaborations, conference presentations, and visiting academic institutions (Kibbutzim College, Haifa University). One of the graduate students, Elian Aljadeff-Abergel, was an Israeli citizen who initiated and coordinated the visit. While enrolled at WMU, Elian took several OBM courses and completed her doctorate in Behavior Analysis in April 2014. In coordination with the Israeli Association for Behavior Analysis, the conference took place in Tel Aviv on June 13,
2014. Douglas Johnson gave a talk entitled “The Application of Organizational Behavior Management and Behavior-Based Instructional Design to Workplace and Educational Settings,” which was the first OBM presentation ever delivered in Israel. These activities led to the successful recruitment of new Israeli students into the WMU Behavior Analysis doctoral program and an ongoing relationship exploring the development of more Ph.D. training in Israel. These events also helped plant the seeds of an interest in OBM in Israel.

Unfortunately, OBM is not formally studied in Israel and there are no behavior analysts doing OBM in the country. As such, Dr. Elian Aljadeff-Abergel contacted Dr. Douglas Johnson in July 2016 for the purpose of developing a full conference to introduce OBM, present the basics of the discipline, and discuss examples of its implementation. Furthermore, she inquired if graduate students from the Industrial Organizational Behavior Management program would be interested in traveling to and presenting at such a conference. This conference would be the first OBM conference in Israel and would be coordinated with Menta: The Israeli Association for Certified Behavior Analysts. One of the driving goals of this trip was to share the potential of OBM with Israeli behavior analysts and to disseminate the unique educational experience of Western Michigan University.

Nine graduate students (Merrilyn Akpapuna, Megan Ireland, Brian Molina, McKaela O’Brien, Alejandro Ramos, Brandon Ring, Andrew Smith, Josh Turske, and Garrett Warrilow) expressed an interest in presenting at this conference and a tenth graduate student (Jeremy Goldman) was already doing volunteer work in Israel during that time period. Dr. Johnson supervised the development of conference talks related to topics such as the history of OBM, workplace motivation, incentives, punctuality and turnover, training and instructional design, managerial coaching, behavior-based safety, systems analysis and community-wide interventions, and employee creativity. Meanwhile, Dr. Aljadeff-Abergel made local arrangements for the WMU group to be hosted by local behavior analysts interested in learning more about OBM.

The group arrived in Tel Aviv on July 18, 2017 and despite a long flight, immediately drove to Jerusalem. In Jerusalem, the group met with four local behavior analysts, with whom they visited the Machane Yehuda marketplace, the Israel Museum, and the Hebrew University of Jerusalem.

On July 19th, the group continued to visit Jerusalem, including Jaffa Gate and the Old City, while further discussing the applications of OBM as it related to the work being done by the local behavior analysts. Later that day, the group drove north to two separate locations—Zichron Yaakov and Kinneret—and visited with three more local behavior analysts.

On July 20th at Kinneret Academic College, the WMU group presented 12 talks and one panel discussion as part of the first Israeli OBM conference. Nine of the graduate students and the faculty member independently presented their talks to a jam packed audience. The talks and WMU presenters are listed below:

- Organizational Behavior Management: An introduction to the science of behavior in the workplace – Douglas Johnson
- The history of OBM: Behavior analysis at work – McKaela O’Brien
• Of carrots and sticks: A behavioral approach to motivation – Merrilyn Akpapuna and Douglas Johnson
• You get what you pay for – Brandon Ring
• How does modern technology influence feedback effects – Garrett Warrilow
• “I knocked myself out in the shower”: Addressing punctuality and turnover in the workplace – Andrew Smith
• Telling is teaching and other myths – Josh Turske
• Coaching the leaders of tomorrow – Megan Ireland, Merrilyn Akpapuna, and Douglas Johnson
• Safety is everyone’s business – Alejandro Ramos
• Engineering a better culture – Brian Molina
• The robots are coming! An analysis of creativity in the workplace – Douglas Johnson
• Now that I know about OBM, what can I do? – Brandon Ring
• Panel discussion and Q&A

On July 21st, the WMU group visited Kibbutz Degania (the first of several experimental communities established in Israel) and the Jordan River. Later, the group travelled to their final destination of the trip, Tel Aviv.

On July 22nd, the group explored Tel Aviv and old Jaffa, accompanied by four new behavior analyst hosts and several of the hosts from the previous days. The group departed back to the United States the next morning.
As a result of this trip, several Israeli students expressed an intention to now apply to WMU for graduate school. A new research collaboration has recently been initiated between WMU and Kinneret College. Furthermore, there is already discussion of potentially being invited back in two to three years for another OBM conference. Many of the WMU graduate students are still interacting with the Israeli students via social media, sharing tips on OBM and even helping to practice English. Furthermore, the graduate students of the WMU Industrial Organizational Behavior Management graduate program were able to explore and contribute to a region of the world unfamiliar with their discipline.

Graduate students awarded research and travel grants

Congratulations to the following recipients of Graduate Student Research and Travel Grants during 2016-17. Twenty students from the College of Engineering and Applied Sciences received the awards. WMU’s Graduate Student Research Fund and Travel Grants supports graduate students engaged in independent scholarly research, scientific inquiry, inventive technology and original artistic activity. Grants are fully funded and administered by the Graduate College and range up to $1,000. Students may apply for up to $600 of additional support to defray the cost of international travel.

*indicates student received additional funding for international travel

Akram, Ayaz
Electrical and Computer Engineering
Travel (Sep 16)
X86 Computer Architecture Simulators: A Comparative Study

Akram, Ayaz
Electrical and Computer Engineering
Travel (Jan 17)
X86 Computer Architecture Simulators: A Comparative Study

Alcantara, Jerico
Chemical and Paper Engineering
Research
Direct Succinic Acid Production from Lignocellulosic Biomass Using Sequential Solid-State and Slurry Fermentation with Mixed Fungal Cultures

Aledhari, Mohammed A.
Computer Science
Research
Design and Implementation of Eye-Like Smart Wearable Device for Blind and Visually Impaired People

Aledhari, Mohammed A.
Computer Science
Research
A New Obstacle Avoidance Algorithm In Support of Visually Impaired Individuals

Al Qaralleh, Mohammad
Civil and Construction Engineering
Research
Fatigue Behavior of Reinforced Concrete Beams Strengthened with Externally Bonded Carbon Fiber Reinforced Polymers

Awan, Muaaz Gul
Computer Science
Research
Accelerating Proteomics Software Pipeline Using Graphical Processing Units for Speeding Up Protein Analysis for Systems Biology Studies

*Bansode, Subodh
Electrical and Computer Engineering
Travel
Design and Implementation of Regulated Pressure Brace with On-Board Control and Monitoring Abilities for the Treatment of Scoliosis
Bilal, Ghassan
Electrical and Computer Engineering
Travel
Network Reduction for Frequency Domain Transient Analysis of Power Components

Chlaihawi, Amer Abdulmahdi
Electrical and Computer Engineering
Travel
Novel Screen Printed and Flexible Low Frequency Magneto-Electric Energy Harvester

Ferguson, Alexandra
Electrical and Computer Engineering
Travel
Using Experimentally Informed Neuron Models to Find Optimal Neural Stimuli in the Medicinal Leech

Hussain, Mohammed
Electrical and Computer Engineering
Travel
Equivalent Representation of Machine Winding in a Frequency Domain Model for Fast Transient Studies

WMU Department of Statistics becomes NISS affiliate

CONTACT: MOLLY GOALEY
JANUARY 26, 2018 | WMU NEWS
KALAMAZOO, Mich.—Western Michigan University's Department of Statistics has been named an affiliate of the National Institute of Statistical Sciences.

The NISS Affiliate Program is a communication enabler for the statistical and data science community. The program brings together statistical and data science professionals from all sectors, including academia, industry, and governmental and national labs, to support research discussions, information dissemination, human resource development and networking.

"We're very happy to become a new academic affiliate of NISS," says Dr. Kevin Lee, WMU assistant professor of statistics and its junior NISS affiliate liaison. "Inclusion in the NISS Affiliate Program opens up new developmental and collaboration opportunities, especially for junior faculty, and also increases the department's visibility."

WMU's Department of Statistics offers master's and doctoral programs in the field, as well as a variety of undergraduate majors and minors. Expanding its curriculum to meet industry demands, the department also has recently started offering bachelor's and master's degree programs in data science.

"Curricula of the programs offered by our department are modernized to strengthen students' computing skills," says Dr. Magdalena Niewiadomska-Bugaj, department chair and primary NISS affiliate liaison. "Our recent faculty hires have expertise in data mining, network analysis and data visualization, all of which are essential to the industry's evolving needs."

CATERING TO GROWING DEMANDS

As the world becomes more quantitative and information driven, there is an ever-increasing need to understand and draw insight from data. But Niewiadomska-Bugaj says WMU students in statistics department programs are well prepared to meet the demands of their rapidly developing discipline.

"We monitor what skills employers list in job announcements and where our graduates are hired," she says. "WMU prepares students for careers in academia, industry and government by
teaching the skills that are most useful, and we also provide foundations that allow our students to acquire new skills and learn developing methodologies."

Niewiadowska-Bugaj adds that the research focus of the statistics department is slightly shifting toward new challenges that arise from working with big data, such as data mining, data visualization and network analysis.

"We want to be at the industry's forefront," she says. "While providing necessary mathematical rigor, our programs and research projects also respond and adapt to the specific needs of a quickly changing world."

The NISS affiliation allows the department to enhance those opportunities for multidisciplinary research collaboration, as well as identify and develop new statistical methodologies to address real-world challenges.

For more information about the WMU Department of Statistics, visit wmich.edu/statistics. More information about the National Institute of Statistical Sciences is available at niss.org.

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

Professor transforming aviation education using augmented reality

CONTACT: CHERYL ROLAND
JANUARY 26, 2018 | WMU NEWS

KALAMAZOO, Mich.—Lori Brown, associate professor of aviation at Western Michigan University, has teamed up with Microsoft to transform aviation training through the use of Microsoft’s HoloLens mixed reality technology, the first self-contained, holographic computer.

Brown, who is recognized internationally for her use of technology in aviation education, has been chosen by Microsoft for its Women in Mixed Reality Spotlight Partner Program for her transformative work in aviation training. She was featured during Microsoft’s Mixed Reality Academy at Microsoft headquarters in Washington state late last fall and was recently awarded the WMU Extended University Programs Innovative Teaching award.

Microsoft HoloLens enables users to engage with 3D holographic content mixed with the physical world, giving holograms real-world context and scale. With the technology, students in
WMU’s College of Aviation can be immersed, for instance, inside jet turbofan engines or interact with 3D cockpits to learn and practice real-world aviation scenarios and procedures.

"I wanted my students to be able to see inside and interact with aircraft components such as a turbofan engine," says Brown. "When I saw that the medical community was using HoloLens to allow students to see inside the human body, I realized that HoloLens could augment my lab. The ability to see inside an engine is similar to seeing the bones of a human body."

A FIRST FOR AVIATION CLASSROOMS

Through Brown's HoloLens work, WMU has become the first aviation program in the nation to use augmented reality in the classroom. With the recent expansion of WMU's flight science program into Florida, marrying lab experiences with mixed reality allows larger numbers of students to have greater access to leading-edge innovation in higher education.

"Technologies like this bring forth a new medium for aviation training, a new paradigm of mixed reality, where for the first time, we have the ability to take the analog world and superimpose digital artifacts and create mixed reality aviation simulations," Brown says. "Unlike other advanced technologies, HoloLens is intuitive and offers a natural means of interaction. There's no mouse, wire or touch screen. All you need are simple gestures to create and alter holograms, your voice to communicate with apps, and your eyes to navigate and analyze content. With the HoloLens, students are able to see inside the jet engine while also interacting with the engine components and full flight deck. They're developing muscle memory, which increases retention."

Brown's research interests have included the use of virtual and augmented reality in technical training for years. She says that the incorporation of HoloLens into the classroom is a first for WMU, and the aviation industry at large.

"In the past 16 years that I’ve been teaching advanced aircraft systems, I have identified many gaps in the tools and equipment available to me as a professor. Ultimately, mixed reality bridges the gap between simulation, the aircraft and the classroom," says Brown.
Brown notes the operation and maintenance of modern aircraft requires an understanding of several interrelated human and machine components. Practice and immersion with these components can be created with mixed and augmented reality micro-simulations, making it possible to tackle challenging topics by creating a more visual and tactile experience.

**FROM FLIGHT SIMULATION TO AN ENTIRE VIRTUAL AIRPORT**

Brown uses HoloLens to supplement flight simulation with WMU’s CRJ-200 flight simulator, and has designed interactive textbooks with mixed reality overlays. Her team is currently designing an augmented reality application to transform aviation weather-related training for the Federal Aviation Administration that will overlay augmented reality 3D objects over traditional printed weather publications.

She is collaborating with other WMU colleges, instructors and students to take the technology a step further by creating additional applications with the help of computer science and aviation students and faculty, as well as a staff web developer.

Together, the team developed JetXplore, an interactive aviation training app that Brown uses with HoloLens in the classroom. Brown and her team are currently working with mentors from Microsoft to design an entire virtual airport, where the user controls what they see and how they see it. This puts the educational experience in the hands of the user creating immersive individual learning experiences.

Brown sees augmented reality as a solution to meet what she describes as unprecedented global training demands and a better way to engage the next generation.

"Bringing Microsoft’s HoloLens headset to aviation and other professions such as the medical, auto and marine industries is reshaping education," she says. "The quality of its images is nearly unprecedented; you can almost suspend disbelief and imagine the objects it projects are real. That's what makes these partnerships so potentially exciting."

Brown joined WMU’s Department of Aviation Sciences in 2001. She is an Airline Transport Pilot and has trained Ab-initio cadet pilots for British Airways, KLM and UAE, as well as pilots for national and international government agencies. She teaches courses in advanced aircraft systems, airline flight operations and aviation meteorology.
In addition to aviation programs offered at WMU's main aviation campus in Battle Creek, the flight science program is offered in Florida at the University's Punta Gorda location. Aviation management and operations programs are also offered online.


**Learn more about WMU’s College of Aviation:** [wmich.edu/aviation](http://wmich.edu/aviation).

**Learn more about the academic programs offered at WMU’s regional locations,** including nearly 350 online courses: [wmich.edu/extended/academics](http://wmich.edu/extended/academics).

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**WMU holds first Black Student Summit**

- Destini Lindsey Staff Reporter

- Jan 28, 2018

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On Saturday, Jan. 20, a Black Student Leadership Summit was held at Western Michigan University. This was the first time the summit took place. It was put together by WMU’s Assistant Director of Fraternity and Sorority Life Hailey M. Mangrum. The summit lasted from 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. in Sangren Hall. Approximately 75 students were in attendance.

It engaged the students on leadership, advocacy and legacy. This summit was a great way to network and learn things that could be very beneficial to black student life on campus and in the real world.
“I attended the summit because I honestly wanted to see what it was about,” Lynnelle Crutcher, a WMU junior, said. “I’ve never heard of this before. I wanted to see what speakers were going to come and talk to us.”

The summit began with registration where students received a Black Leadership Summit long sleeve t-shirt and a name tag. The students also received a pen and a notebook to take notes throughout the event.

The summit then broke out into different sessions. The students could choose which session to attend based on their interests. For the first break out session starting at approximately 11:00 a.m., the choices were as follows: “A Seat at the Table: Resiliency in White Spaces,” “Enduring Pain!? It’s Time for Healing” and “Empowering Black Voices: Tips for Understanding, Navigating, Combating, and Managing Racism at Predominately White Institutions.”

Around noon, there was lunch and a keynote speaker, Dr. William Pickard, a WMU alumnus and WMU Board Trustee. WMU President Dr. Edward Montgomery made an appearance and said a few words to the students at as well.

“The first thing in leadership to me is to be proactive,” Pickard said. “Lead, follow, or get out of the way.”

He recommended that students read the book “The Seven Habits of Highly Effective People” by Stephen Covey.

The second part of the break out sessions consisted of the following: “#Black, Educated and Petty,” “Survival Guide to Being Black on Campus: Building a Road-Map for Success” and “Practical Application of Servant Leadership.”

“My favorite part about the summit was the ‘Black, educated and petty’ break off section because me being the petty person I am, I wanted to see how can you be an african american and be professionally petty in a workplace, while still showing people you are
educated enough to have this job,” Crutcher said. “This section really showed how to balance the right amount of petty and the right amount of professionalism.”

The summit ended with a call to action section entitled “For the Culture — Becoming the Leader That You Would Follow” led by Yolonda Lavender. This session recalled the areas to focus on as an african american leader. Not only did black students attend this summit, so did other minority students.

There are no official plans of having another Black Student Leadership Summit. The plans to hold another one and when to hold it will be based on the feedback received from the students who attended.
The vigil allowed for those affected by current immigration laws to share their personal struggles. The event also opened up an opportunity for attendees to give words of affirmation to the undocumented immigrants who stood before them at the vigil.

Members of the Kalamazoo community came together in support of undocumented youth at a candlelight vigil held by Moviemiento Cosecha Kalamazoo in downtown’s Bronson Park on Jan. 24.

The vigil allowed for those affected by current immigration laws to share their personal struggles. The event also opened up an opportunity for attendees to give words of affirmation to the undocumented immigrants who stood before them at the vigil.
Several Kalamazoo natives made it clear that they did not plan on stopping the fight for immigrants.

In addition, the vigil was meant to act as a healing space for those who are affected by the repeal of immigration protection programs such as Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals and Temporary Protected Status, said Eva Alvarez, member of Movimiento Cosecha and organizer of the event.

“Their futures are, right now, in jeopardy, and they do not know what is going to be expected so we just want to let them, and the community in general, know that we are here to support,” Alvarez said.

Supporters were asked to form two circles: one of immigrants who have been or may be affected by current immigration policies and those who were there to show support. The circle of supporters surrounded the smaller circle of immigrants to symbolize protection. Along with words of encouragement, Movimiento Cosecha led empowering chants.

Movimiento Cosecha Kalamazoo hopes to bring awareness to the lack of support for undocumented immigrants. The organization’s goal is to give a voice to the voiceless and start a movement that will create change, Alvarez said.

“We realize that a lot of individuals do not have a pathway to citizenship and we want people to understand that there hasn’t been a pathway to citizenship,” Alvarez said. “It’s much more complicated than people think.”

Movimiento fights for the respect, the dignity and the permanent protection of all 11 million undocumented immigrants. These efforts include marches and protests.

“We just want our voices to be heard,” Alvarez said.
KALAMAZOO, Mich.—Two Western Michigan University advertising and promotion students were selected by the American Advertising Federation to participate in the organization's Most Promising Multicultural Students Program for 2018. This is the third consecutive year that WMU students have been chosen to participate in the prestigious program.

Abraham Garcia, of Holland, and Alex Gutierrez-Spencer, of Monroe, are two of only 50 recipients of the annual award for the nation's top multicultural college seniors with exceptional academic and professional achievements. The students will be honored at a ceremony during the program **Monday through Thursday, Feb. 12-15**, in New York City, and will have the chance to learn more about the advertising industry through networking, interviewing and industry immersion opportunities.

Garcia and Gutierrez-Spencer were both nominated for the program by Dr. Karen Lancendorfer, associate professor of marketing and director of the WMU advertising and promotion program.

"I am so proud that Alex and Abrahan received national recognition this year," says Lancendorfer. "What has allowed them to achieve success is their ability to understand multiple viewpoints and find innovative solutions and the best outcomes for any project."

Both students credit their business professors and the Haworth College of Business for preparing them for the program and future professional endeavors.
"WMU prepared me for this type of program through its helpful resources, such as the Zhang Career Center. These resources do an exceptional job at preparing students for the professional world," says Garcia. "The Most Promising Multicultural Students Program is designed to strengthen diversity and inclusion in advertising by connecting industry with the nation's top multicultural students and I know I'm prepared to stand out among my peers."

Gutierrez-Spencer agrees that the college has prepared him well to represent WMU at the program. "I am very grateful and excited to represent WMU as an American Advertising Federation Most Promising Multicultural Student," he says. "WMU has provided me with countless opportunities to improve my professionalism as well as my personal skills. Representing WMU is something I will do not only as a part of this program, but also for the rest of my life."

**AMERICAN ADVERTISING FEDERATION**

The American Advertising Federation, the nation's oldest national advertising trade association and the only association representing all facets of the advertising industry, is headquartered in Washington, D.C. The AAF's membership is comprised of nearly 100 blue-chip corporate members consisting of the nation's leading advertisers, advertising agencies and media companies; a national network of nearly 200 local federations, representing 40,000 advertising professionals, located in ad communities across the country; and more than 200 AAF college chapters, with more than 6,500 student members. The AAF operates a host of programs and initiatives including the Advertising Hall of Fame, the American Advertising Awards, the National Student Advertising Competition, the Mosaic Center on Multiculturalism and summer advertising camps for high school students in Chicago, New York City and Washington, D.C.

**ABOUT WMU ADVERTISING AND PROMOTION PROGRAM**

The advertising and promotion major at WMU attracts creative, strategically minded students and provides them with an interactive education that ensures they will have the skills and knowledge necessary for success. Advertising and promotion faculty bring years of practical experience to the classroom and maintain close ties with industry through applied research and consulting. WMU students excel in national student advertising competitions, including the American Advertising Federation National Student Advertising Competition and EdVenture Partners National Case Study Competition where students regularly take top-10 national honors.

For more information about the program, visit [wmich.edu/academics/undergraduate/advertising](http://wmich.edu/academics/undergraduate/advertising) or contact Dr. Karen Lancendorfer at (269) 387-5996 or [karen.lancendorfer@wmich.edu](mailto:karen.lancendorfer@wmich.edu).

For more news, arts and events, visit [wmich.edu/news](http://wmich.edu/news).

Take advantage of global engagement opportunities in February
Join the International Ladies Sports Club to bond with women from around the world through sports and exercise.

Kalamazoo, Mich.—Western Michigan University and the extended Kalamazoo community will offer numerous global engagement opportunities in February. Highlights include art exhibits, lectures, and opportunities to bond with women from all over the world through exercise.

Opportunities to get globally engaged are published weekly at wmix.edu/global/events by WMU’s Haenicke Institute for Global Education.

SIGN UP FOR A WEEKLY UPDATE

FEBRUARY 2018 OPPORTUNITIES

Thursday, Feb. 1

- CELCIS conversation circle (women only)—2 to 3 p.m. in the Bernhard Center Bronco Global Lounge, hosted by the Center for English Language and Culture for International Students. Join students learning English in relaxed conversation about local and social topics. Free and open to the public.

Friday, Feb. 2

- Deadline to register for Chinese Culture Classes—midnight, hosted by the Confucius Institute at WMU. Register for spring Chinese Culture Classes which include calligraphy, tai chi and language. Registration costs vary, half-price discounts offered to WMU students and senior citizens; open to the public.

Saturday, Feb. 3

- Community African dance class—1 to 2 p.m. at the Rootead Enrichment Center, 1501 Fulford St., Kalamazoo, hosted by Rootead. This community class, which focuses on African dance, encourages the entire family to attend. First class is always free, $10 for non-members; open to the public.
Sunday, Feb. 4

- "Rhythmic Vitality: Six Principles of Chinese Painting" exhibit tour—2 to 3 p.m. at the Kalamazoo Institute of Arts, 314 S. Park St., Kalamazoo, sponsored by the Santreecce Foundation. Join a tour of the current exhibition in the KIA Asian Gallery, "Rhythmic Vitality: Six Principles of Chinese Painting." Entrance included with museum admissions; open to the public.

Monday, Feb. 5

- "China in the World: Conundrums of a Socialist Market Economy" talk—noon to 1 p.m. in the Covenant Fine Arts Center Recital Hall at Calvin College, 1795-1835 Knollcrest Circle SE, Grand Rapids, hosted by the World Affairs Council of Western Michigan. The talk will be given by Dr. Badrinath Rao, associate professor of sociology and Asian studies at Kettering University. Admission is $10; open to the public.
- CELCIS conversation circle—2 to 3 p.m. in the fourth-floor reception area of Ellsworth Hall, hosted by the Center for English Language and Culture for International Students. Join students learning English in relaxed conversation about local and social topics. Free and open to the public.
- "China in the World: Conundrums of a Socialist Market Economy" talk—6 to 7:15 p.m. in the Aquinas College Performing Arts Center, 1703 Robinson Rd. SE, East Grand Rapids, hosted by the World Affairs Council of Western Michigan. The talk will be given by Dr. Badrinath Rao, associate professor of sociology and Asian studies at Kettering University. Admission is $10; open to the public.
- "Signposts Along the way: The Hatred that led to the Holocaust and its Current Implications" lecture—7 p.m. in 2000 Schneider Hall, hosted by the Academically Talented Youth Program. Irving Roth, Holocaust survivor and director of the Holocaust Research Center, will speak on the hatred leading up to the Holocaust. Free and open to the public.

Tuesday, Feb. 6

- International Ladies Sports Club—2 to 3 p.m. at the Student Recreation Center, hosted by International Student Activities. Bond with women from all over the world through sports and exercise. Free and open to all women in the community.
- CELCIS conversation circle—2 to 3 p.m. in the Bernhard Center Bronco Global Lounge, hosted by the Center for English Language and Culture for International Students. Join students learning English in relaxed conversation about local and social topics. Free and open to the public.
- "Meditation for Clarity and Insight" course—7 to 8:30 p.m. at the People's Church, 1758 N. 10th St., Kalamazoo, hosted by the Jewel Heart Buddhist Learning Center. This eight-week course is designed to help those new to meditation learn techniques in mindfulness and concentration. Free and open to the public.

Wednesday, Feb. 7

- CELCIS conversation circle—2 to 3 p.m. in the fourth-floor reception area of Ellsworth Hall, hosted by the Center for English Language and Culture for International Students. Join students learning English in relaxed conversation about local and social topics. Free and open to the public.
- "Dragon and Eagle in Africa: Comparing China and America's Influence in Africa" talk—4 p.m. in 2130 Sangren Hall, hosted by the Haenicke Institute for Global Education, the Light
Center for Chinese Studies, the Department of Economics, the Department of Political Science, the Confucius Institute at WMU, the Center for African Development Policy Research and Kalamazoo Valley Community College. The talk will be given by Dr. Jijun Ran, a Fulbright visiting scholar affiliated to SAIS of Johns Hopkins University.

Thursday, Feb. 8

- **CELCIS conversation circle (women only)—**2 to 3 p.m. in the Bernhard Center Bronco Global Lounge, hosted by the Center for English Language and Culture for International Students. Join students learning English in relaxed conversation about local and social topics. Free and open to the public.
- **"Tell Them We Are Rising" film screening—**5 to 8 p.m. at the Arcus Center for Social Justice Leadership, 205 Monroe St., Kalamazoo, presented by the Lewis Walker Institute for the Study of Race and Ethnic Relations, Kalamazoo College, the Black Arts and Cultural Center, the Douglass Community Association and the Society for History and Racial Equity. The film reveals the rich history of HBCU's and the power of higher education to transform lives. Free and open to the public.
- **"The Relevance, Reward and Risk of Feminist Activism in the Academy" ethics talk—**5:30 to 6:30 p.m. in 1910 Sangren Hall, hosted by the College of Arts and Sciences Women's Caucus. The talk will be given by Dr. Kristine De Welde, director of the women's and gender studies program and professor of sociology at the College of Charleston. Free and open to the public.

Saturday, Feb. 10

- **Community African dance class—**1 to 2 p.m. at the Rootead Enrichment Center, 1501 Fulford St., Kalamazoo, hosted by Rootead. This community class which focuses on African dance encourages the entire family to attend. First class is always free, $10 for non-members; open to the public.

Monday, Feb. 12

- **"Trouble Brewing: Can the U.S. and Turkey Cooperate?" talk—**noon to 1 p.m. in the Covenant Fine Arts Center Recital Hall at Calvin College, 1795-1835 Knollcrest Circle SE, Grand Rapids, hosted by the World Affairs Council of Western Michigan. The talk will be given by Dr. Sinan Ciddi, executive director of the Institute of Turkish Studies at Georgetown University. Admission is $10; open to the public.
- **CELCIS conversation circle—**2 to 3 p.m. in the fourth-floor reception area of Ellsworth Hall, hosted by the Center for English Language and Culture for International Students. Join students learning English in relaxed conversation about local and social topics. Free and open to the public.
- **"Trouble Brewing: Can the U.S. and Turkey Cooperate?" talk—**6 to 7:15 p.m. in the Aquinas College Performing Arts Center, 1703 Robinson Rd. SE, East Grand Rapids, hosted by the World Affairs Council of Western Michigan. The talk will be given by Dr. Sinan Ciddi, executive director of the Institute of Turkish Studies at Georgetown University. Admission is $10; open to the public.
Tuesday, Feb. 13

- "Lost Kingdoms of Africa Ethiopia" ARTbreak video—noon to 1 p.m. at the Kalamazoo Institute of Arts Auditorium, 314 S Park St. Kalamazoo, hosted by the Kalamazoo Institute of Arts. Enjoy a film tracing Ethiopia's heritage featuring Dr. Gus Casely-Hayford, a British art historian. Free and open to the public.
- CELCIS conversation circle—2 to 3 p.m. in the Bernhard Center Bronco Global Lounge, hosted by the Center for English Language and Culture for International Students. Join students learning English in relaxed conversation about local and social topics. Free and open to the public.
- "Meditation for Clarity and Insight" course—7 to 8:30 p.m. at the People's Church, 1758 N. 10th St., Kalamazoo, hosted by the Jewel Heart Buddhist Learning Center. This eight-week course is designed to help those new to meditation learn techniques in mindfulness and concentration. Free and open to the public.

Wednesday, Feb. 14

- "Why has Income Inequality Increased while Education Inequality has Decreased in Many Developing Countries" lecture—noon to 1:15 p.m. in 2028 Brown Hall, hosted by the Department of Economics. The lecture will be given by Dr. David Lam, professor of economics and director of the Institute for Social Research at the University of Michigan. Free and open to the public.
- CELCIS conversation circle—2 to 3 p.m. in the fourth-floor reception area of Ellsworth Hall, hosted by the Center for English Language and Culture for International Students. Join students learning English in relaxed conversation about local and social topics. Free and open to the public.

Thursday, Feb. 15

- CELCIS conversation circle (women only)—2 to 3 p.m. in the Bernhard Center Bronco Global Lounge, hosted by the Center for English Language and Culture for International Students. Join students learning English in relaxed conversation about local and social topics. Free and open to the public.
- "Unlikely Allies: the Case for Aligning Business and Social Justice" talk—6 to 8 p.m. in the Trimpe Building Multicultural Center, hosted by the Office of Diversity and Inclusion. The talk will be given by Tim Terrentine, vice president for development and alumni relations at WMU. Free and open to the public.

Saturday, Feb. 17

- Community African dance class—1 to 2 p.m. at the Rootead Enrichment Center, 1501 Fulford St., Kalamazoo, hosted by Rootead. This community class which focuses on African dance encourages the entire family to attend. First class is always free, $10 for non-members; open to the public.
- 2018 Chinese New Year gala—3 p.m. in the Bernhard Center North Ballroom, hosted by the Confucius Institute at WMU. The gala celebrates the Chinese New Year and will feature on-stage performances, games, snacks and raffles. Free and open to the public.
Monday, Feb. 19

- "The Right Bang for our Bucks: the U.S. Defense Budget" talk—noon to 1 p.m. in the Covenant Fine Arts Center Recital Hall at Calvin College, 1795-1835 Knollcrest Circle SE, Grand Rapids, hosted by the World Affairs Council of Western Michigan. The talk will be given by Dr. Stephanie Young, defense budget expert for the RAND Corporation. Admission is $10; open to the public.
- CELCIS conversation circle—2 to 3 p.m. in the fourth-floor reception area of Ellsworth Hall, hosted by the Center for English Language and Culture for International Students. Join students learning English in relaxed conversation about local and social topics. Free and open to the public.
- "The Right Bang for our Bucks: the U.S. Defense Budget" talk—6 to 7:15 p.m. in the Aquinas College Performing Arts Center, 1703 Robinson Rd. SE, East Grand Rapids, hosted by the World Affairs Council of Western Michigan. The talk will be given by Dr. Stephanie Young, defense budget expert for the RAND Corporation. Admission is $10; open to the public.

Tuesday, Feb. 20

- International Ladies Sports Club—2 to 3 p.m. at the Student Recreation Center, hosted by International Student Activities. Bond with women from all over the world through sports and exercise. Free and open to all women in the community.
- CELCIS conversation circle—2 to 3 p.m. in the Bernhard Center Bronco Global Lounge, hosted by the Center for English Language and Culture for International Students. Join students learning English in relaxed conversation about local and social topics. Free and open to the public.
- "Meditation for Clarity and Insight" course—7 to 8:30 p.m. at the People's Church, 1758 N. 10th St., Kalamazoo, hosted by the Jewel Heart Buddhist Learning Center. This eight-week course is designed to help those new to meditation learn techniques in mindfulness and concentration. Free and open to the public.

Wednesday, Feb. 21

- CELCIS conversation circle—2 to 3 p.m. in the fourth-floor reception area of Ellsworth Hall, hosted by the Center for English Language and Culture for International Students. Join students learning English in relaxed conversation about local and social topics. Free and open to the public.

Thursday, Feb. 22

- CELCIS conversation circle (women only)—2 to 3 p.m. in the Bernhard Center Bronco Global Lounge, hosted by the Center for English Language and Culture for International Students. Join students learning English in relaxed conversation about local and social topics. Free and open to the public.

Friday, Feb. 23

- Spring Convocation: "A Recognition of Discovery, Diversity and Global Engagement"—8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. at the Fetzer Center, hosted by Western Michigan University. The convocation will include scholar talks, a luncheon, convocation, an awards ceremony and a reception for the WMU community. Free and open to WMU staff and faculty.
Saturday, Feb. 24

- **Community African dance class**—1 to 2 p.m. at the Rooted Enrichment Center, 1501 Fulford St., Kalamazoo, hosted by Rooted. This community class which focuses on African dance encourages the entire family to attend. First class is always free, $10 for non-members; open to the public.

Monday, Feb. 26

- **"Is American Global Leadership Waning?" talk**—noon to 1 p.m. in the Covenant Fine Arts Center Recital Hall at Calvin College, 1795-1835 Knollcrest Circle SE, Grand Rapids, hosted by the World Affairs Council of Western Michigan. The talk will be given by Dr. Amitav Acharya, chair of UNESCO Transnational Challenges and Governance and professor of international relations in the School of International Service at American University. Admission is $10; open to the public.
- **CELCIS conversation circle**—2 to 3 p.m. in the fourth-floor reception area of Ellsworth Hall, hosted by the Center for English Language and Culture for International Students. Join students learning English in relaxed conversation about local and social topics. Free and open to the public.
- **"Is American Global Leadership Waning?" talk**—6 to 7:15 p.m. in the Aquinas College Performing Arts Center, 1703 Robinson Rd. SE, East Grand Rapids, hosted by the World Affairs Council of Western Michigan. The talk will be given by Dr. Amitav Acharya, chair of UNESCO Transnational Challenges and Governance and professor of international relations in the School of International Service at American University. Admission is $10; open to the public.

Tuesday, Feb. 27

- **CELCIS conversation circle**—2 to 3 p.m. in the Bernhard Center Bronco Global Lounge, hosted by the Center for English Language and Culture for International Students. Join students learning English in relaxed conversation about local and social topics. Free and open to the public.
- **"Meditation for Clarity and Insight" course**—7 to 8:30 p.m. at the People’s Church, 1758 N. 10 St., Kalamazoo, hosted by the Jewel Heart Buddhist Learning Center. This eight-week course is designed to help those new to meditation learn techniques in mindfulness and concentration. Free and open to the public.

Wednesday, Feb. 28

- **"The Sombodiness of African American Men" lecture**—noon to 1 p.m. in the Lee Honors College lounge, hosted by the Lee Honors College Lyceum Lecture Series. The lecture will be given by Dr. Phillip Johnson, associate professor in counselor education and counseling psychology at WMU. Free and open to the public.
- **CELCIS conversation circle**—2 to 3 p.m. in the fourth-floor reception area of Ellsworth Hall, hosted by the Center for English Language and Culture for International Students. Join students learning English in relaxed conversation about local and social topics. Free and open to the public.