



Employee mixer scheduled for Oct. 4

A Fridays with Friends mixer and reception will be held immediately following the Academic Convocation until 6 p.m. in the Richmond Center for Visual Arts lobby.

Road closures part of homecoming

Campus road closures related to the Homecoming Campus Classic will begin at 8 a.m. and continue until 10:15 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 12. Roads affected are Oliver Street from Stadium Drive to Western Avenue, 8 to 10:15 a.m.; West Michigan Avenue from Western Avenue to Sangren Hall, and Gilkison Avenue from Western Avenue to North Dormitory Road, 9 to 9:45 a.m.; and Valley Drive, Rankin Avenue at Business Court and Western Avenue leading toward the Student Recreation Center, 9 to 10:15 a.m.

Gymnastics school accepting students

Registration continues for the final session of the 2013 Bronco Gymnastics School, which is open to recreational gymnasts of all ages and skill levels. The session meets from 6 to 7 p.m. Thursdays starting today and running through Nov. 21. The cost is \$115, with children of WMU employees receiving a \$10 discount. Visit <http://bit.ly/156Jgrl> or call (269) 387-3129 for details.

LBGTA career mentors being sought

Local professionals supportive of lesbian, bisexual, gay and transgender students and their allies are encouraged to participate in WMU's new LBGTA Career Mentorship Program. The program officially kicks off with a Mentorship Dinner from 6 to 8 p.m. Friday, Oct. 18. Mentors must be able to meet with their mentees one or two times a month from October 2013 through April 2014. Visit wmich.edu/diversityandinclusion/lbgt to apply.

Global engagement fund available

The WMU Global Engagement Fund offers co-funding for activities that enhance global engagement on campus. Activities include visiting scholar events and conferences or workshops. Applications are due Nov. 1 and April 1. For details, visit wmich.edu/international/funding/gef. Direct questions to Michelle Metro-Roland, Haenicke Institute, at michelle.metro-roland@wmich.edu or (269) 387-3908.

Center offers back-up child care

Recognizing that child care needs can be unpredictable, the Children's Place Learning Center now offers back-up child care. Parents can pre-register their children for back-up care and, when the occasion arises, call the center to arrange for care and to ensure there is adequate space. Back-up care is not a drop-off service. For more information, visit wmich.edu/childcare or call (269) 387-2277.

WMU celebrates 90 years of homecoming

With two of the University's most festive occasions just around the corner, there's a flurry of activity on campus.

Homecoming week runs from Monday through Sunday, Oct. 7-13, while family weekend takes place Friday through Sunday, Oct. 11-13, to coincide with homecoming's biggest events.

And many of those events are free or offered at a low cost and open to the public.

A pep rally will take place immediately following the reception to help fire up Bronco fans for the homecoming game at 2 p.m. Saturday against the State University of



WMU's 2012 homecoming activities kept young and old excited and entertained for an entire week. (Photos by Mike Lanka).

Three anniversaries being celebrated

This year, WMU is celebrating its 90th homecoming and 75th year of hosting football games in Waldo Stadium. It's also marking the 50th year of the Distinguished Alumni Awards program.

In honor of the latter milestone, a public reception will be held from 6 to 8 p.m. Friday, Oct. 11, in the Bernhard Center's East Ballroom. During the ticketed event, the WMU Alumni Association will recognize all past recipients of the Distinguished Alumni Award. In addition to entertainment and refreshments, the event will feature a short program.

New York Buffalo Bulls. Joining the crowd on the plaza in front of Sangren Hall will be new football Head Coach P.J. Fleck and the Bronco Marching Band.

Family weekend is popular tradition

This is a great time for parents and other family members to visit campus and enjoy time with their college student.

Officially called Buster's Family Weekend Adventure, it's presented by the Parent and Family Programs office.

Special events and discounts are available to those who choose to register to attend and make the necessary prior arrangements.

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Search underway to find associate dean for honors college

A search to find a new associate dean for the Lee Honors College is underway.

The position has been posted under faculty and staff positions on the WMU Human Resources website at wmich.edu/hr/jobs. The posting includes a complete job description.

Edwin Martini, associate dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, is leading the search committee.

The successful candidate will replace Carla Koretsky, who was promoted to dean of the college in July after serving for a year as associate dean.

Application reviews will begin Monday, Oct. 21, and continue until the position is filled. For more information about the associate dean post, those interested may contact Martini at edwin.martini@wmich.edu or (269) 387-4356.

Academic convocation gets 2013-14 off to good start

WMU will formally kick off the new academic year Friday, Oct. 4, with an Academic Convocation that will honor standout faculty and staff members and provide a platform for President John M. Dunn to present his seventh State of the University address.

During the event, which begins at 2 p.m. in the Dalton Center Recital Hall, Dunn will review the University's accomplishments, outline upcoming opportunities and initiatives, and set the direction for the coming year.

The traditional gathering will also celebrate 13 faculty and staff members for outstanding service and achievement. The employees will receive some of WMU's most prestigious accolades: the Distinguished Faculty Scholar, Distinguished Service, Distinguished Teaching, Emerging Faculty Scholars and Make a Difference awards.

Held during the opening weeks of fall semester classes, the annual convocation is a signature event to welcome faculty, staff and students back to campus. A reception, which also doubles as a campuswide gathering for employees called Fridays With Friends, will be held immediately following the convocation in the adjacent Richmond Center for Visual Arts.

Around campus and beyond

Editor's note: Visit wmich.edu/news/events for details and more event news.

Speakers addressing climate change

About 20 public presentations and other activities related to climate change are being held on and off campus this fall. Now underway, this series of free public events is part of an interdisciplinary effort to raise awareness about the consequences of climate change and ways of responding to these consequences. Visit wmich.edu/news/2013/09/9603 for details.

Entrepreneurs to make presentation

Andrew and Kathleen Widner, owners of The Spirit of Kalamazoo, will speak at 8 a.m. Friday, Oct. 4, in 2150 Schneider Hall. The Entrepreneurship Forum event is free and open to the public and begins with breakfast at 7:30 a.m. Reservations are required and can be made at wmich.edu/business/e-rsvp or (269) 387-5050.

Event supports writing award

Eleven poets and writers with ties to Michigan will come together Saturday, Oct. 5, to read their work and celebrate the life and contributions of author, editor and publisher Robert J. Bixby, a WMU alumnus who died last October.

The event will be held at 2 p.m. in the Richmond Center for Visual Arts. Refreshments will be served, and a book signing will follow the reading. All of the participating writers will donate the proceeds from sales of their books to help fund the Robert J. Bixby Award in Creative Writing, established this spring with a gift from Bixby's widow.

Graduate fair scheduled for Oct. 7

Options for advanced studies can be explored at the Graduate and Professional School Fair from 3 to 6 p.m. Monday, Oct. 7, in the Bernhard Center Ballroom. Pre-registration is not required. More than 50 graduate, law and medical schools in Michigan and throughout the United States will participate in the fair.

Attendees seeking tips on how to apply to graduate, law or medical schools may participate in one of three workshops held from 3 to 4 p.m. on the second floor of the Bernhard Center near the fair's main exhibit hall. No registration is required for the workshops. Visit wmich.edu/career/events for more information.

Slavery specialist to present talk

Brett Rushforth, a prize-winning expert on slavery in the Great Lakes region, will speak at 7 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 10, in 1035 Fetzer Center. The talk is titled "Making Slavery Work: Ideologies, Economies, and Communities in the French Atlantic World." A free reception starting at 5:15 p.m. will precede the talk.

Race relations expert to visit campus

Visiting artist David Pilgrim will make a presentation at 5:30 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 17, in the Richmond Center for Visual Arts. Pilgrim is vice president for diversity and inclusion at Ferris State University and an expert on multiculturalism, diversity and race relations. He is the founder and curator of the Jim Crow Museum of Racist Memorabilia—a 7,000-piece collection of racist artifacts at Ferris that is used to teach tolerance.

Physicist leads NSF-funded project

Manuel Bautista is heading an innovative astrophysics project being funded by a \$602,000 National Science Foundation grant. The project will contribute to understanding various galactic and extragalactic objects.



Bautista

It aims to develop reliable quantitative modeling of opacities and spectra of singly ionized iron-like species, an effort of paramount importance for 21st-century astrophysics because numerous fundamental research areas depend on such modeling.

Bautista developed the compelling grant proposal with Thomas Gorczyca, physics, and researchers from NASA, the University of Mons in Belgium, the Lund Observatory in Sweden, the Max Planck Institute in Germany and the Venezuelan Institute for Scientific Research.

His team will be expanded from its original 11 members to include a postdoctoral student, a graduate student and several undergraduates, all from WMU.

Translation is focus of new journal

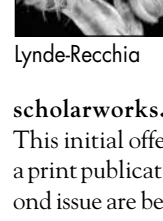
David Kutzko and Molly Lynde-Recchia, world languages and literatures, are playing an instrumental role in the launch of a new WMU journal. Titled *Transference*,



Kutzko

the annual publication translates poetry that has been written in languages other than English.

Kutzko and Lynde-Recchia are the editors-in-chief and department colleague Jenaba D. Waggy provides editorial assistance. The translations were done by people from across the country, each of whom presents a commentary on the art and process of translating.



Lynde-Recchia

The first *Transference* issue came out this summer and is posted at

scholarworks.wmich.edu/transference. This initial offering will also be available as a print publication. Submissions for the second issue are being accepted through Jan. 5.

Professor co-edits new volume

Andrew Targowski, business information systems, has co-edited "Spirituality and Civilization Sustainability in the 21st Century"



Targowski

with Marek J. Celinski, a Toronto psychologist.

The book was published in August by NOVA Science Publishers. It investigates the state of civilization in the 21st century, which is characterized by Western civilization transforming into global civilization and the Great Recession triggered by the U.S. financial crisis in 2008.

Twenty authors, some WMU faculty members and all members of the International Society for the Comparative Study of Civilizations, investigate human spirituality and whether its actual level of development is able to steer the sustainable development of civilization.

WMUK starts fall fundraising campaign Oct. 12

The University's public radio station WMUK-FM will begin its annual fall campaign Saturday, Oct. 12, with a goal of raising \$160,000.

The radio station, located at 102.1 on the FM dial, uses membership contributions and

additional gifts to produce local programs and purchase programs such as "Morning Edition," "All Things Considered," "Wait Wait...Don't Tell Me" and "From the Top."

WMUK encourages members to take a lead role in supporting the programs they value by sending in their gifts, contributing online or calling in a pledge during the live portion of the pledge campaign, Oct. 12 through 19.

Grad student open house set

WMU-Grand Rapids will hold an open house from 6 to 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 9, at 2333 E. Beltline Ave. S.E. in Grand Rapids, Mich.

Attendees will be able to learn about available graduate degree programs in management, engineering and human resources.

Register at wmich.edu/grandrapids/openhouse.

Jobs

Current job opportunities at WMU are announced daily on the Human Resources website at wmich.edu/hr/careers-at-wmu.html. 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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W WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY

Leading faculty members earn Universitywide scholar awards

Four outstanding faculty members will receive WMU's 2012-13 Distinguished Emerging Scholar and Distinguished Faculty Scholar awards.

They will be honored during the Academic Convocation at 2 p.m. Friday, Oct. 4, in the Dalton Center Recital Hall.

Distinguished Emerging Scholar Award

This award acknowledges the accomplishments of WMU faculty members who are among the rising stars in U.S. higher education. It celebrates the contributions of those who are in the first decade of their WMU careers and have achieved national recognition and demonstrated outstanding promise to achieve renown in their continuing work.

• Chris L.S. Coryn

is an associate professor and director of WMU's Interdisciplinary Doctor of Philosophy in Evaluation and an internationally known evaluation specialist. Coryn joined the faculty in 2003 as a research associate in evaluation and became director of the Interdisciplinary Ph.D. in Evaluation in 2008. He is the author of some 80 scholarly papers and the leader or methodologist for grants and contracts totaling nearly \$5 million.



Coryn

Coryn was lauded by colleagues for modeling what it is to be a scholar and having amassed an international record of accomplishment. He has been the executive editor of the *Journal of MultiDisciplinary Evaluation* since 2010; has been an invited lecturer at The Evaluators' Institute, a prestigious national venue for workshops on evaluation; and earned the American Evaluation Association's 2008 Marcia Guttentag Award for contributions to his field.

• Michael A. Famiano

is an associate professor of physics and an expert in nuclear and astrophysics. Famiano joined the faculty in 2005 and recently entered the private sector after eight years at WMU. He has written 47 refereed publications and has been the recipient of more than \$2 million in research grants and contracts to support his work.



Famiano

He was cited for contributing to breakthrough research and for mentoring students, taking many of those he was mentoring to the National Superconducting Cyclotron Lab at Michigan State University, where he carried out much of his research. Famiano also spent extensive time in Japan, collaborating there with that nation's leaders in the field of nuclear astrophysics.

• Kristina Wirtz

is an associate professor of anthropology and a linguistic and cultural anthropologist whose focus on linguistics has attracted global attention. Wirtz joined the faculty in 2005, and emphasizes Cuba, the Caribbean, Latin America and African diaspora in her work. She is the author



Wirtz

of two books, with a third one in progress, as well as book chapters, book reviews and peer- and editor-reviewed journal articles.

Scholars around the globe lauded Wirtz for having an enviable academic record even though she is in the early stages of her academic career. They noted that her first book suggests new directions for the broad study of religion and understanding the relationships between religious communities and their larger national and transnational contexts.

Distinguished Faculty Scholar Award

This is the University's highest annual award for a faculty member. It pays tribute to an individual whose work constitutes a significant body of achievement that is widely recognized within the national and international academic communities.

• Daneen Wardrop

is a professor of English and an internationally known poet-scholar. Wardrop joined the faculty in 1990 and has paired research and creative writing throughout her career. She has written three scholarly books focusing on major 19th-century literary figures and has finished a book-length research project concerning Civil War narratives.



Wardrop

The winner of a National Endowment for the Arts creative writing fellowship, Wardrop was cited by her nominators as a talented poet, an excellent teacher and an internationally recognized scholar whose work has been vastly influential. Her contributions have been so great that one literary journal editor categorized her WMU award as a long-deserved acknowledgement of her significance to her field.

WMU project earns state award

The Fort St. Joseph Archaeological Project has received a State History Award in the educational programs category.

It was presented by the Historical Society of Michigan during the society's annual Meeting and State History Conference Sept. 27 and 28. The State History Awards are the highest recognition given by the state's official historical society.

WORLD-CLASS PARADE, TAILGATE—The public is invited to help put the "home" in homecoming when WMU holds its annual Parade of Nations Saturday, Oct. 12. Flag bearers are needed to carry a nation's flag in the parade, which takes place just before kickoff of the Homecoming football game at 2 p.m. The colorful display of multicultural diversity features some of the University's nearly 1,700 international students from 104 nations carrying flags of their home countries across the playing



field. Flag bearers and others will gather at Kanley Track for an 11 a.m. pre-game tailgate party, where attendees will be able to enjoy complimentary food and assemble flags for the parade. Students, employees and area families may register to attend the tailgate and participate in the parade. Register at hige_activities@wmich.edu or (269) 387-3966 or visit the International Programming Office in Ellsworth Hall. (Photo by Mike Lanka)

Where are you going?

WMU students and the public can take their first step toward planning an overseas learning experience as part of their degree program by attending the annual Study Abroad Fair.



"Where are you going?" is the theme for the 2013 fair, which is set for noon to 4 p.m., Wednesday, Oct. 9, on campus in the Bernhard Center's East Ballroom. It will showcase the more than 70 programs WMU offers in some 30 countries.

"Each year, the Study Abroad Fair enables more than 800 students and community members to explore the study abroad opportunities available to them worldwide," says Jane Blyth, WMU director of study abroad and global program development.

"It is a popular event that has influenced many to embark on a study abroad course. In fact, our study abroad fair is often the first step in a life-altering journey of exploration and discovery for many of our students."

On hand to answer questions will be students who have studied as well as interned abroad, professors and others who coordinate programs and courses around the globe, and study abroad specialists from WMU Study Abroad.

Obituaries

Mary Ann LeDoux, a utility food worker in the Valley 2 Dining Service, died Aug. 29. She was 48. LeDoux had worked at the University for six years.

Marilyn E. Middleton, a former teacher of extension courses, died Sept. 14. She was 88. Middleton, wife of the late Professor Emeritus Owen B. Middleton, was a member of the University Dames.

Arthur W.J. Stoddart, emeritus in math-

ematics, died Sept. 6. He was 79. Stoddart joined the faculty in 1967 and retired in 1996 after 29 years of service.

Willie J. Mitchell Jr., a custodian in building custodial and support service, died suddenly Sept. 16. He was 40. Mitchell had worked at the University for seven years.



Mitchell

On Campus with Shannon Ringer



PUTTING ON A SHOW FOR PATRONS
(Photo by Deanne Puca)

While patrons enjoy the varied events inside WMU's Miller Auditorium, Shannon Ringer is just outside the doors making sure concession and bar areas are stocked, bathroom lines are moving and visitors have everything they need.

It's her job as patron services manager to oversee a crew of 275 volunteer ushers, 18 student employees and 12 volunteer ticket takers who help make Miller Auditorium events run smoothly. Whether it's a sold-out show or a private reception, Ringer is in charge of the behind-the-scenes work at Miller Auditorium and the Little Theatre on East Campus. She also assists with staff training and emergency preparedness at the theatres.

She came to WMU almost 18 years ago, working in the ticket office for a year before moving into her current job. Her hours usually coincide with performance times, often evenings and weekends.

"I oversee anything that happens in the seating area and lobby during a show," says Ringer, adding that she also is responsible for alcohol service at the auditorium and sets up shows and dates for the Little Theatre. "At any performance, there are multiple things going on at once. It's just being aware of what's going on around you and knowing what needs to be done."

Despite her exposure to so many events, Ringer admits she doesn't usually get to see the shows that come through Miller Auditorium.

"During the first half of a performance, we're usually getting ready for intermission. By the second half, we're cleaning the concession areas, preparing for events that will happen yet that night or the next day," she says.

A native of Allegan, Mich., Ringer earned two degrees from WMU, a bachelor's in music and a master's in public administration. In her free time, she likes working on projects around her house, volunteers on several committees at her church and serves as a co-team leader for the Borgess Run for the Health of It run camp.

Confucius Center offers classes, welcomes new teachers

The Confucius Institute at WMU is accepting registrations for fall Chinese culture courses that begin the week of Oct. 14.

The low-cost courses are open to the public. A half-price discount is offered to senior citizens and WMU students; WMU employees attend tuition free. A materials fee applies to some courses. For details or to register, visit wmuconfucius.org/cultureclass, write wmu-confucius-cc@wmich.edu or call (269) 387-3784.

Meanwhile, the institute recently welcomed a new group of Chinese teachers and

volunteers to provide language, history and culture courses in the Forest Hills and Portage public schools as well as the Kalamazoo Montessori School.



The Confucius Institute's new teachers and staffers. (Photo courtesy of the Confucius Institute)

The Chinese teachers and volunteers, all of whom come from Beijing Language and Culture University, will be in Michigan for periods ranging from one to three years and all are formally trained in teaching Chinese as

a second language.

They represent the continuation of WMU's program that began in 2009 and today reaches several thousand students across Southwest Michigan.

Clinic slates drop-in events

Employees, students and area residents can get expert advice about injury treatment and rehabilitation during drop-in events being sponsored by the Sports Medicine Clinic in the Sindecuse Health Center.

From 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Wednesdays, clinic staffers will be in the Student Recreation Center's lobby Oct. 16, College of Health and Human Services Building's student commons Nov. 13, and Bernhard Center's Bronco Mall near PNC Bank Dec. 4.

They will answer people's questions about training aches and pains as well as other issues, including how a sports medicine approach to treatment allows people to return to activity as soon as possible after an injury.

No appointment is needed. For more information, call (269) 387-3248 or visit wmich.edu/healthcenter/sportsmedicine.

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WMU celebrates 90 years of homecoming

They include working out for free at the Student Recreation Center as well as gathering together for tailgating and football.

Official activities conclude on Sunday and feature a "Grab the Reins" brunch from 9 a.m. to noon in the Hoekje-Bigelow Dining Hall. The low-cost event includes entertainment by talented WMU students.

Homecoming Saturday is big draw

Scores of events draw WMU alumni and friends to campus Saturday, including the 15th annual Homecoming Campus Classic.

The event features a 1K Fun Run and Walk at 8:45 a.m. and 5K Run or Walk at 9:15 a.m. Prizes and food are provided for participants as well as volunteer workers.

Another popular event is the Alumni, Family and Friends Tailgate Party beginning at 11 a.m. in Parking Lot 1. It gives attendees a fun place to reconnect with old friends and classmates. Registration is encouraged in advance, and admission fee discounts are available to preregistrants as well as family members of WMU students.

Variety of other events taking place

Many more events are detailed at wmich.edu/homecoming, wmich.edu/parents and mywmu.com. Here's just a sampling:

- A student-inspired kickoff carnival;



- A student Spirit Week competition;
- Homecoming king and queen voting;
- College and special program reunions;
- The annual West Fest soapbox derby and games; and
- Gatherings for lesbian, bisexual, gay and transgender alumni and their allies.