



# Western News

For and about WMU faculty and staff

NOVEMBER 29, 2012  
Volume 39, Number 7

## Board of Trustees meeting slated

The next meeting of the WMU Board of Trustees will be held Wednesday, Dec. 5. Details and key agenda items will be posted online at [wmich.edu/news](http://wmich.edu/news) closer to that date. The board will meet at 11 a.m. in 157 Bernhard Center.

## Commencement ceremonies set

Three commencement ceremonies will be staged Saturday, Dec. 15, in Miller Auditorium. The 9 a.m. ceremony is for graduates of the colleges of Aviation, Education and Human Development, and Engineering and Applied Sciences. The noon ceremony is for graduates of the Haworth College of Business and colleges of Fine Arts and Health and Human Services. The 3 p.m. ceremony is for graduates of the College of Arts and Sciences and Extended University Programs.

## CHHS seeks conference proposals

The College of Health and Human Services Committee on Diversity and Inclusion will present its first interdisciplinary conference, "Diversity and Inclusion: Preparing Ourselves to Advance Health Equity," Feb. 20-21, 2013. Proposals for workshops and student poster presentations are due by Saturday, Dec. 1. Visit [wmich.edu/hhs](http://wmich.edu/hhs) for more information, then click About followed by Committee on Diversity and Inclusion.

## Save the date for holiday gathering

Administrative Professional Association members and friends will celebrate the holidays from 5 to 7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 13, in Gallagher's, 4210 Stadium Drive, Kalamazoo. Visit [wmich.edu/apa](http://wmich.edu/apa) closer to the event date for details.

## Time to exchange sick, annual leave

Employees may be eligible to exchange 25 hours of sick and annual leave for a \$300 University contribution to either their 403(b) or 457(b) tax-deferred savings plan. To qualify, they must have participated in the savings plan for the entire 2012 calendar year. Visit [wmich.edu/hr/forms](http://wmich.edu/hr/forms) to download the 403(b) Sick/Annual Leave Exchange Authorization form, which must be returned to Human Resources in December.

## New self-service layout slated

The Employee Self Service link in GoWMU will be unavailable until 8 a.m. Monday, Dec. 3. The system will then have a new "dashboard" appearance, with primary menu items displayed across the top of the screen. Visit [wmich.edu/hr/assets/pdf/selfservice-newlook.pdf](http://wmich.edu/hr/assets/pdf/selfservice-newlook.pdf) for details about how to navigate screens after the update.

## Next Western News will be in January

This is the final issue of *Western News* for the fall semester. *Western News* will resume its regular publication schedule with the Thursday, Jan. 10, issue. The submission deadline for that issue is 5 p.m. Friday, Jan. 4.

## MCC, WMU launch enrollment agreement

A new joint agreement between Muskegon Community College and WMU's Haworth College of Business will offer students joint admission to both schools and enable them to initiate their college studies at MCC, earn an associate degree, then seamlessly transfer to WMU to complete a Bachelor of Business Administration degree.

WMU President John M. Dunn and MCC President Dale K. Nesbary formalized the agreement during a signing ceremony Nov. 15 at WMU. A number of officials from both schools also participated, including Kay Palan, dean of the Haworth College of

Business, and Teresa A. Sturuss, MCC vice president for academic affairs.

Under the agreement, students would be eligible to be admitted to both MCC and



Participating in the signing event were Teresa A. Sturuss, MCC vice president for Academic Affairs, and Kay Palan, dean of WMU's Haworth College of Business. (Photo by Mike Lanka)

WMU as high school seniors or during their freshman year at college, and assuming they meet the requirements of the agreement, they would be admitted to WMU's business college in time to begin their junior year.

"Muskegon Community College has been a strong and longtime partner to WMU and for many years, has been a

leader in providing top-notch higher education opportunities for students," Dunn says. "This agreement helps both of us better serve

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## Campus exercise to test emergency procedures

An emergency exercise set for Friday, Nov. 30, will allow units across the campus to rehearse and evaluate emergency procedures.

For three hours, campus personnel will react and respond to an emergency scenario that is expected to tap the resources and assess the emergency response readiness of personnel at a multitude of levels.

Those who are not part of the emergency exercise are unlikely to encounter any changes to the campus or even see the event unfold.

"While there will be some full-scale as well as functional components to the exercise, nothing should cause alarm or even indicate that a disaster exercise is occurring, except for those who are directly involved or

responding to various requests made by emergency teams," says Cam Vossen, WMU's emergency management administrator. "Although practicing disaster exercises is important, the intent is not to cause concern or interrupt campus activities."

The exercise is part of the University's ongoing emergency preparations initiative that has been in place for more than a decade.

Periodic simulations allow campus teams to test response times and effectiveness in such areas as communication, public safety, logistics and human services. Over the years, WMU personnel have been part of exercises that range from simple internal tabletop exercises to full-scale events done in conjunction with city and county officials.



Thank you for all you do for our University,  
and may you have a happy and healthy holiday season.

—John and Linda Dunn

# Around campus and beyond

## Special musical events scheduled

The University Symphony Orchestra and University Grand Chorus will perform Handel's Messiah at 3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 2, in Miller Auditorium. In addition, the Western Brass Quintet will perform with faculty and student colleagues at 3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 9, in the Dalton Center Recital Hall. Visit [wmich.edu/music/events](http://wmich.edu/music/events) for ticket information.

## Holiday reception set for employees

The WMU Board of Trustees and President and First Lady John and Linda Dunn invite faculty and staff to a holiday reception from 2 to 4 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 5, in the Bernhard Center Ballroom.

## Dining Services plans holiday lunch

The Bernhard Center café will feature a special holiday menu from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 6. The menu will feature carved roast turkey, honey glazed spiral ham, redskin mashed potatoes, dressing, candied yams, butternut squash and assorted holiday desserts. Visit [wmich.edu/dining/events](http://wmich.edu/dining/events) for the full menu and a la carte prices.

## WMU represented at Dec. 7 Art Hop

The Upjohn Center for the Study of Geographical Change will display, and sell, 15 color-enhanced satellite images of various features of the Earth during Kalamazoo's Art Hop Friday, Dec. 7. The expertly matted and framed images will be on display from 5 to 8 p.m. in Urban Modern Hair, 223 S. Kalamazoo Ave.

## Novelist next to read in Frostic Series

Emma Straub, a New York author of both fiction and non-fiction, will be featured in the final installment of the fall 2012 Gwen Frostic Reading Series at 8 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 6, in 157-159 Bernhard Center.

## Clothing store founders to give talk

Patti Reinholt and Susan Terranella-Hoffman, co-founders of Kalamazoo's Cakes Boutique women's clothing store, will speak at 8 a.m. Friday, Dec. 14, in 2150 Schneider Hall. The free Entrepreneurship Forum event begins with breakfast at 7:30 a.m. Reservations are required at [kayla.j.hunt@wmich.edu](mailto:kayla.j.hunt@wmich.edu) or (269) 387-6059.

## Events for MLK celebration taking shape

Activities at WMU and Kalamazoo College and across the broader community are being planned to honor slain civil rights icon Martin Luther King Jr.

"Seeding the Dream" is the 2013 theme for this annual celebration.

The communitywide events taking place will include the City of Kalamazoo Community Day of Service starting at 8 a.m. Monday, Jan. 21.

The March to MLK Park will follow at 3:30 p.m. and begin at WMU. The route will take marchers to Kalamazoo College's Red Square at 4 p.m. then to MLK Park at the corner of Rose Street and West Michigan Avenue at 4:30 p.m.

A wide variety of additional free events are being held for the general public on and off WMU's campus as part of the local

community's 2013 MLK celebration.

The celebration will continue throughout the year to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the speech King gave Dec. 18, 1963, in WMU's Read Fieldhouse.

Visit [wmich.edu/mlk](http://wmich.edu/mlk) for more information about scheduled events.

## Michigan academy issues call for papers

The Michigan Academy of Sciences, Arts and Letters is seeking papers from faculty members and students for its March 22 annual conference at Hope College. Abstracts must be submitted by Thursday, Dec. 6, for papers to be considered.

Visit <https://netforum.avectra.com/eweb/DynamicPage.aspx?Site=MASAL&WebCode=conference> to submit an abstract. Direct questions to Gregory Veeck, geography, at [gregory.veeck@wmich.edu](mailto:gregory.veeck@wmich.edu) or (269) 387-3420.

## Receptions

Linda Baird, development and alumni relations, will be honored for 22 years of service to WMU during a retirement reception from 3:30 to 6:30 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 29, in the Fetzer Center lobby.

David A. Glenn, associate vice president for Institutional Equity, will be honored for more than 23 years of service to WMU during a retirement reception from 3 to 6 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 5, in the Trimpe Building's Multicultural Center.

## Jobs

Current job opportunities at WMU are announced daily on the Human Resources website at [wmich.edu/hr/careers-at-wmu.html](http://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.

## Chair receives educator of year award

Said Abubakr, chair of paper engineering, chemical engineering and imaging, has received the 2013 Michigan Printing Week Association Ben Franklin Educator of the Year Award.



Abubakr

The honor will be awarded at the association's annual Ben Franklin Award Dinner Tuesday, Jan. 15, in the Laurel Manor Banquet

and Conference Center in Livonia, Mich. At the dinner, the association will honor 2013 award recipients in three categories, including individual, company and educator of the year.

Abubakr was assistant professor at Yarmouk University-Jordan from 1982 to 1985, then taught at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point. In 1993, he joined the U.S. Forest Service's Forest Products Laboratory, where he was the research project supervisor and chemical engineer, until accepting his post as chair at WMU in 2001.

## New book examines Agent Orange

Edwin Martini, history and an associate dean for the College of Arts and Sciences, has written a new book that examines the



Martini

far-reaching impact of Agent Orange, the most infamous of the dioxin-contaminated herbicides used by American forces in Southeast Asia.

"Agent Orange: History, Science and the Politics of Uncertainty,"

published by the University of Massachusetts Press, reconstructs the history of the "chemical war" and investigates the ongoing controversy over the short- and long-term effects of weaponized defoliants on Vietnam's environment and civilian population, and on troops who fought for both sides.

Martini draws on military records, government reports, scientific research, visits to contaminated sites and interviews to disentangle conflicting claims and evaluate often ambiguous evidence.

## Emeritus earns humanitarian award

Lewis Walker, emeritus in sociology and a former chair of the department, has won the 2012 Humanitarian Award from the



Walker

Kalamazoo branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. He received the award during the organization's 32nd annual Freedom Fund Banquet Nov. 3 at WMU.

Walker joined the faculty in 1964. The NAACP said his life as a professor and his passion for justice made him the "go-to" leader for civil rights and activism in Kalamazoo.

City officials tapped him to conduct the first police-community training for police, and he chaired the task force that ultimately led to the creation of Kalamazoo's Citizens' Public Safety Review and Appeals Board. WMU's Institute for the Study of Race and Ethnic Relations, a research center that Walker helped to create in 1990, is named in his honor.



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**DEADLINE:** Items to be considered for publication should be submitted to the Office of University Relations by 5 p.m. Friday the week preceding publication. Fall publication dates are **Sept. 6 and 20, Oct. 4 and 18, Nov. 1, 15 and 29.** Items may be submitted to Jeanne Baron at [jeanne.baron@wmich.edu](mailto:jeanne.baron@wmich.edu), (269) 387-8422 or Campus Mail Stop 5433.

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WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY



# WMU one of 14 U.S. schools selected for Brazilian initiative

**Editor's note:** WMU's international enrollment numbers were examined in a related story appearing in the Nov. 15 issue of Western News. WMU is one of 14 U.S. colleges and universities recently selected to participate in the Institute of International Education 2013 Brazil initiative of IIE's International Academic Partnership Program.

Representatives from each institution will take part in a yearlong series of training activities to help implement and sustain partnerships with institutions in Brazil, culminating with a study tour to Brazil in spring 2013 to meet with potential partner campuses. WMU's efforts will be coordinated by Michelle Metro-Roland, director of faculty and global program development at the Haenicke Institute for Global Education, and a campuswide steering committee drawn from faculty and administration.

WMU has made an initial foray into Brazilian higher education through its participation in the Brazilian Scientific Mobility Undergraduate program, which brought 29 science, technology, engineering and mathematics students to campus. Efforts are under way to establish a partnership with one university in Brazil to create opportunities for WMU students to study abroad in Latin America, and several WMU professors have research interests in Brazil. Participation in the IIE program will build on these early efforts and help position WMU to take advantage of the important role that Brazil is playing



on the global stage. “At a time when Brazil’s economy is expanding rapidly, and Brazil and the United States are forging unprecedented ties in trade, energy and scientific development, we look to higher education as another area where our two countries should seek much stronger cooperation,” says IIE’s President and CEO Allan E. Goodman.

IIE’s Center for International Partnerships in Higher Education will guide the campus representatives through a strategic planning process this academic year to prepare for forming partnerships in Brazil. This group will also benefit from the experiences of a previous delegation of high-level officials representing 18 U.S. higher education institutions that IIE led to Brazil in April to meet with potential partner campuses and to learn about Brazilian higher education.

For more information, contact Michelle Metro-Roland at (269) 387-3908 or [michelle.metro-roland@wmich.edu](mailto:michelle.metro-roland@wmich.edu). Information about the initiative can be found online.

## WMU team competes in spelling bee fundraiser



Several employees participated in the Kalamazoo Public Library’s 12th annual Great Grown-up Spelling Bee Nov. 14 at WMU. Fourteen teams of adults competed for spelling and team spirit awards in the event, which raised \$22,000 to support the Library’s early childhood literacy program called Ready to Read. All of the proceeds will be used to purchase books for Kalamazoo County children. Representing WMU’s team in the spelling competition were Sally Hadden, history, and Lisa Minnick, English. “Spell’s Angels,” the team cheerleading squad, was led by, from left: Ed Martini, College of Arts and Sciences associate dean; Jessica Hermann-Wilmarth, public affairs and administration master’s student; Terrell Hodge, arts and sciences associate dean; and Sarah Hill, anthropology. Nicholas Andreadis, Lee Honors College dean, was master of ceremonies and Alex Enyedi, arts and sciences dean, served as scorekeeper. Kalamazoo Sunrise Rotary sponsored the winning team. (Photo by John Lacko)

### Service

The following faculty and staff members are recognized for 35, 30, 25, 20, 15, 10 and five years of service during December.

**35 Years**—Pearl L. Devries, College of Engineering and Applied Sciences, and Nancy J. Salvaggio, Sindecuse Health Center.

**30 Years**—Sandra O. Glista, speech pathology and audiology.

**25 Years**—Thomas A. Myers, university relations; Julie A. Nemire, College of Fine Arts; Loisjean A. Shelton, building custodial and support services; and C. Richard Spates, psychology.

**20 Years**—Tony O. Dennis, Graduate College; Kerry L. Eldred, building custodial and support services; and James W. Kamman, mechanical and aeronautical engineering.

**15 Years**—Deanna D. Bowling, landscape services; Celia L. Davis, building custodial and support services; Debra Demerly, Logistical Services; Jacmauzs J. Juraudakarr, building custodial and support services; Maria T. Ruelas, WMU Bookstore; Kevin L. Schuyler, building custodial and support services; and Brenda Wardlow, building custodial and support services.

**10 Years**—Joann L. Atkin, marketing;

John M. Boss, maintenance services; Susan E. Brand, landscape services; Suzanne E. Katje, WMU Bookstore; Mary Ann Konecki, building custodial and support services; Warren Lacefield, GEAR UP Learning Centers; Colleen F. Munson, intercollegiate athletics; and Shaila Rao, special education and literacy studies.

**Five Years**—Tamara Bergman, College of Engineering and Applied Sciences; Kelli A. Bond, Office of the Vice President for Research; Daniel W. Briggs, mathematics; Eva A. Copija, Center for English Language and Culture for International Students; Rhonda Leonne Cosby, building custodial and support services; Ann M. Dancy, building custodial and support services; Tracy Demars, teaching, learning and educational studies; Collette Michelle Edwards, building custodial and support services; Raymond Hallock Jr., building custodial and support services; Gloria J. Harrison, building custodial and support services; Susan E. King-Barry, physician assistant; Cyntia A. Reeves, Haworth College of Business; Robert Wallace, building custodial and support services; and Tanya D. Wolfe, WMU Bookstore.

## Reception set for staffers

Thirteen staff members have been selected to receive WMU’s semiannual Make a Difference award for fall 2012.

The awards will be presented during a Universitywide reception at 2 p.m. Monday, Dec. 3, in 157 Bernhard Center.

Receiving the awards are: **Mitchell Beare**, Bernhard Center; **Debra Bitterman**, Bernhard Café and Market; **Jean Bowsky-Verschoof**, Bernhard Center; **Ann Ganz**, Haenicke Institute; **Jill Hamilton**, admissions; **Richard McMullen**, Center for Academic Success Programs; **Angela Minckler**, communication; **Jennifer Morrow**, world languages and literatures; **Gladys Sims**, WMU-Grand Rapids; **Christopher Sligh**, Student Activities and Leadership Programs; **Arthur Smith**, information technology; **Stacey Tyler**, dance; and **Sharon Van Dyken**, College of Aviation.

### Obituaries



Valley

**Richard B. Valley**, emeritus and a former chair of paper and printing science and engineering, died Nov. 12. He was 85.

Valley retired in 1989 after more than 11 years of service. Memorial gifts may be made to the Alzheimer’s Association. Visit [langelands.com](http://langelands.com) for details and to make a memorial guestbook entry.



Welke

**William "Bill" R. Welke**, emeritus and a former chair of accountancy, died Nov. 16 in Shawnee, Kan. He was 79. Welke retired in 1998 after 31 years of service. He was chair of accountancy from 1979 to 1990.

A memorial service will be held at 2 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 1, in the First United Methodist Church, 212 S. Park St., in Kalamazoo. Memorial gifts may be made to that church’s music department, the American Heart Association or the American Indian College Fund. Visit <http://obits.mlive.com> to make a memorial guestbook entry.

# On Campus with Carol Morris-Mier



STUDENTS ARE WHY WE'RE HERE  
(Photo by Jeanne Baron)

After 35 years in support roles, Carol Morris-Mier hasn't lost her enthusiasm for helping others.

Morris-Mier, office associate in the College of Education and Human Development's advising office, started out in the budget office, then worked for 17 years in intercollegiate athletics and has been with the education college for the past 14 years.

"The best part of my job is being there to help a student. They're so gracious and appreciative. They'll thank me in an email and even come back and hand me thank you cards," she says. "It's wonderful knowing you had a small part in their success in becoming a teacher, a dietician, an athletic trainer or whatever career path they've chosen."

When she's not helping students with registration and other matters, Morris-Mier supports her office's director and advising staff, does the budget and payroll, supervises the student staff, and works on special projects. She also assists with freshman orientation and is a room supervisor for tests such as the ACT and SAT. In addition, Morris-Mier is working on a major project getting the college's 5,000 student files scanned in preparation for WMU going paperless by 2020.

"The juggling is the challenging part. But I love it here. It's an exciting place to work. I like the job because every day is different," she says. "When I first began working at WMU, people were looking to get into Upjohn's. Now WMU is the place people want to work, and it's a showplace for Kalamazoo."

Morris-Mier tries to increase the University's visibility, as well as that of her college and the Professional Support Staff Organization, by captaining a team in the Kalamazoo County Relay for Life. On campus, she's a perennial volunteer at events including Bronco Bash and Finals Finish, and has been a PSSO board member for more than 15 years, previously serving as president, secretary and member-at-large and now serving her third term as vice president.

Somehow, Morris-Mier is also finding the time to complete her bachelor's degree in family studies at WMU. "We should be taking classes because you can always learn something new," she says "and the University offers great tuition-saving options to take them." In between semesters, the Kalamazoo resident tries to read a novel instead of a textbook and likes to travel and camp with her husband, Hector.

## WMUK station head featured on NPR's StoryCorps

Gordon Bolar, general manager of WMU's public radio station WMUK, was the interview subject on National Public Radio's StoryCorps segment Nov. 23.



Bolar

The segment featured a conversation between Bolar and StoryCorps founder David Isay that marked StoryCorps' National Day of Listening and its soon-to-be-launched Military Voices Initiative.

In the prerecorded phone interview, Bolar talked about his son, Matthew, who was killed in action in Iraq in 2007. In addition to being aired nationally, the interview will be archived at the Library of Congress as part of the Military Voices Initiative. Bolar is slated to be in Washington, D.C., as Isay's guest for the Monday, Dec. 3, formal launch of that initiative.

StoryCorps is a national project that aims to instruct and inspire people to record each other's stories in sound. Bolar got to know Isay during StoryCorps' last visit to Kalamazoo in 2007, when WMUK hosted a month-long visit allowing the team to capture the stories of West Michigan listeners.

Bolar learned of his son's death just as the StoryCorps booth was being moved to its next location. He and Isay have stayed in touch over the years, and Isay asked Bolar to record his remembrances of his son for the Nov. 23 segment.

## Campus procedures for removing snow, ice reviewed

Winter hours will soon begin for WMU's snow removal crews.

The crews must plow, shovel, scrape and de-ice more than 26.5 miles of roads, more than 120 acres of parking, 39 miles of walks and 200,000 square feet of steps and ramps.

Plow schedules cover snow and ice removal activities 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Providing there is not a major storm, most areas on the main campus will be clear of snow and ice before the majority of students and employees arrive each day.

Various steps around the campus that are deemed to be a convenience rather than a necessity are closed for the winter. This

allows the crews to concentrate on major access areas and provide better service for ice and snow removal.

Students and faculty and staff members who have special mobility needs should call the landscape services office at (269) 387-8557, as snow and ice removal schedules can be adjusted to accommodate needs.

Those making requests regarding weekend or other special activities also should direct their calls to that office. Callers are asked to provide as much advance notice as possible.

Questions or concerns after normal business hours should be directed to the Department of Public Safety at (269) 387-5555.

## Information session slated

A study abroad program for WMU employees, "Spanish Language and Culture Experience for WMU Employees," will be offered July 5 -21, 2013, at the Universidad de Cantabria in Santander, Spain.

Thursday, Feb. 28, is the deadline to apply for this two-week intensive language and cultural program that is open to all faculty and benefits-eligible employees. The \$1,000 program fee is waived for faculty, and 12 \$2,000 grants are available for eligible staff.

Employees interested in participating are invited to an explanatory meeting at 5:10 p.m. Friday, Jan. 25, in 2033 Brown Hall.

For details, visit <http://international.wmich.edu> and click Study Abroad, then Faculty & Staff Resources or contact WMU's Jane Blyth or Mercedes Tasende.

## MCC, WMU launch agreement

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students by ensuring continuity, expanding students' early options and guaranteeing that every class they successfully complete puts them one step closer to earning a degree. Students who enroll in the program will be both Jayhawks and Broncos from their very first days in college."

Also during the signing event, both presidents penned a reverse transfer agreement that will allow MCC students already at WMU to count their WMU credits toward an MCC associate degree if they transferred before completing that credential.