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11-2013

## Discovery, November 2013

Office of Vice President for Research

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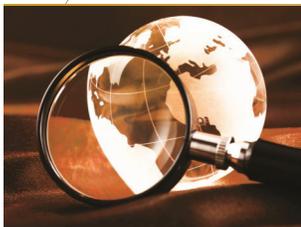
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# DISCOVERY

OFFICE OF VICE PRESIDENT FOR RESEARCH

Electronic versions available at [wmich.edu/research/news.html](http://wmich.edu/research/news.html)

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## OVRP VISION AND MISSION

**VISION:** TO BE A LEADER AND CATALYST FOR SCHOLARSHIP EXCELLENCE

**MISSION:** THE OFFICE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT FOR RESEARCH ADVANCES THE OVERALL SCHOLARSHIP AGENDA OF THE UNIVERSITY; SUPPORTS THE SCHOLARSHIP INITIATIVES OF WMU FACULTY, STUDENTS AND STAFF; AND ASSURES COMPLIANCE WITH ALL APPROPRIATE FEDERAL AND STATE REGULATIONS.

[WWW.WMICH.EDU/RESEARCH](http://WWW.WMICH.EDU/RESEARCH)

## DISCOVERY UPDATE FROM VICE PRESIDENT FOR RESEARCH

DISCOVERY is the new title of our newsletter that reflects the comprehensive nature of the Discovery Driven pillar of WMU's vision.

In the days to come, we intend to highlight plans, actions and accomplishments of our outstanding faculty, staff and students as they advance their scholarship, research, and creative activities. We also will communicate actions in the areas of Leadership, Scholarship, Collaboration, and Resources that help support and expand our Discovery.

In this issue, we congratulate the national success of several multi-disciplinary, large-scale collaborations involving internal and external partners. They won awards

competing with some of the best research universities in the nation and will receive millions of dollars in federal external funding.

We provide information about resources available at Discover Discovery workshops and Research and Dessert. There is also information about new F&A agreements.

Please let us know what you would like to hear about and how we can help you in Discovery.

How are we contributing to our vision of a Discover-Driven University today?

*~Dan Litynski, VP for Research*

## \$1.4 MILLION AWARD FROM DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

A WMU multidisciplinary team led by civil and construction engineering faculty, Drs. Osama Abudayeh and Jun-Seok Oh (grant's principal investigator) was awarded \$1.4 million dollars from the Department of Transportation for one year, with the possibility for renewal for three additional years.

The WMU grant is part of \$63 million in awards dispersed by the DOT to advance research that studies critical transportation issues. Specifically, within the DOT, the grant comes from the department's Research and Innovative Technology Administration.

WMU is lead institution for the Transportation Research Center for Livable Communities, working with its partner institutions:

University of Texas, Arlington and Tennessee State, Utah State and Wayne State universities.

The focus for the center includes public transit systems, pedestrian and bicycle networks, and enhances transportation accessibility for children, people with disabilities, older adults and lower-income populations.

Other WMU faculty collaborating on the project as PIs include Valerian Kwigizile, civil and construction engineering; Ron Van Houten, psychology; and Christopher Smith, geography.

Source: University Relations

## **\$5 MILLION AWARDED BY DEPT OF EDUCATION**

The College of Education and Human Development received an almost \$5 million award, to be funded over the next five years, by the Department of Education.

WMU and 10 eligible, high-need public school districts in Michigan propose to conduct the Achievement-Centered Leadership Program to work with 60 pairs of practicing and aspiring principals from the same school for a total of 120 participants.

Working with these people, the program focuses on the development of technical and personal dimensions of leadership practice that support instruction aligned with college-ready standards.

Working together as a team from WMU are the following: Dr. Nancy Mansberger, principal investigator; Dr. Walter Burt; and Dr. Jianping Shen.

## **NSF AWARDS \$500,000 FOR ETHICS OF CYBERWARFARE STUDY**

Dr. Fritz Allhof received a \$500,000 National Science Foundation grant to study the ethical issues associated with cyberwarfare.

Allhof is part of "Safeguarding Cyberspace with Ethical Rules for Cyberwarfare," a collaborative project with California Polytechnical State University, San Luis Obispo and the Naval Postgraduate School.

The research team, composed of experts in technology ethics, computer security and military affairs, focus on ethics and policy as means to guide policy and law related to cyberspace.

Outcomes will include workshops and recommendations available in a final report that explore these ethical issues related to cyberspace.

## **DISCOVER DISCOVERY @ WMU WORKSHOPS**

Faculty and staff are invited to join the Discover Discovery workshops on funding support for faculty scholarship. The workshops, held bi-weekly at the Fetzer Center in room 1055 from 12:30-1:45 p.m., cover a range of topics meant to educate, inspire and innovate research at the University.

Offered in conjunction with the Office of Faculty Development's new faculty year-long orientation, the bi-weekly research workshops organized by OVPR are open to all faculty and staff interested in discovery activities and funding to support those efforts.

Workshops cover budgets, funding searches, and internal and external funding opportunities, to name but a few.

Registration is done electronically from our website, which links into the OFD registration system. Registration is capped and closes the Friday before scheduled Tuesday workshops. Lunch is included in the sessions.

Upcoming workshops include the following:

- November 19, "Everything you wanted to know about communicating with sponsors but were afraid to ask"
- December 3, "Think local: develop a winning internal funding proposal"
- January 7: "You know they are talking about you – but what are they saying?"
- January 21: "Getting organized: project management approaches"

The workshops scheduled for spring semester are listed online at [wmich.edu/research](http://wmich.edu/research), along with details on what will be covered at each session.

If you have questions, contact your research officer or call 269-387-8270.

## RESEARCH AND DESSERT DAY, NOVEMBER 22

Join us for Research and Dessert Day, November 22, 12:30-4 at the Fetzer Center. Fridays with Friends will follow in the Fetzer Center.

During this year's annual event, participants can choose from 16 different workshop offerings, visit resource tables, and participate in a new venture — *Speed Networking* — to share your work and learn about the discovery activities of WMU colleagues.

Time has been scheduled into the day for networking and information-gathering through the content sessions and resource stations.

The schedule includes information sessions and mini-workshops on topics that range from technology resources to arts and humanities resources:

12:30—1	Registration, check-in, desserts
1 — 1:45	Content sessions and mini-workshops
1:45 — 2	Desserts, networking
2 — 2:45	Content sessions and mini-workshops
2:45 — 3	Desserts and set up for <i>Speed Networking</i>
3 — 3:45	<i>Speed Networking</i>
3:45 — 4	Wrap up and prizes

Registration is online at the research website ([wmich.edu/research](http://wmich.edu/research)). Please register early and complete a survey for *Speed Networking* topic area preferences.

Prizes include an iPad Air and chances for trips to visit funding agencies and sponsors in D.C., prizes designed to support your discovery activities. Register early!

## TECH DEVELOPMENT FUND APPLICATION DEADLINE

The latest request for proposals for funding from the Technology Development Fund (TDF) is currently available; proposal deadline is Friday, Nov. 22. The IP Management and Commercialization Advisory Committee will distribute an online survey to seek input and advice on ways to improve the TDF application and approval processes, so please check your inboxes in the coming weeks if you would like to participate. We look forward to hearing about many new and great ideas with commercial application.

~Dr. Michael Sharer  
Director IP and Commercialization

## W.E. UPJOHN CENTER FOR GEOGRAPHICAL CHANGE

The W.E. Upjohn Center for the Study of Geographical Change has been honored for developing 2013's most outstanding map product or service in North and South America.

The center received the award from the International Map Industry Association (Americas) during its annual conference this fall. The association selected the center as the winner of its gold award for Best Digital Map Product of the year as well as its Americas Award for the year's overall most outstanding map product or service.

In earning the overall award, the Upjohn Center bested public and private organizations including the National Geographic Society and U.S. Geological Survey.

In addition, the center's map product was runner-up for the three-region International Map Industry Association's 2013 global award.

The Upjohn Center was recognized for its Authoritative U.S. Topos map initiative, which includes a Topographic Maps series and a hybrid sub-series called GeoChange maps. The hyper-accurately geo-referenced maps in the two series can be used with GPS-enabled mobile devices and software based on Apple's iOS and Google's Android.

Each map is self-contained in the tablet or smartphone, so no wireless connection is required. This means the maps can be used in wilderness areas and on large water bodies out of range of cell towers. They can also be used for navigation and location finding, because a blue dot displays the user's location on the maps and moves across the maps as the user moves.

Source: University Relations

## RESEARCHER HONORED FOR EVALUATION WORK

Daniela Schroeter, director of research at the Evaluation Center, is the 2013 recipient of the American Evaluation Center's Marcia Guttentag Award. Presented to a deserving evaluator within the first five years of completion of a master's or doctoral degree, the award recognizes an evaluator whose work is consistent with the AEA's guiding principles. She is active in grant and contract work related to program evaluations in science, technology and engineering sectors. Her recent work with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in Atlanta to provide workshops is being done in conjunction with Lori Wingate, assistant director of the Evaluation Center.

~Source: University Relations

## DOCTORAL STUDENT'S RESEARCH ON SUSTAINABILITY FUNDED

Honeywell and Western Michigan University joined forces Oct. 23 to celebrate national Campus Sustainability Day by showcasing the University's successful efforts to reduce its carbon footprint and launching a pioneering two-year research project designed to determine best practices for engaging students, faculty and staff in trimming energy consumption in buildings.

The research project, supported by Honeywell and managed by WMU doctoral student Kate Binder, will explore whether dashboards and other tools that share information and provide feedback on energy use lead to lasting and quantifiable change among occupants.

A Campus Sustainability Day news event on campus provided an opportunity to highlight energy-efficiency improvements Honeywell is currently making in more than 50 WMU facilities.

The company and University have entered into an agreement to effect upgrades that are expected to trim annual energy consumption by 14,800 million British thermal units (MMBtu) and carbon emissions by 4.4 million pounds—equivalent to removing almost 390 vehicles from the road.

The University will also save nearly \$250,000 in projected energy and operating costs each year, savings guaranteed by Honeywell under an energy savings performance contract.

*Source: University Relations*

## FACILITIES & ADMINISTRATIVE COST RATES (F&A) IMPORTANT TO THE UNIVERSITY

The work of WMU faculty, staff, and students on externally-funded projects includes direct and indirect costs. Direct project costs are usually straightforward and easily attributed to a specific project. Indirect costs, termed Facilities and Administrative Costs (F&A), are also essential for a project's implementation, but are more cumbersome to attribute and track in relation to specific projects.

F&A costs include such expenses as utilities, custodial services, security, payroll, purchasing, fiscal management and tracking, and department administration. F&A costs are expressed as a percentage of total direct costs minus exclusions; are agreed upon through formal negotiations every four years with our cognizant agency, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services; and are based upon data presented by the University via a cost analysis.

Having such a rate helps the university reduce the costs of having to determine how much of these resources each individual project uses or consumes. WMU recently concluded this process and new rates for research- and instruction-related projects funded externally for both the University and WMed have been established as follows:

- July 1, 2013 – June 30, 2015 = 50% of modified direct costs
- July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2017 = 51% of modified direct costs

Project budgets are required to include full recovery of F&A costs at the appropriate negotiated rate. More information about specific rates and F&A policies are available on the OVPR website ([www.wmich.edu/research/policies/proposalsubmit](http://www.wmich.edu/research/policies/proposalsubmit)).

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#### Research Officer Constituent Areas

**Sarah Pratt:** CAS (Biology, Chemistry, Psychology, Math, Statistics, Geosciences, Geography, Physics), Mallinson Institute for Science Education, Environmental Studies

**Kim Squiers:** CHHS, CDS, Unified Clinic, Aviation

**John Risley:** COEHD, Evaluation Center, HCOB, TGC, International Studies, LHC, EUP, Seita Scholars, Graduate College

**Allison Weiner:** CEAS, FRACAA Internal Funding

**All share:** CAS (Humanities, Social Sciences) CFA, Humanities Center, Libraries, VP for Student Affairs, Academic Skills Center, Miller Auditorium.

A complete list of constituency areas is posted online at [wmich.edu/research](http://wmich.edu/research)

#### Contracts and Compliance

**Kathy Purnell:** Research Contracts Administrator

**Julia Mays:** Research Compliance Coordinator

## AWARDS ON WEBSITE

Updated regularly on our website is a full listing of grant awards. Included in the listing is the principal investigator (and any co-principal investigators), department, and the grant project title along with the funding provided.

The list is separated out by month, and is updated by monthly or quarterly as the report is generated by Grants and Contracts.

To locate the grant awards list, go to [www.wmich.edu/research/awards/external-funding-awards.html](http://www.wmich.edu/research/awards/external-funding-awards.html).