Dunn earns contract extension
During its Sept. 28 meeting, the WMU Board of Trustees gave President John M. Dunn its fourth positive evaluation. Citing a record of “outstanding leadership and commitment to the University, the community and beyond,” the board also enacted a two-year extension to the president’s contract through June 30, 2016.

Given that budgetary constraints have kept WMU from providing non-contractual employee salary increases, no salary increase was recommended for Dunn. Instead, the board resolution calls for the contract extension to “demonstrate its continued strong support” for the president.

TotalTech offers payroll deduction
TotalTech in the WMU Bookstore now offers payroll deduction for eligible full-time employees who have been at WMU for at least six months. Eligible items include iPads, computers, tablets, software, televisions and more. Visit www.wmich.edu/totaltech for terms, conditions and other details.

Service-learning presentation slated
All faculty and staff are invited to a free presentation on “Turning Service-Learning into Scholarship: Strategies for Publishing.” Reservations are due by Tuesday, Oct. 11, to the Office of Service-Learning at csl_info@wmich.edu or (269) 387-2155. The program is set for 1:15 to 2:15 p.m. Friday, Oct. 14, in 1110 Welborn Hall.

Green cleaning practices recognized
In reporting winners of its 2011 Green Awards last month, Business Review West Michigan cited the University’s green cleaning practices as being the Greatest Green Initiative.

This past year, Facilities Management completed a total transformation for green cleaning its more than 100 campus buildings, purchasing green cleaning products and training all 150 custodians in green products and processes.

Hit NPR program seeks local talent
“From the Top,” the hit National Public Radio program showcasing America’s best young classical musicians, is seeking local talent for a live concert recording this winter at WMU. Visit www.fromthetop.org for application and scholarship information. Applications and recorded auditions are accepted continuously, with auditions open to musicians ages 8 to 18 who have not yet graduated from high school.

“The Top” can be heard on WMUK 102.1 FM Thursdays at 8 p.m. and Saturdays at noon. The WMU broadcast is being sponsored by the School of Music. It will take place at 3 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 15, in the Dalfon Center Recital Hall. For tickets, visit www.millerauditorium.com, or call (269) 387-2300 or (800) 228-9858.

Homecoming festivities to feature new, free events
A Friday night community pep rally and a Saturday pregame entertainment village, both free, public events, provide new wrinkles for WMU’s 2011 Homecoming week. “Go Big or Go Home” is the theme for the celebration, which concludes Sunday, Oct. 9.

The festivities are highlighted by “Paint the Town Brown,” a new pep rally event scheduled for 7:30 p.m. Friday, Oct. 7, at the Arcadia Festival Place in downtown Kalamazoo. “Paint the Town Brown,” which celebrates the traditions of yesteryear in a communal setting, will include the Bronco Marching Band, the annual “Yell Like Hell” student competition, remarks from football coach Bill Cubit and an appearance by the entire Bronco team.

The Corral Entertainment Village, which made its debut Sept. 17 prior to the Central Michigan University football game, will return from 10 a.m. to 1:45 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 8, in the Robert J. Bobb baseball stadium and fire up fans for the 2 p.m. football contest against Bowling Green State University.

There is no admission charge for the Corral, which creates a fun “Wild West” Bronco experience for all ages. It will include musical performances, a mechanical bull and a kids’ activity village, complete with pony rides, the Meijer Virtual Mobile Playground and an inflatable bounce castle. Live entertainment will be headlined by the WMU Marching Band and be complemented by

Three executives named 2011 distinguished alumni
Three executives have been selected by the WMU Alumni Association to receive its most prestigious honor—the Distinguished Alumni Award.

The 2011 recipients of the award are: Morris C. Davenport of Avon, Conn., senior vice president and general manager of ESPN Radio, B.A. ’79; Keith A. Pretty of Midland, Mich., a former WMU vice president who is now CEO of Northwood University, B.S. ’73; and Anthony R. Tersigni of St. Louis, president and CEO of Ascension Health, Ed.D. ’92. They will be honored during an on-campus dinner Friday, Oct. 7. Tersigni will be honored in absentia.

The Distinguished Alumni Award was established in 1963 to recognize graduates of WMU who have achieved a high level of success in their professions.

East Campus development partner named
A private firm with a lengthy track record in developing and redeveloping property for commercial use has been identified as WMU’s partner in an initiative to adapt and find possible new uses for its historic East Campus.

KDC Real Estate Development and Investments will be the master developer of East Campus and WMU’s private-sector partner in the effort. The company has its national headquarters in Dallas, but the East Campus work will be the focus of its office near Detroit.

The announcement of the KDC selection came Sept. 30 as Bob Miller, associate vice president for community outreach, outlined the progress on redevelopment of the East Campus during an appearance at the University’s Keystone Community Bank Breakfast Series. Miller served as co-chair of a task force charged with soliciting requests from the private sector for adaptive reuse of the site that was the early 20th-century birthplace of WMU. Over a two-and-a-half-year period, the task force narrowed the field of private teams from the original 80 that expressed interest in the work to the successful KDC proposal.

While he stressed no redevelopment plans have been finalized, Miller outlined possibilities that could be part of the mix at some point in the future. They include a boutique hotel, conference center, apartments, condos, offices, parking and a health center. 

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Around campus and beyond

Medicine, religion topic of talk
A leading physician in pediatric palliative care will address the delicate balancing act between medicine and religion during a talk at 6 p.m. tonight in the new University Center for Humanities, 2500 Knauss Hall. Presenting the talk will be Nadia Tremoni, medical director for both the Pediatric Palliative Care Team at Children’s Hospital of Michigan and the Kaleidoscope Kids Team at Henry Ford Hospice in Detroit.

Administrator’s artwork on display
Creations in fabric and phrases by Susan L. Caulfield, academic affairs, are on display through Monday, Oct. 31, in the second-floor gallery of the Health and Human Services Building. The exhibit represents Caulfield’s inner journey. She will greet visitors from 12:30 to 2:30 p.m. Friday, Oct. 7, at the exhibit during the college’s Homecoming Open House.

Graduate school fair set for Oct. 10
Area students and residents may explore their options for advanced studies during the 2011 Graduate and Professional School Fair from 1 to 4 p.m. Monday, Oct. 10, in the Bernhard Center’s East Ballroom. Although open to the public, the free fair is geared toward college juniors and seniors and recent alumni of WMU and Kalamazoo College.

Attendees may participate in prefer workshops taking place from noon to 1 p.m. on the second floor of the Bernhard Center. The focus and room locations of the workshops are: Applying to Law School, 211; the Graduate Application Process, 212; and Applying to Medical School, 213.

Conference registrations due soon
The deadline to register for Beta Alpha Psi’s International Financial Reporting Standards Conference is Wednesday, Oct. 12. The event is set for 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 27, in the Fetzer Center.

Speakers will include James Leisenring, who is senior advisor of the Financial Accounting Standards Board and has served on the International Accounting Standards Board and, James Kroeker, chief accountant with the Securities and Exchange Commission. Visit www.wmich.edu/business/ifrs to register or obtain details.

Semiannual staff award nominations due Oct. 31
Nominations for the fall round of WMU’s semiannual Make A Difference awards are due by Monday, Oct. 31.

Make A Difference is a campuws over peer-per program that recognizes WMU staff for their accomplishments and daily investment of energy and creativity. It features semiannual and annual awards available to Staff Compensation System, AFSCME, MSEA and POA employees who provide exceptional services to the University.

Every fall and spring, semiannual awards are presented to a maximum of 15 people. Those selected for the accolade receive a before-tax prize of $300 and a certificate, are recognized at a special reception; and may be nominated for one of four annual Make A Difference awards that includes a before-tax price of $1,200.

Semiannual award recipients may win multiple times, but are limited to one semiannual per academic year. Visit www.wmich.edu/hr/make-a-difference for year round for nomination instructions and forms.

Paperless payroll system launched
A Payroll Choices Program has been introduced for all employees, including student employees, that will eliminate paper paychecks.

Direct deposit to a bank account of choice remains available. But beginning Monday, Oct. 17, all employees can receive their pay on a personalized and secure Visa Payroll Card with Pre-Check option, provided by Citi Prepaid Services. Pay can be changed between direct deposit and the payroll card as often as employees want through Employee Self Service in GoWMU.

Those already enrolled in direct deposit do not need to take any action to keep direct deposit. Those receiving paper checks will need to choose between direct deposit and the Visa Payroll Card by Monday, Nov. 28, or they will automatically be enrolled in the Visa Payroll Card program.

For more information, visit www.wmich.edu/payroll or call (269) 387-2935.

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

Counselor updates transitions textbook
Mary L. Anderson, counselor education and counseling psychology, is the co-author of a fourth edition of the textbook, “Counseling Adults in Transitions,” the only textbook explicitly designed to address counseling with adults who are transitioning, with individual, relationship and work transitions.

The new edition was co-written with Jane Goodman and Nancy Schlossberg and released in August by Brooks/Cole. It has been revised in part to address the nation’s increasing racial and cultural diversity as well as contemporary societal ills that exacerbate adult life transitions, such as a tumultuous economy and increased unemployment, bankruptcies and foreclosures.

A licensed professional counselor, Anderson joined the faculty in 2008. She is an assistant professor and coordinator of the school counseling program.

Staffer elected to state organization
Joel Boyd Jr., a master faculty specialist in the Center for English Language and Culture for International Students, is serving as president-elect of the Michigan Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages.

Boyd, who has been a WMU staff member for 16 years, was elected to the post in fall 2010 and will assume the role of the organization’s annual two-day conference, which is being held at WMU this year and ends today. MITESOL’s main mission is to provide leadership and support for professionals involved in teaching English to speakers of other languages.

After the conference, Boyd will serve one year as president of the organization. He has been a MITESOL member for 20 years and served on its board as leader of its special interest group for intensive English programs for the last four years. He previously served WMU as interim director of CELCIS.

Scientist receives new federal grant
Christine A. Byrd-Jacobs, biological sciences, has received a new grant from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services totaling more than $400,000. The project focuses on examining the ability of the adult brain to recover from damage due to injury or disease.

That examination will use a novel, reversible-injury method as well as zebranox, an organism with the same basic cell types found in humans and is unique because it has a continually developing sensory system, so both development and regeneration in adults can be studied.

Byrd-Jacobs specializes in cellular neurobiology. She is trying to elucidate the cellular interactions and molecular factors responsible for the maintenance of adult brain structures and their ability to respond to injury. She is the investigator on the new project and is currently an assistant professor.

Byrd-Jacobs holds the rank of professor and serves as graduate advisor for the biological sciences department.
New official named

Sandra “Sandy” D. Steinbach was appointed associate vice president for business and finance by the WMU Board of Trustees Sept. 28.

Steinbach has been working in the position since Aug. 22. Previously, she was director of commercial finance at Thermo Fisher Scientific. She replaces Janice J. Van Der Kley, who was named the University’s vice president for business and finance and chief financial officer July 1.

Steinbach, a WMU alumna, has held financial leadership posts at such area companies as Stryker, Kellogg and Plante & Moran. She has been a WMU Foundation board member and finance chair and has taught accounting courses at the University.

Department reaches age 75

The Department of Speech Pathology and Audiology will celebrate its 75th anniversary Thursday and Friday, Oct. 20-21, in conjunction with its annual Van Riper Lecture Series.

Along with lectures, discussions and a banquet, the two-day event will honor Charles Van Riper—the man who started WMU’s pioneering speech clinic and programs.

Anniversary banquet reservations must be received by Wednesday, Oct. 12. Visit www.wmich.edu/hhs/sppa/vanriper_lecture.htm for registration, cost and other details.

Sindecuse schedules flu, meningitis vaccination clinics

Meningitis shots cost $108, although individual insurance plans may cover all or part of this cost. Flu shots cost $18 for students and $24 for non-benefits-eligible employees and their dependents.

Benefits-eligible employees covered under WMU’s Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan insurance receive flu shots with no out-of-pocket expenses if they get their shots at Sindecuse or in vaccine clinics.

Flu shots are covered benefit for most retirees, but cost $25 for retirees without Medicare who are covered under MSEP.

For more information about vaccinations, visit the Sindecuse Health Center online at www.wmich.edu/healthcenter or call (269) 387-3287. Questions may be directed to the center’s nurse’s station at (269) 387-3393.

Health Is Sichel series focus

The Werner Sichel Lecture Series is examining the economics of health this year and will begin Wednesday, Oct. 19, with a talk by the University of Chicago’s David Meltzer at 3 p.m. in 2028 Brown Hall.

Meltzer, a physician and an economist, will speak on “Economic Reasons for the Growth of Hospitalists in the United States” and will begin Wednesday, Oct. 19, with a viewing of health this year and will begin Wednesday, Oct. 19, with a viewing of health this year and will begin Wednesday, Oct. 19, with a viewing of health this year and will begin Wednesday, Oct. 19, with a viewing of health this year and will begin Wednesday, Oct. 19, with a viewing of health this year.

The faculty members resigning are: William H. Arnold, educational leadership, research and technology, effective Aug. 21; Michael J. Chiarappa, history, effective Aug. 2; Karlis Kaugar, computer science, effective Oct. 10; Carissa Moeggenberg, speech pathology and audiology, effective Aug. 19; Kristin Sylivan, history, effective Aug. 21; and Jordan Yin, geography, effective Aug. 15.

The sabbatical leave was granted to Jay A. Wood, mathematics, effective fall 2011.

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The sabbatical leave was granted to Jay A. Wood, mathematics, effective fall 2011.
WMUK fall campaign starts next Saturday

WMUK, the University's public radio station, will stage the on-air portion of its annual fall campaign Saturday through Friday, Oct. 15-21, and hold a "member challenge" to try to reach its goal faster and end the pledge drive sooner than scheduled.

The challenge allows WMUK members—those who have contributed to the station in recent drives—to increase or make an additional gift prior to the drive starting. That additional amount will be set aside and used to challenge listeners to pledge their support during the drive. The radio station has set a goal of $180,000. Once that goal is reached, the drive will end.

WMUK uses membership contributions to produce local programs and to purchase programs such as "Morning Edition," "All Things Considered" and "From the Top." Recent success during WMUK fundraising campaigns has resulted in acquisition of new programs, such as "Wait, Wait . . . Don’t Tell Me!"

"It’s such a happy occasion, and I enjoy seeing how it’s all put together," she says. "We do have some funerals and memorials, but even those are very peaceful and reflective." Richards typically hunts with activity year-round. Richards explains that business slowed a few years ago with the downturn in the economy, then picked up when companies wanted to save money and hold their events in town. She says the biggest value for individuals and companies has been the center's free parking, the food that is made fresh on site and the fact that Richards and the staff can do all the event planning.

"Companies like the one-stop shopping. It cuts down on the time they need to focus on an event," she says. "We also have our own chefs on site, so everything is prepared right here."

If you can catch Richards as she jets from one duty to another, she’s happy to point out the amenities of the center, such as an outside courtyard and the open floor plan of the lobby area.

"I’m never sitting in an office," she notes. "I’m always walking around the building." Richards and her husband, Tom, a ceramicist for the Kalamazoo Institute of Arts, met while they were students at WMU. The couple live in Portage, Mich., and have three grown children—all WMU alumni, as well—and two grandchildren, including a new grandson who was born this past September.

When she’s not spending time with her family, Richards enjoys reading, cooking and visiting her family’s cabin on Beaver Island, Mich.

Homecoming festivities

Continued from page 1

food and beverages for purchase from various local restaurants.

The Corral also features informational tents sponsored by the WMU Bookstore and representatives from University offices serving alumni and other members of the WMU family.

Freshman Alyssa Davidson and the horse Triumph, a live version of the WMU Bronco, were a popular draw at the initial Corral and will return for photo opportunities. Davidson and Triumph are leading the football team onto the field during home games this season.

Many other Homecoming events also are taking place, including the annual Soapbox Derby at 11 a.m. Friday on Gilkison Avenue and the Onyx Society Scholarship Ball at 7 p.m. Saturday at the Radisson Hotel in Kalamazoo. Visit www.wmich.edu/homecoming or mywmu.com/homecoming for a complete list of events.

East Campus development

Redevelopment efforts are focusing on four historic buildings that currently are nearly vacant—East Hall, West Hall, North Hall and the Speech and Hearing Building. Nearby Vandercook Hall and a small upholstery shop could also be available for development.