



11-2016

## Connections, 11/2016

College of Health and Human Services

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November 2016

### [Students explore options at inaugural Student Expo](#)

The first annual CHHS Student Expo took over the CHHS building's atrium November 3. More than 150 students came to connect with the 38 departments, businesses and student organizations that were represented. Students were able to learn about on-campus resources and make connections in the community that could help them before and after graduation.



### [Ph.D. program cohosts second annual PBRN Symposium](#)

Ph.D. in Interdisciplinary Health Sciences program welcomed Nick Lyon (Michigan Dept. of HHS), Mark Messonnier (CDC) and other thought leaders in health care research, administration and education to discuss self-sufficiency and workforce development at its second annual Practice Based Research Network Symposium.



### [State of the College, Faculty and Staff Awards take place Dec. 2](#)

Faculty and staff are invited to join **Dean Earlie Washington** Friday, Dec. 2 as she shares the State of the College of Health and Human Services and celebrates the faculty and staff who have contributed so much over the past year.

### [CHHS welcomes new faculty for 2016-17](#)



Each year, faculty and staff join the college and leave our ranks. It's what reminds us that the institution isn't made up of buildings, books and equipment, but rather it's made up of people who bring their experience and passion to work with them every day.



[OT students learn about ergonomic furniture design at the Herman Miller Design Yard](#)

As part of graduate seminar class, second year occupational therapy students from Grand Rapids and instructor, **Dr. Amy Wagenfeld**, spent a November afternoon at the Herman Miller Design Yard.



Jim Henry receives outstanding social worker award  
**Dr. Jim Henry**, professor in the School of Social Work and program director at WMU's Children's Trauma and Assessment Clinic, was the 2016 recipient of the Sue Smith Outstanding Social Worker Award at the 35th Annual University of Michigan Child Abuse and Neglect Conference.



[Burian lecture, Diversity and Inclusion conference scheduled for February](#)

The 2017 Burian Lecture, scheduled for Feb. 23, 2017, will feature Edna Kane-Williams from AARP. Ms. Kane-Williams will also speak at the biennial Diversity and Inclusion Conference on Feb. 24. The Diversity and Inclusion committee is accepting calls for posters and presentations for the biennial conference.



Unified Clinics newsletter for November

Topics include a new doctor in the audiology clinic, a new optician in the vision clinic, Children's Trauma Assessment Center awarded United Way funds and more.

CHHS in Social Media



On Wednesday, Nov. 23, students from nursing, occupational therapy, physician assistant and speech, language and hearing sciences came together for interprofessional simulations. Above, **Carla Chase** discusses the simulation with students. From the [WMU Department of Occupational Therapy](#), via [Facebook](#)

In other news

Here are some other WMU news articles you might be interested in:

- [WMU unveils its results from national campus climate survey](#)
- [Paper produced at WMU could provide clean water for millions](#)
- [WMU saluted again in rankings of veteran-friendly institutions](#)
- [Researcher who models off-world storms earns NASA fellowship](#)

CHHS on Facebook and Instagram

The College of Health and Human Services is on [Facebook](#) AND [Instagram](#)! Please take a moment to "like" and "follow" us to stay informed on what's going on throughout the college.



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# Students explore options at inaugural Student Expo

A number of WMU registered student organizations were on hand.

The 2016 CHHS Student Expo took over the CHHS building's atrium November 3.

More than 150 students came to connect with the 38 departments, businesses and student organizations that were represented. Students were able to learn about on-campus resources and make connections in the community that could help them before and after graduation.

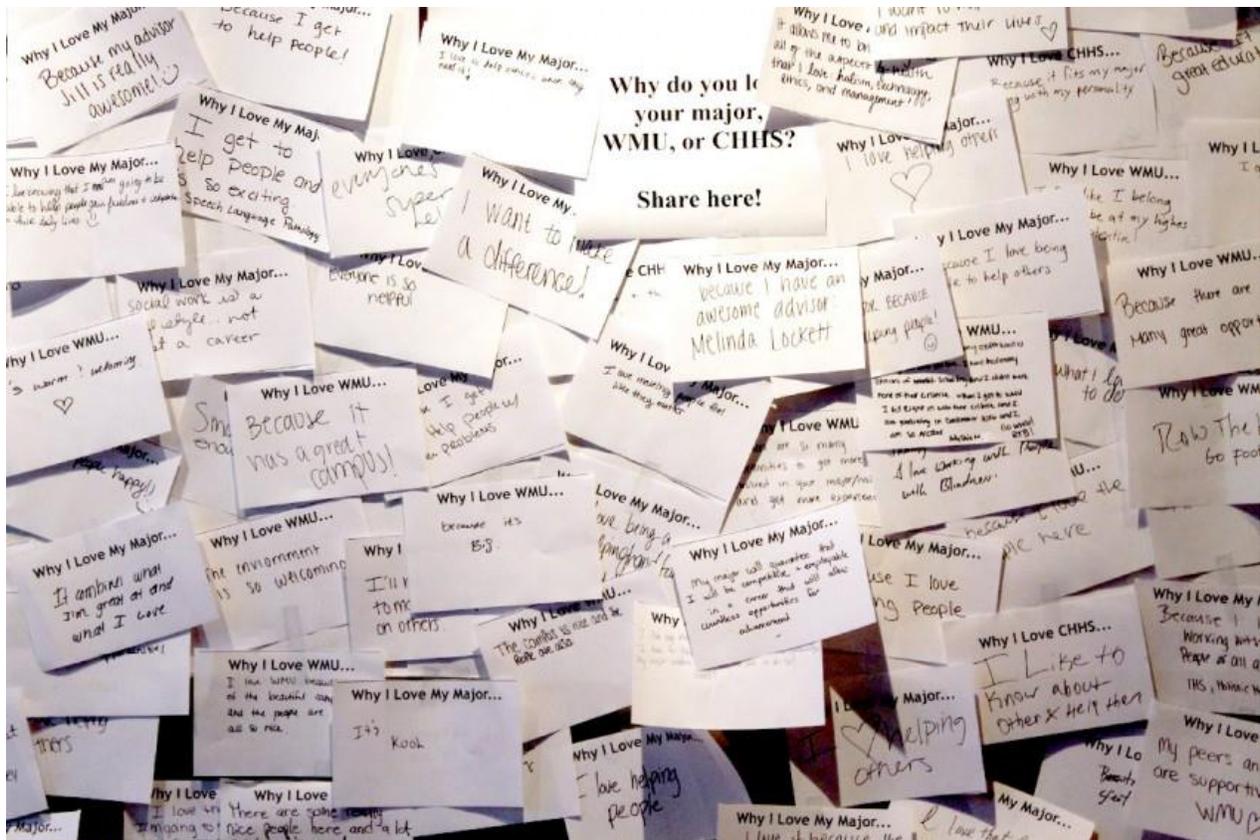


Students visited the various booths to get stickers on a "passport," entering them in a drawing for prizes.

"Our goal was to give our students an opportunity for networking and learning," said **Dean Earlie Washington**. "We hoped to bring together a group of businesses and organizations that would help our students find success at any stage of their academic journey."

There is always uncertainty about attendance at new events, but college faculty and staff were pleased at student turnout.

"I thought the expo was a big success," said **Kitty Scheffers**, business manager for the college. "It gave us a chance to showcase CHHS and engage with our students in a new way."



More than 100 students, faculty and staff participated in an activity, writing down the reasons they love their major, CHHS or WMU.

## DRAWINGS

There were a number of drawings for prizes like Kindle tablets and WMU Dining Dollars gift certificates. **Patricia Curiel** and **Kelly Vulman** were the two lucky students who won Amazon Kindle Fire tablets.



Curiel and Vaulman picking up their prizes

## Facts and Figures



CHHS students visiting two of the many booths at the expo

- The 2016 CHHS Student Expo was the first annual.
- 38 booths representing businesses and organizations from across campus and throughout the Kalamazoo area filled our atrium
- 114 students completed their "passports," making them eligible for grand prize drawings.
- Prizes included Kindle Fire tablets, WMU Dining Dollars, University Bookstore gift cards and more.

# Ph.D. program cohosts second annual PBRN Symposium

On Thursday, Oct. 27, WMU's [Ph.D. in Interdisciplinary Health Sciences](#) program cosponsored the **Michigan Practice-Based Research Network Symposium** with TrueNorth Community Services. The event was held at the Amway Grand Conference Center in Grand Rapids, Michigan.

The 2015 symposium brought together state and national leaders in health care research, administration and education to discuss the current and emerging landscape of health care delivery in Michigan. The 2016 symposium was focused on self-sufficiency and workforce development in health care.

"Self-sufficiency in the delivery of health care is the ability of a household to consistently provide for their basic health care needs with improved efficiencies through better public-private partnerships that increase levels of economic and social value," said **Kieran Fogarty**, director of the Interdisciplinary Health Sciences Ph.D. program at Western Michigan University. "We wanted to bring together thought leaders in these areas and discuss how universities, nonprofits and private groups can work together to address these common problems."

Presenters at the symposium spoke of innovative approaches that support vulnerable and disadvantaged people in their move from poverty to self-sufficiency. Keynote speakers included **Nick Lyon**, director of the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services and **Mark Messonnier**, senior economist in Population Health Workforce Branch at the CDC in Atlanta, Georgia.

Lyon spoke about the new initiatives at the state level that align with self-sufficiency efforts with private agencies and addressed using evidence-based practices that promote effective health care delivery systems throughout Michigan. Messonnier spoke about the future of workforce development to meet the changing health care needs of the nation. After the symposium, he stated "I was struck by how related all the presentations were. The notions of sustainability, self-sufficiency, serving one's community, and evidence-based decision making were also strong throughout the day."

Federal policy analyst **Kevin McGraff** from Washington D.C. presented information about Assurance 16, a policy which encourages states to spend federal Block Grant money received in the Low Income Heat and Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) on self-sufficiency services. In response, **David Wingard**, director of research and strategic development at TrueNorth Community Services presented the outcomes from their self-sufficiency rural heat and energy project which is now active in 63 counties throughout Michigan.

**Lisa Brennan**, executive director of the Western Regional Area Health Education Center, spoke about the [Health Care Workforce Head Start](#) program, a collaboration between AHEC and the College of Health and Human Services. The head start program offers high-achieving students

from underrepresented areas in the AHEC catchment area an opportunity to earn 12 health care and human service credits at WMU during the summer before their freshman year.

## State of the College, Faculty and Staff Awards take place Dec. 2

Faculty and staff are invited to join **Dean Earlie Washington** Friday, Dec. 2 as she shares the State of the College of Health and Human Services and celebrates the faculty and staff who have contributed so much over the past year.

Those who cannot join in person, can [join via Adobe Connect](#).

Events will include the State of the College update, faculty and staff recognition awards and a complimentary lunch. The list of this year's award recipients is included below.

### Agenda:

- **10:30 a.m. - State of the College Address** - CHHS room 4010
- **11:30 a.m. - Faculty and Staff Recognition** - CHHS room 4010
  - Outstanding Customer Service - **Erica Ongstad** - Social Work
  - Faculty Teaching Excellence - **Steve Tasko** - Speech, Language and Hearing Sciences
  - Professional Instructor Teaching Excellence - **Karen Horneffer-Ginter** - Integrative Holistic Health and Wellness
  - Research Excellence - **Dae Kim** - Blindness and Low Vision Studies
  - Scholarship Excellence - **Yvonne Unrau** - Social Work
- **12:30 p.m. - Lunch** - CHHS Atrium

## CHHS welcomes new faculty and staff for 2016-17

Each year, faculty and staff join the college and leave our ranks. It's what reminds us that the institution isn't made up of buildings, books and equipment, but rather it's made up of people who bring their experience and passion to work with them every day.

The following is a list of new hires or transfers from 2016 (as of Nov. 30). We welcome you all to the college.

### Blindness and Low Vision Studies

Judith Moguel

**College of Health and Human Services**

Mandy Cox  
Alicia Dorr  
Melissa Marsh  
Lloyd Bingman

**Interdisciplinary Health Programs**

Amos Aduroja  
Robert Bensley  
Lori Gray  
Cassie Jeng  
Shannon McMorrow  
Vivian Valdmanis  
Mary Ogle

**Interdisciplinary Health Sciences Ph.D. Program**

Linda Shuster

**Nursing**

Joanne DeWit  
Susan Houtrouw  
Tina Keeler  
Raine  
Lisa Singleterry  
Pamela Wadsworth

**Occupational Therapy**

Steven Eberth  
Amy Wagenfeld

**Physician Assistant**

Nicole Bradford  
Andrew Zolp

**Social Work**

Michelle Adams  
Sarah Hoyle-Katz  
Rubicelia Monterrosas  
Erica Ongstad

**Speech, Language and Hearing Sciences**

Sarah Bowlby  
Alyssa Eminhizer

# OT students learn about ergonomic furniture design at the Herman Miller Design Yard

Prepared and submitted by Kelly Luczak and Colleen Hourihan.

As part of graduate seminar class, second year occupational therapy students from Grand Rapids and instructor, **Dr. Amy Wagenfeld**, spent an October afternoon at the Herman Miller Design Yard.

Herman Miller is a leader in furniture design that features ergonomics, safety and sustainability. Each product the company designs is put through a series of rigorous testing to ensure safety and usability.

The afternoon began with a lecture and discussion with Scott Openshaw, human factors and ergonomics lead at Herman Miller, about the importance of proper body mechanics, posture and ergonomics as they apply to furniture design. Students then toured the test lab.



*WMU OT students at Herman Miller*

"I really enjoyed critiquing an Aeron chair as a group through the eyes of occupational therapy and overall universal usability," said student **Colleen Hourihan**. "The chair is iconic, and it was really fun to go over it with Herman Miller designers."

At the end of the session, Dr. Openshaw brought out several newly redesigned Aeron chairs for the group to see. Many of the usability issues that the group identified -- like small tab adjustment mechanisms, fixed arm rests and twist handles -- had been redesigned in the new chair.

"We thoroughly enjoyed our experience at Herman Miller," said student **Kelly Luczak**. "This was a wonderful opportunity to learn about practical ergonomic design from expert staff at a well-established and respected company."

The staff at Herman Miller invited Dr. Wagenfeld to return to the Design Yard and other nearby facilities with this class **and** future classes to learn more about the processes they use to ensure the comfort and usability of their products.

# Burian lecture, Diversity and Inclusion Conference scheduled for February

Faculty, staff and students are encouraged to save the date for the **2017 Burian University-Community Lecture Series** and **2017 Diversity and Inclusion Conference**. The Burian lecture will take place Thursday, Feb. 23, with the conference on the following day, Feb. 24.

**Edna Kane-Williams**, senior vice president at the American Association of Retired Persons in Washington D.C., will deliver the Burian lecture and is also slated to be the keynote speaker at the conference. Her experience and perspective will greatly add to the conversation about health care and inclusion.

About the events

The [Bill Burian University-Community Lecture Series](#) focuses on community and educational issues in health and human services from a problem-solving perspective. It brings together students, faculty, community professionals and service providers, and the citizens of southwest Michigan to interact with leaders of national stature.

The 2017 biennial Diversity and Inclusion Conference is titled Health and Well-Being within a Diverse Health Community. The CHHS Committee on Diversity and Inclusion is accepting proposals for poster presentations and workshops. More information about submitting proposals is available [on the committee's website](#).



*Edna Kane-Williams*