Faculty members invited to attend the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning Conference from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Friday, May 20. The conference is free, but reservations are required at kathleen.springsteen@wmich.edu or (269) 387-0399.

Online services to be limited Sunday
Several online services, including E-learning, GoWMU, Appworx, Banner, Cognos and Resource 25 will be unavailable from 4 a.m. to noon Sunday, May 15. Direct questions to the Help Desk at helpdesk@wmich.edu or (269) 387-4357, option 1.

Dedication set for Baseball Stadium
WMU will officially dedicate Robert J. Bobb Stadium at Hays Field Saturday, May 14, prior to the baseball game against Central Michigan University. The ceremony will begin at noon. The first pitch will be at 1 p.m. The stadium bears the name of Robert J. Bobb, chief executive officer of Cardinal Growth L.P. and a 1969 WMU alumnus, who committed $1 million to the renovations of WMU's home facility. More than $2 million went into the project, which began in 2008 and was completed this past summer.

The renovations included restoration of the grandstand; construction of a press box, VIP suites, bathrooms and a concession area; installation of 400 chairback seats as well as new walkways and dugouts, fencing, signage and security lighting. The stadium is divided into eight seating sections that bear the names of major donors to the project.

East Campus rehab faces new threat
University officials issued a Request for Proposals in January and are now evaluating responses that could restore East Campus, but both could be severely curtailed or even dropped as part of Gov. Rick Snyder's state budget proposal.

WMU-Southwest to offer bachelor's degree in nursing
Residents of southwest Michigan and northern Indiana will soon have a new avenue for boosting their nursing credentials without leaving the region.

Starting this fall, the WMU-Southwest regional location in Benton Harbor will begin offering a Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree from the University's Bronson School of Nursing.

The new offering is structured so that registered nurses holding an associate’s degree in nursing from Lake Michigan College, or another college, can transfer into the same RN-BSN Progression Track program that the University now offers only on its main campus. The move further strengthens the WMU-LMC partnership that began in 2002 with the opening of the WMU-Southwest building on LMC's campus.

To help publicize the local option, WMU will host an information session there from 5:30 to 7 p.m. Wednesday, May 18. WMU-Southwest will pay the $35 program application fee for session attendees who apply to the program by May 31. To register for a session, visit www.wmich.edu/southwest or contact Robin Rose at robina.ross@wmich.edu or (269) 934-1500.

“We’re thrilled to be bringing such a high-caliber and affordable BSN program to Berrien, Cass and Van Buren counties as well as to northern Indiana communities,” says Luann Harden, director of WMU-Southwest. “Job-growth projections make it clear that increasing numbers of RNs will be seeking a bachelor’s degree in the coming years. So in addition to educating the nursing profession’s future leaders, we’re serving the evolving needs of area employers and employees.”

Registrar candidates to make presentations
Following a national search, three candidates vying to replace retiring Registrar Barbara McKinney have been invited to the campus May 16-19 to make public presentations.

A reception will follow each of those candidate’s presentations, which have been set for 2 to 3:30 p.m. in the Fetzer Center on the following days and dates:

- Monday, May 16—Christine Bedz, assistant registrar at the University of Michigan-Ann Arbor, Room 1040.
- Thursday, May 19—Melanie J. Hough, registrar at Ivy Tech Community College in Indianapolis, Room 2030.

Bedz has been assistant registrar at U of M since 2002. She has administrative responsibility for such areas as residency classifications, records and enrollment, transcripts, certifications and diplomas, and tuition and fees. She also is responsible for regulatory compliance and is a critical incident liaison. Previously, she worked with student systems implementation at Wayne State University.

Tisdale has been in his current role since 2010 and helps colleges and universities identify business processes and solutions to achieve institutional goals. Before that, he worked for 12 years with SunGard Higher Education, managing complex ERO system implementations, and also held positions with several Colorado community colleges, including dean of student services, director and assistant director of admissions and records, and assistant director of admissions and records.

Hough has been the Ivy Tech registrar for the past four years and is responsible for the
Emeritus displaying 20 years of work

An art exhibition with two University ties is on display in the Richmond Center's Monroe-Brown Gallery through Friday, June 24. "Artists as Fools" features paintings completed in WMU studio spaces throughout the past two decades by Dick Keavney, emeritus in art.

Keavney considers the display his retirement exhibit and, as such, wanted to acknowledge the former art students he worked with in the classroom and studio. He did that by including the work of WMU alumnus Rikk Mallette, who served as both his teaching and studio assistant.

Although different in style, the two artists share similar outlooks. Keavney's paintings are abstract and expand on ideas of caricature and satire. Frequented by eccentric, gullible and anatomically deviant characters, Mallette's paintings seek to illustrate and continue to celebrate human folly.

Korean film comes to Little Theatre

The Kalamazoo Film Society will present Korean director Chang-dong Lee's award-winning film "Poetry" Friday through Sunday, May 13-15, in the Little Theatre. Show times are at 7 p.m. Tuesday, May 24, in 1220 Chemistry.

Second Coast slates writing camps

Third Coast Writing Project is offering two summer writing camps for students ages 8 to 14.

Additional employees honored at awards event

WMU paid tribute to more individuals during its Excellence in Diversity Awards program April 6 than previously announced. They included members of the Committee for Leadership on Diversity, Social Justice and Inclusion and of the 2010 Everyone Counts Learning Community (more information on Diversity is included with each posting).

Additional employee recognition was given to:
  • Dannie Alexandar, Lauren Freedman, Josie Palmer, Diana Hernandez, Jim Croteau and Summer I session. Periodicals postage paid at Kalamazoo, Mich., where it was published. This publication is printed on recycled paper.

Sustainability office slates forum

The Office for Sustainability has set a town hall meeting to discuss its Student Sustainability Survey. The public meeting will be both a release of survey data and a community forum on past, present and future campus sustainability activities. It will be held at 7 p.m. Thursday, May 26, in 1220 Chemistry Building.

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Retirement reception

Mary Swartz, director of WMU's Traverse City regional location, will be honored for 13 years of service during a retirement reception from 3 to 5 p.m. Thursday, May 19, in the Oaklands.

Jobs

Current job opportunities at WMU are announced daily on the Human Resources 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.
Open house to kick off summer lifelong learning courses

After a successful launch this spring, the WMU Lifelong Learning Academy will offer a short session of eight courses this summer from June 10 through July 17.

Area residents are invited to obtain details as well as register for the summer classes from June 10 through July 17.

For more information, contact Extended University Programs at www.wmich.edu/offcampus/lifelong or (269) 387-4174.

Applications being accepted for Everyone Counts program

A 2010-11 pilot program proved so successful in engaging the WMU community in diversity and inclusion issues that the program is being continued.

The Everyone Counts Faculty and Professional Communities pilot program concluded this past December and brought together faculty and staff members from across the University for a yearlong exploration of how to increase diversity and inclusion on campus.

Those who wish to participate in the program for the 2011-12 academic year need to submit their application packets by Wednesday, June 1. Group activities will begin in September and end in April, with participants required to attend a select group of sessions throughout those months.

All full- and part-time faculty and staff members, as well as graduate teaching assistants, are encouraged to apply. Participants will be assigned to small groups of eight to 12 members that will explore multiple perspectives on the concept of race.

The groups will meet for a couple of months to discuss literature on diversity, listen to guest speakers, attend workshops and conferences, and talk about the challenges and opportunities that face their work.

In addition, group members will receive a small amount of money to create projects that directly integrate what they are learning into their daily work.

For an application form and more information, visit www.wmich.edu/facdev or contact Andrea Beach at (269) 387-0732 or Diana Hernandez at (269) 387-4429.

Admissions staffers promoted

Jodi Ward was named associate director of admissions, effective Jan. 24, replacing Pam Liberacki, who has retired.

A staff member since 2001, Ward is directing and coordinating the Office of Admissions’ operations and support functions.

Scott Hennessy, who joined the professional staff in 1993, is now the associate director for admissions outreach. He is responsible for campus admissions events and tours, the Student Ambassador Program, telecounseling, and website development.

Replacing Ward as transfer admissions coordinator is Jill Hamilton, a staff member since 2003.

Service

The following faculty and staff members are recognized for 30, 35, 40, 45, 50 and 55 years of service during May.

30 Years—Marilyn V. Duke, Center for Academic Success Programs, and Jon H. VanderMeer, communication.

35 Years—Judith A. Medendorp, special education and literacy studies.

40 Years—Daryl E. Buczkowski, facilities management; Michael Eugene Hodgkinson, facilities management-building custodial and support services; Felicia Taylor Crawford, Human Resources; Mark J. Daniel, West Hills Athletic Club; Marianne E. Di Pierro, Graduate College; Cheri L. Edgar, business information systems; Patrick M. Gorenchan, Facilities Management-planning; Nancy A. Love, First-Year Experience; Lewis Pyenson, Center for Disability Services; and Bethany Timmerman, WMU Bookstore.

45 Years—Diane A. McFadden, dean of students office; Gretchen Kauth Morin, Sindecuse Health Center; Angie M. O’Peayant, public safety; and Kristie M. Sturmowski, sustainability.

50 Years—Jessica Mac-Hair Brooks, admissions; Annette A. Cummins, paper engineering, chemical engineering and imaging; Adrienne D. Frauz, First-Year Experience; Nicolas James Griffith, investments and endowment management; Malecka T. Love, First-Year Experience; Lewis Pyenson, history; Ewa L. Urban, career and student employment services; and Paige L. Warner, First-Year Experience.

Facilities Management-building custodial and support services; Patricia A. Evans, University Programs; Thomas E. Gillham, professor emeritus of humanities, died April 22. She was 95.

left photo: One popular spring class was “Saving the World from a New Dark Age: Victory in WMU.” Attendees included, from left, Don Gladstone, Verlan Van Rheenen, William Comai and (seated) Doug Ketchum. Right photo: The class was taught by Ed Heining, WMU emeritus in history. (Photo by Hal Ray, WMU emeritus in health, physical education and recreation)

Obituaries

Virginia N. Crawford, a former secretary III in the College of General Studies, died April 10. She was 86. Crawford joined the WMU staff in 1967 and retired in 1986 after more than 19 years of service.

Marcella Faustman, professor emerita of music, died May 1. She was 104. Faustman joined the faculty in 1949 and retired in 1977 after nearly 30 years of service. Memorial donations may be made to the WMU School of Music, Marcella S. and Philip F. Faustman Vocal Performance Endowment, or the WMU Department of Theatre Musical Theatre and Performance Endowment Fund.

Mary A. Gillham, assistant professor emerita of librarianship, died April 22. She was 95. Gillham joined the faculty in 1965 and retired in 1978 after 13 years of service. Services will be held at 2 p.m. Friday, May 13, in Princeton, Ill. Memorial donations may be made to the Princeton Public Library and Princeton’s First Presbyterian Church.

Robert A. Palmatier, professor emeritus of what is now foreign languages, died April 29 in Portage, Mich. He was 84. Palmatier joined the faculty as an English instructor in 1955 and retired in 1992 after 37 years of service. During his tenure, he served as chairman of his department for a total of 19 years. Memorial donations may be made to the First Presbyterian Church Health Clinic.

Christine “Stientje” VanAlphen, a former first cook in Dining Services, died April 18. She was 85. VanAlphen of Kalamazoo came to WMU in 1973 and retired in 1990 after 16-1/2 years of service. VanAlphen was a longtime Meals on Wheels volunteer who will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday, May 14, in Bethany Reformed Church, 1833 S. Burdick St. in Kalamazoo. Memorial donations may be made to Meals on Wheels of Kalamazoo or the National Parkinson’s Foundation.

First Presbyterian Church.

WESTERN NEWS MAY 12, 2011
On Campus with Kim Ballard

When it comes to teaching writing, Kim Ballard is serious about word play. Ballard came to WMU in 2002 as director of the Writing Center after 23 years of experience that began during her undergraduate days when she was a writing tutor. Fundamentally, Ballard is responsible for teaching students how to communicate more effectively through the written word. She does this by creating and training a community of writing teachers—undergraduate and graduate student consultants—who work together as a team to address whatever concerns or projects their clients have.

That team of 22 consultants, headed by Ballard and assisted by 13 student receptionists, serves some 9,000 student clients each year.

“We help student writers to better understand and apply rhetorical strategies that will get across their particular meaning more effectively. They have a lot of options open to them but like moves in any type of game, some options result in points being scored while others cost the player—or in this case the writer,” Ballard says.

“We also help students experience how a reader may understand and misunderstand their written words. The consultant or student will read the words out loud, allowing both student and consultant to react to the text and to what the student most needs to learn, such as how to improve organization or documentation. Through this ‘live’ practice, writers get experience using their abilities, solving problems and making good decisions.”

Writing consultants are trained to help any and all writers on campus, from students in beginning writing courses to doctoral candidates, as well as students who aren’t native speakers of English or who are struggling or have disabilities. They get involved with academic projects such as dissertations, term papers and internship reports and personal projects, such as the time a student wanted to write an appeal for a noise citation.

The student consultants collaborate to develop a variety of teaching and assessment materials and techniques, Ballard notes. Their work appears in published journal articles and papers presented at prestigious professional conferences. “Our consultants go on to direct and found writing centers at high schools and other colleges and universities,” she proudly adds. “They’re getting experience here that’s allowing them to get jobs.”

Ballard has been assistant director of the Purdue Writing Lab, director of basic writing at Ivy Tech Community College and a senior editor in McGraw Hill’s college textbook division. She has a bachelor’s and two master’s degrees, and is writing her dissertation for a doctorate in rhetoric and composition from Purdue University. She enjoys bicycling and conducting research, chairs the writing center assessment group for the International Writing Centers Association, and is active in several other professional organizations.

Trustees sign off on several items during April meeting

The WMU Board of Trustees approved several items of note during its April 8 meeting, including relinquishing ownership of the building known as the Kalamazoo Psychiatric Hospital’s Northwest Unit.

The structure, located at 1501 Blakeslee St., was basically gifted to WMU and has been vacant for more than 20 years. Conveying it and the 12.4-acre parcel it sits on to the city of Kalamazoo clears the way for demolishing the building. WMU will incur no cost for the demolition, but will serve as project manager on behalf of Kalamazoo.

In other actions, the board:

• Authorized the administration to issue and deliver general revenue bonds that will provide up to $70 million. Proceeds from this funding will be used to refund current outstanding bonds to achieve debt-service savings of about $1.1 million and to finance a portion of the construction costs for the Western View residential housing complex, Lee Honors College addition and completion of the new Sangeren Hall.
• Replaced the undergraduate psychology major with a general psychology major to meet the needs of students who are likely to pursue jobs or advanced training in non-psychology disciplines.
• Eliminated the geography major with a concentration in urban and regional planning, as the community and regional planning major makes the older program unnecessary.
• Created an event management minor in the Department of Health, Physical Education and Recreation to meet increased interest and opportunities in that field.

Registrar candidates to make presentations continued from page 1

Faculty, Board of Trustees approve three-year contract

The WMU Board of Trustees, meeting via conference call May 4, unanimously approved a new three-year labor agreement with the WMU chapter of the American Association of University Professors, the union that represents the University’s full-time faculty.

With trustees’ approval, the new contract becomes effective immediately and expires Sept. 6, 2014. The agreement, which was negotiated during April, calls for no salary increases during the upcoming academic year but does include 4.5 percent in increases over the three-year term of the contract as well as health care plan design changes, beginning next January.

Faculty members will see no increase to wages during the 2011-12 academic year, but will see 1 percent increases in fall 2012, spring 2013 and fall 2013. The final semester of the contract, spring 2014, will see faculty salaries increase by 1.5 percent.

University and AAUP negotiators agreed to an expedited bargaining process this year that called for just five contract articles—all related to compensation and benefits—to be part of negotiations. Both sides agreed that all other articles from the previous contract would be rolled over into the new agreement.

For more information about the registrar candidates, visit the Division of Academic Affairs at www.wmich.edu/provost and click Registrar Search. That Web page includes resumes for each candidate and, if necessary, will be updated with presentation schedule changes.