



# Western News

For and about WMU faculty and staff

MAY 10, 2012

Volume 38, Number 15

## Construction affecting traffic patterns

Construction for the new pedestrian mall and continued work on the new Sangren Hall has triggered major changes to campus driving and parking patterns. Michigan Avenue at the Bernhard Center's Archer Drive stop sign is now closed, and several other parking and pedestrian areas have been temporarily closed or shifted. They include changing Lot 48, behind the Bernhard Center, into visitor parking only.

Visit [fm.wmich.edu](http://fm.wmich.edu) for links to updates and maps for each phase of construction for the pedestrian mall and Sangren projects. Questions about specific walking and driving routes should be directed to Bob Lopez, construction administrator, at [robert.j.lopez@wmich.edu](mailto:robert.j.lopez@wmich.edu) or WMU's construction office at (269) 387-8543.

## Numerous summer camps scheduled

Writing fiction, singing jazz or playing their favorite sport or instrument are all options for young people this summer at numerous camps offered on the WMU campus. Registration is under way for many of these camps, and space is limited for most. Visit [wmich.edu/news/2012/04/362](http://wmich.edu/news/2012/04/362) for a partial list of camp offerings.

## Housing rates to increase slightly in fall

A 2-percent increase on residence hall room-and-board rates and rental rates for most campus apartments will become effective with the start of the fall 2012 semester.

The increase, which does not apply to the Western View apartment-style complex, means that a new student living in a campus residence hall and subscribing to the mid-level 15-meal plan will pay \$8,206 for the academic year—up \$161 over the 2011-12 rate.

The rate increase will not affect current students returning to traditional campus residence halls. As part of the Western Edge, WMU's Residence Hall and Dining Advantage program will continue to ensure that food and housing rates will remain the same for four consecutive years. The program has saved families \$1.5 million since its inception in 2008.

## Autism focus of new graduate program

A 36-credit-hour autism specialization has been added to the master teacher option offered within WMU's Master of Arts in Special Education. The program will complement the master teacher option's existing specializations.

Also, the University is collaborating with Residential Opportunities Inc. to establish the Great Lakes Center for Autism Treatment and Research in Portage, Mich. ROI will run, develop and manage the physical facility. WMU will integrate practicum students and provide consultation services under the direction of Lloyd Peterson, special education and literacy studies.

## Stapleton named Graduate College dean

Susan Stapleton, an internationally recognized scientist who has served as mentor to scores of high school, undergraduate and graduate students, has been named dean of the Graduate College, effective May 15.

Stapleton, who holds a joint appointment as professor of both chemistry and biological sciences, has been a WMU faculty member since 1990. She has a long history of research funded by the nation's top health science organizations, and for the past five years, has served as associate dean of the College of Arts and Sciences.

In recent years, she has engaged students from WMU and other institutions in research training opportunities through her long-standing role as program director for an NSF-funded Research Experience for Undergraduates program and as project director for the recently funded Howard Hughes Medical Institute Undergraduate Science Education Award.

Stapleton's expertise and professional input is continually sought by colleagues around the nation. She reviews manuscripts for numerous journals and has served on review panels and as an ad hoc reviewer for various federal and private funding agencies.

The Graduate College serves more than 5,000 students—20 percent of WMU's total enrollment of 25,086. The college supports WMU's 101 graduate degree programs, including 30 at the doctoral level.



Stapleton

## WMU-developed technology to have huge industry impact

A device developed by WMU researchers is at the "cutting edge" of new technologies designed to speed the processing of brittle materials and could soon have a huge commercial impact on the manufacture of difficult-to-machine engineered components.

The technological breakthrough was spearheaded by John Patten, director of the WMU Manufacturing Research Center, and Deepak Ravindra, a senior research associate and postdoctoral fellow.

It uses high pressures generated by diamond cutting tools, along with an intense and focused laser beam, to cut hard, brittle objects, such as glass, ceramics, semiconductors, porcelain, stone and much more. The technology could revolutionize the processing and manufacturing of brittle materials,

drastically reducing the time and the cost to manufacture everything from complex semiconductors to optical mirrors.

Patten has been working on the concept

since 1995, with related work starting in 1985. It took 10 years to envision an engineering application for it. By 2006, he had decided how it would work, having already submitted a patent the year before in WMU's name. WMU has further supported its development through its Technology



John Patten, left, and Deepak Ravindra, (Photo courtesy of Ravindra)

Development Fund program.

"This is cutting technology done by splitting hairs," Patten says. "We are the only ones in the world doing this."

Already the research has garnered international recognition, and a business has been formed—Micro-Laser Assisted Machining

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## Event to help employees take advantage of tuition benefits

A Family Education Fair Tuesday, May 22, will help benefits-eligible WMU employees go back to school this year alongside the students they teach and serve.



The fair, set for 4 to 6 p.m. in the second floor Bernhard Center ballroom, helps faculty and staff and their families take full advantage of one of the most significant parts of their employee benefits package—tuition remission.

Attendees will be able to meet with academic department representatives and advisors as well as staff members from admissions,

financial aid and Human Resources. They will have their application fee waived if they apply for admission for the 2012-13 year.

The event gives benefits-eligible employees a chance to get their questions answered about the process of applying for admission and taking classes—either to begin a degree program or meet their own professional development goals.

This is the second year for the event, which garnered enthusiastic campus response when it was first held in August 2011. The Office of Admissions opted to hold it earlier in the calendar year this time to give employees and families more time to explore and plan for the fall semester.

## Western View complex to be enlarged by fall 2013

WMU will add two or three new buildings to its popular Western View residential complex, using a fast-track construction plan to complete the effort for a fall 2013 opening.

Phase II of Western View will be located immediately west of the first phase. The construction project, details of which are still being finalized, will consist of new residential buildings as well as a community building that will be available for use by all Western View residents.

The project will build on the success of Phase I of the Western View complex that opened in fall 2011. That 330-bed apartment-style complex was at full capacity nearly a year in advance of its opening.

"The Western View construction project is part of a continuous long-range housing and dining assessment and improvement strategy," says Diane Anderson, vice president for student affairs. "We are very excited

about moving ahead quickly in the coming months to address the current demand for on-campus housing."

Western View Phase II reflects WMU's commitment to having updated learning-oriented facilities that support ongoing recruitment and retention efforts. During a meeting of the WMU Board of Trustees



in April, President John M. Dunn discussed and broadly outlined plans for campus housing and dining enhancements. The basic premise of his message was to "stay tuned" as new projects are announced and brought online with an aggressive timetable.

Additional details will be announced in the coming weeks. They also will be posted at [wmich.edu/students/planning](http://wmich.edu/students/planning), a site that outlines housing and dining resources on campus and recent accomplishments in those areas.

## Lifelong Learning Academy announces summer session

The Lifelong Learning Academy is offering a short summer session of courses from June 5 through July 31, and registration has begun through Extended University Programs.

Although programs are geared toward older Kalamazoo-area residents, individuals of any age are welcome to participate. Academy courses are provided for the joy of learning—there are no tests or grades.

Topics this summer include digital photo editing, the historical highways of southern Michigan, the social history of baseball, landscaping with native plants and more.

The low-cost summer session classes will meet on campus, in the First United Methodist Church or in the Portage Senior Center two to three times a week.

Also, two one-day trips with lunch included are planned.

Marine Michigan is set for Tuesday, July 10. Participants will visit lighthouses in Mears and Whitehall, and tour the Maritime Museum in South Haven as well as the tall ship, "Friends Good Will" and the river launch, "Lindy Lou."

On Tuesday, Aug. 7, travelers will meet at Binder Park Zoo in Battle Creek, Mich., to discover the recent improvements made to the zoo and tour the exotic animal area. Children are welcome.

To register for summer classes, request a brochure or obtain more information, visit [wmich.edu/offcampus/lifelong](http://wmich.edu/offcampus/lifelong) or call (269) 387-4200.

## Proposals, registrations sought for Asia region conferences

Scholars and teachers will be able to examine issues that span Asia during two concurrent conferences Friday through Sunday, Sept. 21-23, in the Fetzer Center.

The events are the 61st Midwest Conference on Asian Affairs, which is a regional conference of the Association of Asian Stud-

ies, and the Himalayan Studies Conference, which is being presented by the Association for Nepal and Himalayan Studies.

Proposals for panel and paper presentations are due by Friday, May 18, at [anhs-himalaya.org/hsc](http://anhs-himalaya.org/hsc) for the Himalayan Studies Conference and by Friday, June 15, at [international.wmich.edu/mcaa](http://international.wmich.edu/mcaa) for the Asian affairs conference. Those hoping to present at the Himalayan Studies Conference must also register to attend the event by May 18.

Organizers of both conferences will accept proposals from undergraduate and graduate students as well as other scholars from any academic discipline on any topic involving Asia. Abstracts must accompany proposals for papers.

### Exchange

**For sale**—Indian Lake/Vicksburg home. Prime lot on lake with 210 feet of frontage. Brick walkout, 3,000 square feet. \$675,000 or best offer. Must see. Call (269) 649-0492.

### Jobs

Current job opportunities at WMU are announced daily on the Human Resources Web site 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.

## Facilities Management staffers honored

Sheri Harper and Eleanora Philopoulos, construction services, won major awards last fall at the National and 32nd Conference of the Association of University Interior Designers.



Harper



Philopoulos

Harper, an interior designer and project manager, received first place in the specialty category for the Gilmore House dining room remodel, second place in the under-\$50,000 next level remodel construction category for the Bill Brown Alumni Football Center, and tied for third place in the \$50,000 to \$150,000

remodel construction category for the anthropology offices and Master of Business and Global Business Center.

Philopoulos, a planner and estimator, received first place in the over \$150,000 renovation category for the Davis Dining Hall (Bistro3) renovation.

## Physicist named journal's senior editor

Charles Henderson, physics and Mal-linson Institute for Science Education, was appointed senior editor of the journal



Henderson

Physical Review Special Topics-Physics Education Research. The publication is the top international journal for physics education research.

Henderson, who is an associate professor, came to WMU in 2002 and

has been editor of the Physics Education Research Section of the American Journal of Physics since fall 2008.

He is interested in the teaching and learning of physics, and much of his current work focuses on the development of theories and strategies for promoting change in the teaching of science, technology, engineering and mathematics. This includes issues related to the diffusion and adoption of research-based instructional strategies.

## Educator wins national service award

James B. Lewis, human performance and health education, is one of a select group of 47 people across the country to receive a 2012 President's Council on Fitness, Sports and Nutrition Community Leadership Award.

The honor, presented annually to up to 50 people, recognizes those who improve the lives of others within their communities by providing or enhancing opportunities to engage in sports, physical activities, fitness or nutrition-related programs.

Lewis was nominated for the award by the Office of Service Learning in the Walker Institute for the Study of Race and Ethnic Relations. He was cited for working diligently with and for WMU students as well as making a far broader impact.

He is a key planner and implementer of free sports programming for low-income children in the area and is a Walker Institute Fellow, partnering with community members to use applied research and service projects to address community priorities.



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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. Spring publication dates are **May 10 and 24 and June 7 and 21**. 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

# Deadline approaching to select WMU's top four staffers for 2012

Twenty-three staff members are in the running for WMU's 2012 Make a Difference annual awards.

The 23 are recipients of 2011-12 Make a Difference semiannual awards. As such, they are now eligible to be considered for one of the four annual awards bestowed by this peer-to-peer staff recognition program.

Members of the WMU community have through Thursday, May 31, to help decide who will be this year's "final four."

In the running are: Jennifer Bailey, University Recreation; Paula Bucknell, Extended University Programs; Jeffrey Carr, maintenance services; Tracy Corstange, College of Education and Human Development; Myra Currie, public safety;

Cheri Edgar, business information systems; Christin Fawley-Zehner, Valley I Dining Service; David Florida, electrical and computer engineering; Francies Frazier, building custodial and support services; Margaret Hamilton, College of Fine Arts; Anthony Helms, College of Education and Human Development; M'Myia Hughes, College of Education and Human Development; Nicole Kalmbach, student affairs; Kristine Kling, foreign languages; Lori Krum, physics; Julie Lenczycki, projects and construction; Rainer Liebert, Sindecuse Health Center; Jessica Parker, Extended University Programs; Scott Puckett, enrollment management; Roxann Swank, College of Education and Human Development; Veronica Thomas, residence

life; Robert VanDyke, dining services; and Lisa Youtzy, marketing.

A selection committee will review new information about the candidates, as well as their previously submitted semiannual nomination materials. New information should include specific examples of the candidates' dedication to outstanding service.

Visit [wmich.edu/hr/make-a-difference](http://wmich.edu/hr/make-a-difference) for details and nomination forms.

## Trustees approve retirements

The retirements of four faculty members and 13 staff members were approved by the WMU Board of Trustees at its April 19 meeting.

Trustees also signed off on one faculty resignation.

Three of the faculty members who are retiring are doing so with emeritus status. Their names, positions, years of continuous service and effective dates of retirement are: Ronald B. Chase, geosciences, 39 years, effective Aug. 31; Richard R. MacDonald, sociology, 45 years, effective Dec. 31; and William F. Santiago-Valles, Africana studies, 13 years, effective Dec. 31. The other retiring faculty member is G. Thomas Ray, teaching, learning and educational studies, 20 years, effective Dec. 31.

The staff members retiring are: Crista Boyle, Valley II Dining Service, 17 years, effective June 30; Satit Chamgranont, University Libraries, 20 years, effective April 15; Marianne DeAngelis, Valley I Dining Service, 11 years, effective Jan. 13; Alexander A. Gray, maintenance services, 12 years, effective July 1; John H. Horton, computer science, 11 years, effective Feb. 29; Betty L. Kirk, building custodial and support services, 31 years, effective March 31; Nancy A. McFadden, student affairs, 10 years, effective March 30; Gayle S. McMillon, Lee Honors College, 30 years, effective June 30; Russell P. Northey, power plant, 22 years, effective June 30; Munselle H. Pientka, human performance and health education, 11 years, effective June 8; David S. Prentice, powerplant, 31 years, effective June 30; Gail Heflin-Puffer, building custodial and support services, 34 years, effective March 31; and Susan R. Reed-Williams, information technology, 26 years, effective March 31.

The faculty member resigning is: Deanna Swoboda, music, effective Aug. 19.

## Earth Day celebration acknowledges area's EV infrastructure



An April 20, communitywide celebration set to coincide with the observance of Earth Day marked the Kalamazoo area's emergence as a Michigan powerhouse in charging capacity for electric vehicles. A total of 25 new charging stations housed at WMU and Borgess Health facilities were dedicated, boosting the area's number of charging stations to 37—more than a third of the total number for all of West Michigan. The campus dedication noted WMU's new status as one of the top campuses in the nation for electric vehicle infrastructure, with 20 charging stations and a fleet of green vehicles (left photo). The hospital event recognized Borgess Health as the first hospital system in Michigan to offer electric vehicle charging stations. The day's events began with an outdoor display and ribbon cutting adjacent to WMU's Miller Auditorium Parking Ramp that included remarks by President John M. Dunn (right photo). Fifteen new charging stations there and a massive 50wV solar array were installed over the winter. (Photos by Mike Lanka)

## Service

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

**30 Years**—Cynthia L. DeRyke, teacher certification, and Gayle S. McMillon, Lee Honors College.

**25 Years**—Christina Bradshaw, Center for Disability Services; Dale S. Jansen, information technology; and Barbara J. Peacock, psychology.

**20 Years**—Khanh Hoang, University Libraries; Thomas A. Mills, Center for Dis-

ability Services; and Kathlene M. Scheffers, College of Health and Human Services.

**15 Years**—Miranda Howard, University Libraries, and Timothy W. Strunk, student affairs.

**10 Years**—Caryne M. Hanson, financial aid; Debra M. Robinson, financial aid; and Faith A. Wicklund, Miller Auditorium.

**Five Years**—Thomas W. Blackmon, Unified Clinics; Kelly Kuhlmann, financial aid and scholarships; and David J. Wright, Bernhard Center.

## Obituary



Hill

**James W. Hill**, emeritus in management, died April 9. He was 83. Hill joined the staff in 1970 and retired in 1990 after nearly 20 years of service. He served as chair of the management department from 1983 to 1988.



King

**Dale D. King**, emeritus in mechanical engineering, died April 9. He was 88. King joined the faculty in 1957 and retired in 1984. Memorial gifts may be made to Georgetown United Methodist Church in Jenison or a charity of choice. Visit [cookfamilycares.com](http://cookfamilycares.com) to make a memorial guestbook entry.



Pattison

**Dale P. Pattison**, emeritus in history, died April 16. He was 83. Pattison joined the faculty in 1963 and retired in 1995. Memorial gifts may be made to the WMU Foundation and directed to the Dr. Dale P. Pattison Memorial Scholarship Fund. Visit [langelands.com](http://langelands.com) to make a memorial guestbook entry.

**Louwina Petersen**, a former custodian, died April 26. She was 86. Petersen joined custodial and support services staff in 1978 and retired in 1988 after 10 years of service. Memorial gifts may be made to the Kalamazoo Gospel Mission or the Borgess Heart Center for Excellence.

**Carol L. Stamm**, a former associate vice president for academic affairs and emeritus in



Stamm

management, died April 15. She was 67. Stamm joined the faculty in 1981 and retired in 2001. A memorial service and reception will be held at 2 p.m. Sunday, May 13, in the Dalton Center Recital Hall. Memorial gifts may be made to the Alzheimer's Association. Visit [langelands.com](http://langelands.com) to make a memorial guestbook entry.

**Gerald H. "Gib" Youngblood**, a former head baker, died May 3. He was 89. Youngblood joined the Bernhard Center Dining Services staff in 1957 and retired in 1984. Memorial donations may be made to Rose Arbor Hospice/Hospice Care of Southwest Michigan. Visit [langelands.com](http://langelands.com) to make a memorial guestbook entry.



# On Campus with Tom Mills



**TAKING CARE**  
(Photo by Deanne Puca)

Tom Mills began his career as an artist, earning his degree in art from Spring Arbor University in 1990. But while in school, he worked in group homes for people with developmental disabilities, and that experience steered him in a new direction.

Mills, support coordinator for the WMU Center of Disability Services, says he enjoys working with people and finds it rewarding. He assists people who have mental and physical disabilities, monitoring their daily progress and helping them at doctor's appointments and with paperwork associated with obtaining health care and social security benefits.

A WMU employee for more than 20 years, Mills started with CDS as a direct-care worker responsible for the day-to-day care of adults with developmental disabilities. Within five years, he began moving into several different supervisory positions and was working with staff and client counselors at the center.

Mills assumed his current job in 2007 and now works the cases of about 30 adults with developmental disabilities. In this position, he monitors clients' care and sets clients up with services they need.

"We provide support for them, linking them to services, advocating for them and monitoring their care," Mills says, adding the adults he works with are all clients of Kalamazoo County Mental Health.

He says the most rewarding part of his work is "seeing the change in people; seeing the growth and interacting with clients."

Mills still works on his art—primarily painting—and enjoys music as well as spending time with his wife, Holly; one son; and two daughters.

The family lives in Portage, Mich., not far from where Mills grew up. He earned his master's degree in social work from WMU in 2002.

## Applications being accepted for Everyone Counts

Applications are due Friday, June 15, for WMU's 2012-13 Everyone Counts Learning Community, a professional-development opportunity that fosters diversity and inclusion.

Graduate teaching and research assistants, as well as full- and part-time faculty and staff members, are encouraged to apply.

This year, participants will focus on a variety of topics as they relate to race and racism, including but not limited to multicultural leadership, ethics, conflict resolution, facilitation, systems thinking, university structure and university culture.

Everyone Counts began in 2010 and annually brings together about 50 graduate students and faculty and staff members from across the University for a yearlong exploration of how to increase diversity and inclusion on campus. The program aims to produce both personal and institutional transformation by equipping all levels of employees with necessary skills to respond to WMU's increasingly diverse campus.

It is a joint offering of the Office of Faculty Development and Office of Diversity and

Inclusion. Visit [wmich.edu/facdev](http://wmich.edu/facdev) for an Everyone Counts application form or more information.

Questions may be directed to Andrea Beach at [andrea.beach@wmich.edu](mailto:andrea.beach@wmich.edu) or (269) 387-0731; Diana Hernandez at [diana.hernandez@wmich.edu](mailto:diana.hernandez@wmich.edu) or (269) 387-4429; or Tierra Marshall at [tierra.l.marshall@wmich.edu](mailto:tierra.l.marshall@wmich.edu) or (269) 387-6324.

## Keystone breakfast talk set

Robert DeWit, president and chief executive officer of the Southwest Michigan Innovation Center, is the featured speaker for the next Keystone Community Bank Breakfast Speaker Series talk, which starts with breakfast at 7:30 a.m. Friday, May 25, in Schneider Hall's Dean's Conference Room.

DeWit will discuss the growth of the center, which provides support and assistance to nurture the formation, survival and growth of innovative, entrepreneurial life science businesses. His talk is free and open to the public.

Reservations are required and may be made by calling (269) 387-5050.

## Three employees honored for service-learning activities

Six WMU faculty members and students along with three community organizations were recognized April 12 for their dedication and service during the University's first Service-Learning Award Celebration.



Millar



Palmer



Tsang

Receiving awards were: (faculty) Michael Millar, Spanish; Timothy Palmer, management; Edmund Tsang, associate dean of the College of Engineering and Applied Sciences; (students) Colleen Griffin, dance; Jen Nitz, social work; Drew Wolford, practical writing; (organizations) Building Blocks; Michigan Department of Transportation; and Seeding Change-Great Lakes PeaceJam.

Millar was nominated for his work with El Sol Elementary school's Spanish-speaking and English-as-a-second language students and their families. Palmer was nominated for his efforts in and out of the classroom to promote social entrepreneurship and awareness of the impact business decisions have on the greater community. Tsang was nominated for integrating service learning into every facet of his activities at WMU and is recognized internationally for expanding the scope of service learning.

## WMU developed technology

*continued from page 1*

Technologies LLC—with Ravindra seated as co-founder and chief technical officer and Patten as co-founder and chief scientific officer.

The National Science Foundation recently awarded Patten and Ravindra an NSF Innovation Corps Program, or I-Corps, grant of \$50,000 to pursue the technology's commercial viability and ready it for commercialization.

Ravindra, who earned bachelor's, master's and doctoral degrees from WMU in me-

chanical engineering, is the entrepreneurial lead. Tom Gross, a senior entrepreneur and current CEO of another university startup, is the team's business mentor. Gross is a fellow WMU alumnus and a recipient of the Distinguished Alumni Award.

WMU is one of two research universities in Michigan to receive an I-Corps grant, along with several top engineering institutions, including Yale, MIT and Princeton. The WMU team was among the 24 teams selected this year from among 350 applicants.



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