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College of Arts and Sciences news

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7-2020

## College of Arts and Sciences: July 2020

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## **College of Arts and Sciences**

Western Michigan University

### **Arts and Sciences dean named a distinguished woman in higher education**



The Michigan American Council on Education Network has recognized Dr. Carla Koretsky, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, as a distinguished woman in higher education leadership. This annual award is given to those who have distinguished themselves by providing outstanding leadership to women in their institutions, in their profession and in society at large.

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## **WMU researchers creating national database of religious response to COVID-19**



Research underway at WMU will create a national archive of religious response to the pandemic. Funded by a University COVID-19 response grant, the project will also fuel the development of relevant coursework for students at WMU and other colleges and high schools across the country. Dr. Stephen Covell, department chair and professor of comparative religion, is leading the project alongside Dr. Diane Riggs, a faculty specialist.

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**From grading to wading, student finds success shifting academic focus to follow passion**



Eyeing a career as an English teacher, Adam Austin probably never imagined how much he'd rewrite his own story when he graduated high school in Allegan, Michigan, in 2008. Currently a graduate biological sciences student leading a wetland research project at WMU, he began his Bronco journey more than a decade ago planning to major in English and theatre design. A few years in, though, he began to realize donning waders and collecting tadpoles was more his midsummer night's dream than Shakespeare.

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**[WMU Alumni Association Board Welcomes New Members](#)**





The Western Michigan University Alumni Association Board of Directors will start the new fiscal year with new leadership and several new members. The board is responsible for helping to oversee many key alumni-focused initiatives in the WMU Alumni Association, while fostering a sense of engagement between the University and its more than 250,000 alumni living around the world.

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- [Wetland projects test waters to restart research at WMU](#)
- [Unmasking the stigma surrounding face coverings](#)
- [Taboo topics course uses dialogue to break through barriers](#)

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## Support for students.

*We anticipate an unprecedented number of scholarship applications in the coming months. Make a gift to a fund that supports student scholarships all over campus.*

**WMU Student  
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