Joint international program in Malta accepting applications for 2010 classes

WMU’s new joint international master’s program with the University of Malta is accepting applications for classes that will begin in that Mediterranean nation in October 2010.

The collaborative master’s-level program is structured to allow students to earn one master’s degree in criminology and criminal justice studies from the University of Malta, and another in criminology, law and public policy from WMU.

Thirteen WMU faculty members from the departments of Political Science and Sociology will partner with faculty from the University of Malta—that country’s flagship university—to teach course work in the program.

The collaboration between the two universities is designed as a novel international and interdisciplinary venture that combines the strengths of European and American graduate programs. The curriculum will include theory, research methods and data analysis as well as Mediterranean-based case studies on:
- gender, crime and justice
- environmental crime and justice
- surveillance and security
- state and corporate crime.

The University of Malta, which traces its origins to 1592, is one of the oldest universities in the Mediterranean. Today, the university has some 10,000 students, 750 of whom are foreign students from nearly 80 countries.

Additional information about the program can be found on the University of Malta’s Web site at www.um.edu.mt/impcontent.aspx?id=168553. Information also can be found at www.wmich.edu/politics.

WMU study shows nonprofit EMOs growing steadily

In contrast with their for-profit counterparts, nonprofit education management companies are growing at a steady rate, a study recently released by researchers at WMU and two partner institutions has found.

The new report was released by WMU’s College of Education and Human Development and the Education Policy Research Unit at Arizona State University and the Public Interest Center at the University of Colorado at Boulder. It finds that nonprofit EMOs are garnering more support and are growing steadily, while the growth of for-profit EMOs is slowing.

The study was compiled as part of the 2008-09 edition of “Profiles of Nonprofit Education Management Organizations” and comes after an earlier study examining for-profit EMOs. It was written by Gary Miron, WMU professor of educational leadership, research and technology, and Jessica Urschel, a WMU graduate research assistant. Miron and Urschel also co-wrote the for-profit EMO study with Alex Mohnat, a professor at Arizona State University.

Michigan has been leading the way in hiring education management organizations to run charter and conventional public schools. The EMO sector emerged in the 1990s as part of an effort to use market forces to reform public education. Until recently, most attention has been...
Talk to focus on care of elderly

Elder care will be discussed Friday, Dec. 4, during the next Keystone Breakfast Speaker Series presentation. Dawn VanderPloeg from Adult Day Services at Oakland Centre and Laura Latif from Hospice Care of Southwest Michigan will present the talk in the Dean’s Conference Room in Schneider Hall. The free event begins with breakfast at 7:30 a.m. Reservations are required at 387-5050.

Annual concerts slated for holidays

Two annual musical events honoring the holiday season are on the docket: Sunday, Dec. 6, the School of Music will present its annual Christmas concert featuring more than 200 student musicians. This year’s holiday extravaganza, “Messiah and More,” will take place at 3 p.m. in Miller Auditorium. Tickets are available at www.millerauditorium.com or 387-2000. All proceeds will support music student scholarships.

Closer to Christmas, the Western Brass Quintet will present its popular holiday concert. This brass celebration of Christmas with guest performers is free and will take place at 3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 20, in the Dalton Center Recital Hall.

Grand opening provides grand entertainment

WMU formally opened its Confucius Institute Nov. 23. The event included an array of cultural performances. The institute will provide new Chinese language and cultural studies options for WMU students and faculty and dramatically expand international opportunities for area K-12 schools and local businesses. (Photo by Mike Lankard)

Service outage scheduled

GoWMU’s Employee Self Service menu will be unavailable from 4 p.m. Friday, Dec. 4, to 4 a.m. Monday, Dec. 7. Direct questions to the Help Desk at 387-HELP.

Correction

Western News reported an incorrect location for the Emeriti Council’s “New York Showcase” Wednesday, Dec. 9. The program will take place in Williams Theatre.

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.

Filmmaker wins national award

Tom Ludwig, English, won a 2009 Voice Awards Honorable Mention for a documentary video titled “A Long Strange Trip” that he and local filmmaker Matt Clysdale directed. Ludwig teaches for the Kalamazoo Regional Educational Service Agency’s Education for the Arts program, and that program’s students provided production assistance for the video.

The Voice Awards are presented by the federal Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, in part to honor those who incorporate dignified, respectful and accurate portrayals of individuals with mental health problems into film and television productions.

Ludwig joined the English department faculty as an instructor in 1998. Most of his work is in 16mm experimental film, but he has produced three documentary films and begun building a body of work in digital composite video.

Eremitus inducted into hall of fame

Daniel L. Stufflebeam, founding director of the Evaluation Center, has been inducted into the College of Education and Human Ecology’s 2009 Hall of Fame at Ohio State University.

Stufflebeam established OSU’s Evaluation Center in 1963 as well as created a doctoral program in evaluation and assessment at the university. After leaving OSU in 1973, he crafted the national Standards for Educational Evaluation and was principal author of the original U.S. standards for program and personnel assessment. He also founded and directed the federal Center for Standards for Research on Educational Accountability and Teacher Education.

In 2007, Stufflebeam retired from WMU as a Distinguished University Professor and an emeritus in educational studies after 34 years of service to the University.

Profs brief Russians on research

Andrew Targowski, business information systems, and Richard Zinser, family and consumer sciences, presented papers at an international conference in Siberia, Russia, Nov. 18-19. The two also were nominated to the editorial board of a new journal called “Professional Education in Russia and Abroad.” Prior to the conference, Targowski and Zinser visited the city of Novokuznetsk to meet with faculty at the Kuzbass State Pedagogical Academy, where they signed a letter of intent to collaborate on research and publication in the field of comparative education, culture and civilization.

The Russians have expressed interest in strengthening their ties with WMU.
Winter hours will soon begin for WMU’s snow removal crews.

The crews must plow, shovel, scrape and de-ice more than 23 miles of roads, 100 acres of parking, 39 miles of walks, 200,000 square feet of steps and ramps, and hundreds of doorways.

Winter weather rarely results in a decision to close WMU. But when there is a shutdown, news of the decision is posted on the University’s home page at www.wmich.edu and emergency information line at 387-5555.

After completing those notifications, University employees will communicate closure details to local television and radio stations.

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

40 Years—Umar F. Abdul-Mutakalim, Human Resources, and Jerry E. Fuss, logistical services.

35 Years—Robert J. Dlouhy, Career English Language Center, and Kathleen A. Horn, management.


25 Years—Sharon M. Van Dyken, College of Education.

20 Years—Ray T. Cool, health, physical education and recreation; James C. Cotton, information technology; Petronia R. Douglas, University Libraries; Nancy Emmers, English; Timothy A. Ender, information technology; Donna S. Hettel, accountancy; Susan D. Stapleton, College of Arts and Sciences; and Sharacene R. Sutton, Facilities Management-building custodial and support services.

15 Years—Patti J. VanWalbeck, accounting.

10 Years—Bradley J. Bazin, electrical and computer engineering; Timothy B. Palmer, management; Kenneth A. Randt, Facilities Management-building custodial and support services; Michael P. Smith, public safety; Ineke F. Way, social work; Jennifer Wicbold, blindness and low vision studies; and Li Yang, computer science.

5 Years—Michael C. Durham, geosciences; Gregory A. Flamme, speech pathology and audiology; and Bea C. Hartliden, Miller Auditorium; Ahmad Irade, civil and construction engineering; Dennis C. McCrumm, educational leadership, research and technology; Jacob R. Moreland II, intercollegiate athletics; Mary E. Peterson, speech pathology and audiology; and Helen M. Sharp, speech pathology and audiology.

Memorial contributions may be made to Hospice of Lansing-Stoneleigh or the donor’s local Hospice Society.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Kalamazoo chapter of Wild Ones, a national organization Small co-founded with her husband, Tom, emeritus in English.

Gayle L. Van Sweden, a former Facilities Management staff member, died Jan. 24, 2008, in Kalamazoo, it was recently learned. She was 65.

Van Sweden came to the University and the building custodial and support services unit in 1980. She retired in 2007 after 17-1/2 years of service to WMU.

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On Campus with Joyce Gard

Joyce Gard, speech pathology and audiology, has had a career at WMU that has spanned more than 26 years, first as a secretary in the department and now as office coordinator after being promoted to that post in 1986.

Over the years, Gard has seen the department grow and change. When she joined the staff in 1983, the department was housed in the Speech and Hearing Center located on the East Campus, the University’s original site. Everything was handled in that 1930s-era building, from graduate and undergraduate classes to clinical and research facilities. Then the department moved in 2005 into the state-of-the-art Health and Human Services Building.

Gard came to WMU after the department’s founder, Charles Van Riper, retired as chair, but he gave her some advice that has stuck with her through the years.

“I had an opportunity to visit with him at his home in Portage one afternoon,” she remembers. “He gave me some words of wisdom that I try to live by: ‘Joyce, do something new each day you live, even if it is as simple as driving home from work a new way. That will help keep life interesting.’”

In her role as office coordinator, Gard handles personnel matters for the department as well as grant troubleshooting, payroll and keeping expenses within budget. The precise accounting involved in her job at WMU is balanced nicely with her interest in art, which she indulges in outside of work. She received her bachelor’s degree from the former Nazareth College in Kalamazoo.

“When something doesn’t balance, I enjoy figuring out why. But when I’m home, I leave that behind and can just create,” she says. “It’s easy for me to talk about painting. I’m extremely visual.”

Some of Gard’s creations are displayed on campus. They include a painting called “The Larynx,” which is a colorful tribute to the late Robert Erickson, a former chair of her department. The work features deep reds and a video scope image of the vocal folds. It hangs on the third floor of the University Medical and Health Sciences Center.

“The painting is my voice because it’s the way I express my thoughts,” Gard says. Along with creating art, Gard also likes to read, travel, exercise and watch hockey, as well as to spend time with her friends, two grown children, a son and daughter; and eight-year-old granddaughter.

Piano maker names WMU professor Steinway Artist

Steinway promises its artists a concert-ready Steinway wherever in the world they appear. The company has cultivated this special relationship with pianists in a wide range of genres for decades, from classical musicians such as Lief Ove Andsnes to pop artists such as Billy Joel.

Zegree was presented with the honor at a recent Gershwin concert in the Dalton Center. The concert also celebrated WMU’s quest to become an All-Steinway School and showcased the University’s collection of Steinway pianos.