



Western News

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For and about WMU faculty and staff

Health center earns reaccreditation

The Sindecuse Health Center has been reaccredited by the Accreditation Association for Ambulatory Health Care. Accreditation distinguishes WMU's health center from many other outpatient facilities for providing the highest quality of care to its patients as determined by an independent, external process of evaluation.

"Accreditation assures patients of our commitment to quality health care," says Sindecuse Executive Director Carol Eddy. "We're reviewed for reaccreditation every three years. I'm proud to report that we've been reaccredited five consecutive times since first being accredited by AAAHC."

AAAHC is an independent, not-for-profit organization that serves as an advocate for the provision of high-quality health care through the development of nationally recognized standards and through its survey and accreditation programs.

Faculty research resources highlighted

Workshops and discussions on funding and other resources for faculty research will be featured at the daylong Research and Dessert event. The event will be held from 12:30 to 4 p.m. Friday, Nov. 16, in the Fetzer Center and is being sponsored by the Office of the Vice President for Research.

Research stations and mini-workshops will offer opportunities to network, learn about others' scholarship and explore potential collaborations. Visit wmich.edu/research for workshop and registration information. Participants will be eligible to win a free iPad and one of two funded trips to visit funding agencies or sponsors.

Still time to register for open houses

High school seniors and their families are invited to check out WMU during this fall's two remaining open houses. Students are asked to pre-register online for the free Friday events Nov. 9 and Nov. 30 from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the Bernhard Center.

Seniors who have yet to apply to the University can receive an admission decision at the event by signing up for on-site admission when registering and bringing the requested paperwork to the open house.

Many WMU employees are eligible for the tuition remission benefit. Employees are encouraged to explore the University's programs and services by attending events like open houses and to notify the admissions office if they have a high school junior or senior. Notification ensures students eligible for events such as the Medallion Scholarship competition receive timely information.

For more information about fall open houses or to register, visit wmich.edu/admissions/openhouse or call (269) 387-2000. Visit wmich.edu/admissions/inquiry/freshman or call (269) 387-2000 to share the name and address of a prospective student.

WMU makes major website improvements

Responsive design is revolutionizing the Web, and WMU is among the first schools in the country to have a system for providing responsive design across its entire website.

With responsive Web design, the layout of a page and the size of images, text and navigation aids automatically change for an optimal viewing experience, making the site easier to read and navigate across a wide range of devices from large desktop monitors to smartphones. The design is determined solely by screen size, giving it nearly universal compatibility across brands, devices and operating systems.

WMU's responsive design, launched Oct. 23, is now an inherent feature of the University's Web content management system, which has been online since March. Web pages for all core units—academic and administrative—will eventually be in the WMU content management system, and all will have responsive design.

There are many other advantages of a single Universitywide system, including:

- greatly enhanced system security;
- greatly improved system performance (speed);
- consistent application of best practices for accessibility;



WMU's main Web page reflects the move to responsive design.

- consistent University branding; and
- simultaneous posting of campus emergency and weather closing announcements on every page in the system.

The list of pages already in the content management system includes the WMU home page, About WMU, Commencement, Visit WMU, the College of Fine Arts, the Office for Sustainability and WMU News.

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Former Pontiac superintendent named interim education dean

Walter L. Burt, educational leadership, research and technology, has been appointed interim dean of the College of Education and Human Development while the search for a permanent dean continues.



Burt

Burt replaces Interim Dean Van Cooley, who died suddenly July 31. His appointment is effective Oct. 15 through June 30, 2013, pending approval by the WMU Board of Trustees.

A WMU faculty member since 2004, Burt focuses his research on educational leader-

ship, with particular emphasis on leadership development of school administrators in urban school settings.

He has worked on a variety of WMU's state and federal grant projects, including serving as a co-principal investigator for the Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs project and as a research associate for Wallace Foundation and U.S. Department of Education projects.

Burt served as superintendent of the Pontiac (Mich.) School District from 1999 to 2003, and the district's board asked him last November to serve as interim superintendent of schools through August 2012.

Candidates vying to lead University's international efforts

Three finalists in the search to find a new leader for WMU's international education efforts will visit and speak on campus during the next three weeks.

The candidates for the position of associate provost for the Haenicke Institute for Global Education, as well as the dates, times and locations of their formal campus presentations, are:

- Sonia Feigenbaum, director of the Hispanic-Serving Institutions Division of the U.S. Department of Education, 2 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 6, in 2020 Fetzer Center;
- Gregory O. Hall, associate professor and chair of the Department of Political Science at Morehouse College, 2 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 8, in 2020 Fetzer Center; and
- Merrill L. Johnson, senior associate vice president for academic affairs, director of Latin American outreach and professor of geography at the University of New Orleans, 2 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 15, in 2016 Fetzer Center.

All three candidates have been asked to describe during their presentations how they would translate WMU's strategy of global engagement into a distinctive competency and competitive advantage for the University. Visit wmich.edu/provost/searches for postings of the candidates' vitae.

Around campus and beyond

Reading aims to raise awareness

The award-winning play “8,” written by Dustin Lance Black, will be the focus of a staged reading at 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday, Nov. 2 and 3, in the York Arena Theatre. The play is about the Federal District Court case filed to overturn Proposition 8, which eliminated gay and lesbian couples’ right to marry in California. Ticket reservations for the free performance can be made by calling (269) 387-6222.

Western Winds premieres new work

Western Winds, a chamber winds ensemble comprised of faculty and graduate students, will perform at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 7, in the Dalton Center Recital Hall. A 7 p.m. discussion hosted by Dan Jacobson, music, will precede the performance. For tickets, visit millerauditorium.com/som or call (269) 387-2300.

Frostic series to feature playwright

Julie Jensen will read from her work at 8 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 8, in 209-210 Bernhard Center. Jensen is a playwright whose work has been recognized by the Kennedy Center and a long list of other organizations. Visit wmich.edu/english/events/frostic.html for more information.

Nautical-themed exhibit on display

Deborah Jack is exhibiting her work “Shore” in the Richmond Center’s Monroe-Brown Gallery through Friday,

Nov. 9. Jack is an artist whose work is based in video and sound installation, photography, painting and text.

Kalexsyn head next forum speaker

Robert Gadwood, co-founder, president and chief scientific officer of Kalexsyn Inc., will speak at 8 a.m. Friday, Nov. 9, in 2159 Schneider Hall as part of the Haworth College of Business Entrepreneurship Forum. Kalexsyn is one of the area’s foremost emerging life science companies. The event begins with breakfast at 7:30 a.m. Reservations are required and can be made by calling (269) 387-6059.

Climate change focus of presentation

Rob White will talk on “Climate Change, Crime and Criminology” at 7:30 p.m. Monday, Nov. 12, in 1920 Sangren Hall. White is a professor at the University of Tasmania in Australia. He will describe how climate change is a slow crisis and will outline different kinds of crimes associated with it and its consequences.

Health reform act to be discussed

A noted health care activist and the author of the book “Fighting for Our Health: The Epic Battle to Make Health Care a Right in the United States” will speak at 5:30 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 13, in the Fetzer Center. In his presentation, Richard Kirsch will talk about how ordinary citizens fought for passage of the Affordable Care Act.

Professor develops radio program

Allison Downey, teaching, learning and educational studies, has developed a two-episode pilot program called “The Living Room” for broadcast on the University of Michigan’s public radio station. Downey hosts the episodes, the second of which will air from 3 to 4 p.m. Thanksgiving Day, Nov. 22.



Downey

The program is a theme-based celebration of Michigan and Michiganders through story, song and poetry. The first episode, posted online at michiganradio.org, aired Oct. 27. Michigan Radio will air the second episode in West Michigan at 104.1-FM.

Michigan Radio approached Downey, a storyteller and songwriter, to develop a pilot program after her storytelling performance for The Moth Mainstage event in Ann Arbor, Mich., in 2011. Both pilot episodes focus on stories of migration. Visit michiganradio.org to offer feedback on the pilot episodes, including whether “The Living Room” should be picked up as a regular show.

Doctoral student named NSF fellow

David Sellers, a doctoral candidate, is the second student in WMU history and the first in chemistry to be awarded a coveted National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship. His fellowship started this fall and will pay \$42,000 a year for three years to further his research.



Sellers

The highly competitive fellowship recognizes and supports outstanding graduate students in NSF-supported science, technology, engineering and mathematics disciplines who are pursuing research-based degrees.

Sellers joined the chemistry department in 2011 to start his doctoral degree in the area of synthetic organic and supramolecular chemistry, working in the research lab of Elke Schoffers. Of some 2,000 fellowship applications received in 2011, only 153 were awarded in chemistry. Five of those went to students in Michigan—one to Sellers and four to University of Michigan students.

Pianist wins international contest

Jeremy Siskind, music, won the 2012 Nottingham International Jazz Piano Competition Oct. 6-7 in England and brought home a new grand piano. Siskind, one of 12 semifinalists, bested pianists from Great Britain, Poland, Austria and the Republic of Mauritius, as well as the United States.



Siskind

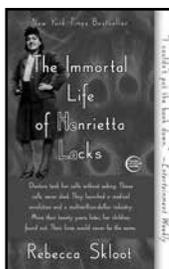
He is the second consecutive pianist with WMU ties to win the competition. This year’s grand prize is a Kawai grand piano valued at about \$25,000.

A WMU faculty member since 2012 and also a composer, Siskind has placed highly in other prestigious competitions and has performed both jazz and classical music at Carnegie Hall. His 2010 CD release, “Simple Songs (for When the World Seems Strange),” has been widely acclaimed.

Common read workshop scheduled; spring events planned

A University Common Read 2012-13 workshop on “Leading a Book Discussion for Your Reading Group” is set for 2 to 3 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 15, in Waldo Library’s Meader Rare Book Room. Preregistration is requested by calling (269) 387-5166.

University Libraries has set up a website to keep the WMU community informed about the common read



for “The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks” by Rebecca Skloot. The site includes information about a public talk by Skloot Jan. 14 and a question-and-answer session featuring members of the Lacks family Feb. 11.

“The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks” is on sale in the WMU Bookstore and may be checked out, individually or in reading-group packets, from Waldo Library.

For more information, visit the WMU LibGuides website at libguides.wmich.edu and type University Common Read 2012-13 in the All Guide Content search box.



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WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY

Reception

George Fierro, diversity and inclusion, will be honored for his 20 years of service to the University during a retirement reception from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Friday, Nov. 2, in the Trimpe Building’s Multicultural Center.

Correction

The phone number in the room for rent Exchange listing in the Oct. 18 issue of *Western News* should have been (269) 349-3943.

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.

Date set for next campuswide bystander intervention training

The Western Heroes program has scheduled a training session to give WMU students and employees the knowledge, awareness and confidence to safely step in when they see potentially harmful behavior.

The Bystander Intervention Committee launched the program in May to counteract the “bystander effect,” which holds that the greater the number of people present during an emergency, the less likely it is that anyone will actually intervene.

More than 500 Western Heroes have been trained. To become part of this bystander intervention initiative, students and faculty and staff members are invited to attend the next 75-minute training session set for 3 p.m. Monday, Nov. 12, in 3131 Sindecuse Health Center. Registration is requested.

The training sessions are designed to increase awareness of and intervention in situations ranging from conversations laced with dehumanizing language to actions that pose serious health risks. Those trained take



Among those already serving as Western Heroes are, from left: Nicole Millar, Student Activities and Leadership Programs; students Alyson Wiley, Lewis Toler and Darren Tilles; Steve Keto, landscape services; Julia Kuntz, admissions; and student Brendan Shaw. (Photo courtesy of the Bystander Intervention Committee)

the Western Heroes pledge, then receive a card to post. Students also receive a T-shirt.

Western Heroes are called on to:

- notice when something is happening;
- evaluate the situation to see if assistance is needed;

- assume responsibility to step in and help;
- obtain the education necessary to know what to do; and
- step up and make a difference.

The program encourages all members of the campus community to encourage healthy, ethical and responsible behavior in order to ensure a safe, healthy and inclusive campus environment.

The Bystander Intervention Committee is a collaboration of several WMU offices and student groups. The committee co-chairs are Cari Robertson, health promotion and education, and Jeremy Ynclan, Residence Life.

To register for the Western Heroes training session, contact Cari Robertson at cari.robertson@wmich.edu or (269) 387-3263.

Visit [facebook.com/WesternHEROES](https://www.facebook.com/WesternHEROES) for more information.

Week of educational, entertaining international events taking place on campus next month

WMU will highlight a variety of countries and cultures during its observance of International Education Week, set for Monday through Saturday, Nov. 12-17.

Numerous entertaining and educational events have been scheduled on WMU's main campus throughout the week, and most are free and open to the public.

International Education Week is a joint initiative of the U.S. departments of State and Education. It is designed to promote programs that not only prepare Americans for a global environment, but also attract future leaders from abroad to study, learn and exchange experiences in the United States.

The theme for this year's week is “International Education: Striving for a Healthier Future Worldwide.”

The observance is being organized by the University's Haenicke Institute for Global Education. It is taking place in conjunction with the 2012 Kalamazoo Russian Festival, which will be held Saturday, Nov. 17, at WMU.

International Education Week

The week will kick off with the annual Muslim student dinner and speaker Saturday, Nov. 10, and feature events including the World Cup Western soccer tournament, an international cooking demonstration and a Getting to Know the World quiz. Other events will turn the spotlight on the African continent as well as the countries of China, the Dominican Republic, India, Japan and Malaysia.

Visit international.wmich.edu for a detailed list of scheduled events.

Kalamazoo Russian Festival

A series of lectures, art demonstrations and poetry readings by WMU faculty members and guest speakers and artists will highlight the 17th annual Kalamazoo Russian Festival from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 17, in the Fetzer Center.



A popular annual event is the Indian Student Association's Legally Desi. (Photo by Mike Lanka)

The low-cost event will also feature art exhibits, concerts, folk dancers and singers, crafts, Russian food, children's activities, and a silent auction.

Visit russianfestival.org for more information or contact Judith Rypma at rypmaj@wmich.edu or (269) 387-2628.

WMU donates pulp to Goodwill program that employs artists

The University's Paper Engineering Program has donated pulp to Paperworks Studio, allowing the initiative to continue for the next year.

Paperworks Studio, a program of Goodwill Industries of Northern Michigan located in Traverse City, Mich., is a community-based organization that offers employment and training for people with special needs. The studio makes handmade cards one at a time with a talented and inspirational team of artists with disabilities and disadvantages.

The high-quality cards are made with recycled material, including blue jeans, wool, coffee and cotton. Products include holiday, birthday and thank-you cards. Visit paperworksstudio.com for more information or to place an order.

Obituaries



Lee

E. Winifred “Winnie” Lee died Oct. 23 at home in Kalamazoo. She was 92.

Lee, along with her surviving spouse, Carl E Lee, was a major supporter of WMU and its Lee Honors College, which was named in their honor in 1990. Gifts may be made to the First Presbyterian Church in Kalamazoo or the West Michigan Cancer Center in Kalamazoo.



Czuchna

Paul E. Czuchna, assistant professor emeritus of speech pathology and audiology, died Oct. 12. He was 80.

Czuchna joined the faculty in 1967 and retired in 1986 after 19 years of service. To share a memory, visit mlive.com or send an email to his son Bruce at bczuchna@hotmail.com.

Service

The following faculty and staff members are recognized for 40, 35, 30, 25, 20, 15, 10 and five years of service during November.

40 Years—Mary E. Ramlow, Evaluation Center.

35 Years—Bonneita K. Kibby, building custodial and support services.

30 Years—David Bonselaar, construction, and James R. Hiatt, public safety.

25 Years—Patty J. DeLoach, gender and women's studies; Victoria Kennedy, maintenance services; Johnny L. Paige, Bernhard Center; Cheryl P. Roland, university relations; Nicholas Stoken, landscape services; and Laurie A. White, information technology.

20 Years—Melinda Lockett, College of

Health and Human Services.

15 Years—Kevin Boot, landscape services; David Evans, information technology; Suzanne J. Nagel-Bennett, student affairs; Anantha K. Sankey, maintenance services; and Arnold S. Taylor, information technology.

10 Years—Vance G. Harris, building custodial and support services; Patricia A. Knight, College of Health and Human Services; and Rebecca A. Spanjer, grants and contracts.

Five Years—Susan E. Daniels, provost's office; Marijo R. Elwell, field placements; Jessaca K. Spybrook, educational leadership, research and technology; and Sarah Marie Yost, WMU-Grand Rapids.

On Campus with Robert Lopez



THE BIGGER THE BETTER
(Photo by Jeanne Baron)

Now that the new Sangren Hall has opened, Robert Lopez is turning more of his attention to renovating the downtown Kalamazoo building that will house the WMU School of Medicine.

Lopez, a construction administrator in Facilities Management, has been working primarily on major projects since joining WMU's staff in his current position in 2010. In general, he serves as a liaison between WMU and the contractors, architects and other vendors involved in the campus construction projects he's assigned. He also does site inspections to ensure projects are being built the way they're supposed to be built and any problems that crop up are resolved.

"I'm the one-point contact between Western and everybody outside the University and between everybody at Western and the vendors," he says. "The biggest challenge has been that there are so many entities at Western. Everyone has their own needs, requirements and opinions. I try to make sure everybody is happy and in the loop. I used to be on the other side. The sub-contractors worked for me, and I had more control."

Lopez, who has more than 20 years experience in the construction industry, previously worked as a project manager on large construction projects for private companies. One of the last projects he managed cost \$250 million and was for the St. Joseph Regional Medical Center in Mishawaka, Ind.

He earned a bachelor's degree in construction management from WMU in 1987 and took several classes from Peter Strazdas, who now heads Facilities Management. Lopez and his wife, Becky, moved from Coldwater, Mich., to WMU's married housing while she earned her master's degree. Then, with the economic downturn in the construction industry, Lopez decided to look for a little more stability in his professional life.

"Western had some big projects coming up, and I had a connection with the University," he says. "It's been a good fit. I get the big jobs, which I like, and it's less stressful."

For Lopez, working on big projects is easier than working on a lot of little ones, a position many of his colleagues are in. "Think about all the people here—everybody needs a chair, their office tweaked," he says. "But there's only so much you can get to in a day."

The Lopezes live in Portage, Mich., and have two grown sons, Sam, who is pursuing a graduate degree at WMU, and Max. The elder Lopez owns a sports car and enjoys anything car related, along with reading and playing a little golf.

Annual health expo planned for University community

Western Michigan University's 2012 Health and Wellness Expo will take place from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 7, in the Student Recreation Center's indoor tennis courts.

This free event for WMU students, employees and retirees allows attendees to learn about the health and wellness resources available to them at WMU and in the community.

There will be a wealth of information about comprehensive health services and topics. This information will cover everything from insurance, dental health, mental health and nutrition to safety, financial wellness and how bystanders can intervene in problem situations.

Blood pressure checks, chair massage, fitness equipment demonstrations, employee wellness assessments and free food samples will also be featured. In addition, the Sindecuse Health Center will be holding a flu and meningitis vaccination clinic during the expo.

Free parking will be allowed only in Lot 13 by the Student Recreation Center and Parking Structure 1 near Ellsworth Hall.

For more information about the expo, visit wmich.edu/healthexpo or contact Jen Bailey, assistant director of fitness and wellness, at jen.bailey@wmich.edu or (269) 387-3762.

United Way fundraiser Nov. 11 offers fun for campus, public

"Mission: United" is the theme of a high-energy fundraiser Sunday, Nov. 11, for WMU's United Way campaign.

Your mission, should you choose to accept it, is to build a stronger community by supporting the United Way of the Battle Creek and Kalamazoo Region through a \$5 fee to attend the event from 1 to 4 p.m. in WMU's Student Recreation Center.

Join a Zumba dance party, scale a 42-foot climbing wall, meet the challenges of the inflatable obstacle courses and capture your adventures at a free photo booth; all while contributing funds to help impact education and health for the community.

The event is open to the public as well as the campus community. Admission requires

a Live United wristband, which is available for \$5 in advance at the Student Recreation Center service desk or for \$7 the day of the event.

WMU's campus drive has a \$300,000 goal. On-campus fundraising will continue through Wednesday, Nov. 14. Contact wmu-unity@wmich.edu for information.

WMU makes website improvements

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Pages scheduled to migrate to the system this fall include additional colleges, Parent and Family Programs, University Libraries, the offices of the President and Information Technology, and the Haenicke Institute.

Establishment in 2009 of the Web Governance Council, with the authority to create WMU policies and standards for the Web, made it possible to implement a single Universitywide content management system.

Direct questions to Tonya Durlach, director of electronic communication, at tonya.durlach@wmich.edu or (269) 387-8423.

Employee mixer venue changed

The Fridays with Friends faculty-and-staff mixer Nov. 16 will take place from 4 to 6 p.m. in the Fetzer Center. This is a location change.

Complimentary hors d'oeuvres and punch will be served, and a cash bar will be available.

Faculty members urged to participate in safety training sessions

Faculty safety training will be offered from 1:30 to 3 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 14, in 209 Bernhard Center for both the updated "Active Shooter/Intruder Response" and new "Recognizing and Preventing Campus Violence" sessions.

The provost encourages all faculty to attend the training, which will feature handout materials, the "Shots Fired on Campus" and "Flashpoint on Campus" DVDs, examples of WMU classroom incidents, intervention techniques, and other information and campus resources.

To register, contact Sue Daniels at susan.daniels@wmich.edu or (269) 387-2380.