



Western NEWS

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For and about WMU faculty and staff

Officials seeking master plan input

WMU officials are soliciting input from members of the University community and the general public to help in a 2008 review and update of the Campus Master Plan, which provides priorities and guidelines for future physical development. Planning workshops and input sessions are set in 2020 Fetzner Center from 6 to 9 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 23, and 9 a.m. to noon Friday, Oct. 24.

Each session will include information about the history of the WMU master plan as well as a two-hour input session. The sessions are open to all interested people. This is the first time since the 1999-2000 academic year that the Campus Master Plan has been scheduled for close review and updating. For more information, contact David Dakin at david.dakin@wmich.edu or 387-8543.

WMUK plans short fund-raising drive

The University's public radio station, WMUK, will once again shorten its pledge drive and reduce on-air pledge hours by more than 50 percent during pledge drive week. The station's fall campaign will be short as well as "skinny" in the middle, with only one hour of on-air pledging in both the morning and evening on Tuesday and Wednesday, Oct. 21-22.

All listeners are encouraged to donate prior to the drive, which has a goal of raising \$200,000 and is scheduled to begin Saturday, Oct. 18. To contribute online or volunteer, go to www.wmuk.org and click the "pledge" button or "volunteer" link.

Award workshops slated for faculty

Two more workshops remain for those interested in the Faculty Research and Creative Activities Award. Workshops have been scheduled in the Bernhard Center's Brown and Gold Room at 1:30 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 22, and 10 a.m. Thursday, Oct. 23.

The deadline to apply for FRCA awards of up to \$10,000 is 4:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 5. For more information, go to www.wmich.edu/research/funding/frcaa.html or contact Walter Worthy at walter.worthy@wmich.edu or 387-8282.

Help available for troubled students

Using a new, confidential online form, faculty, staff and students may share their concerns about a student whose behavior is troubling and persists despite efforts to intervene. Information submitted goes to the associate dean of students office, where it is reviewed and next steps are determined.

The new form can be found at www.studentworld.wmich.edu/health.html in the upper right portion of the page. A valid Bronco NetID and password are needed to access the form. Contact Suzie Nagle at suzie.nagle@wmich.edu or 387-2150 with questions.

Officials examine higher education's future

The future of higher education in the state will be explored when Michigan Lt. Gov. John D. Cherry visits the WMU campus to take part in a high-profile panel discussion set for 3 p.m. Friday, Oct. 24, in Schneider Hall's Brown Auditorium.

The "Forum on the Future of Higher Education in Michigan" also will feature WMU Trustee William D. Johnston, who is president, director and chairman of Kalamazoo-based Greenleaf Companies, and Timothy J. Greene, WMU provost and vice president for academic affairs. John M. Dunn, WMU president, will moderate the forum, which is sponsored by the University's Emeriti Council.

The event will begin with each of the three panelists making a short presentation before taking questions from the audience. Cherry will speak on "A Statewide Perspective on Michigan Higher Education." Johnston will focus on "Higher Education and Economic Development in Southwest Michigan," while Greene will explore "The Relationship of WMU to Other Michigan Colleges and Universities."

The wide-ranging program, which is free and open to the public, is expected to cover such issues as state funding and tuition, access, the economic climate and Michigan's need for a work force with higher education credentials.

Service, emerging scholar award recipients named

WMU has named two recipients each for this year's Distinguished Service and Emerging Scholar awards.



Asefa



Poot



Chen



Machiorlatti

The two service award winners are Sisay Asefa, economics, and Abraham Poot, industrial and manufacturing engineering and mechanical and aeronautical engineering.

The pair will each receive a plaque and a \$2,000 honorarium and join a list of 44 other faculty and staff members who have received

national conferences both in the United States and Africa was noted by many of his supporters, as was his ability to attract international graduate students to WMU's programs and his remarkable work ethic and his altruism.

Poot, a 13-year WMU employee, has

served since 2001 as the advisor to the Sun-seeker Solar Car project. His commitment to students was among the primary qualities those nominating him singled out.

He was praised for having "a profound impact" on all of the varied people he comes into contact with, serving as a mentor to hundreds

of students and for being the University's public face and spokesperson on the topic of alternative energy for audiences across the nation.

Selected as 2008-09 Emerging Scholars are Kuanchin Chen, business information systems, and Jennifer Machiorlatti, communication.

This campuswide awards program was launched late in 2006 to acknowledge the accomplishments of faculty members who are among the rising stars in U.S. higher

Academic Convocation

The annual Academic Convocation ceremonies will take place at 3:30 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 30, in the Dalton Center Recital Hall.

The event will feature President John M. Dunn's State of the University address, as well as the presentation of WMU's 2008 Distinguished Faculty Scholar, Distinguished Service, Distinguished Teaching and Emerging Scholar awards.

Asefa, a WMU faculty member for 28 years and also director of the Center for African Development Policy, was lauded by those nominating him for teaching, research and service that has promoted globalization and economic development, particularly in African and other developing nations.

He was praised for bringing together faculty and scholars from across the disciplines and around the world, and for building the same skills among a strong body of graduate students. His work in organizing inter-

continued on page 4

Around Campus

24th Barking Tuna Fest starts today

Mates of State will headline WIDR's 24th annual Barking Tuna Festival, today through Saturday, Oct. 16-18. The annual festival aims to unite students and community members by attracting serious indie acts that would not otherwise be seen in Kalamazoo. Go to www.widr.org for a complete lineup of acts, costs and other details.

Speaker to discuss disability, health

John E. Crews, a lead scientist with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and a WMU alumnus, will speak on "Disability and Health Matters: The Intersection of Public Health and Disability" at 11 a.m. Tuesday, Oct. 21, in 1010 College of Health and Human Services Building. A reception will follow.

Program to focus on wind energy

John Patten, manufacturing engineering, will answer the question, "Is Wind Energy in Your Future?" during a talk from 4 to 6 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 22, in 1260 Chemistry Building. Patten, who was instrumental in adding the wind turbine to the Parkview Campus, will discuss WMU's plans for wind turbines and Michigan's wind energy potential.

Football science to be revealed

Physicist and author Timothy J. Gay will reveal the science behind the game of football during a public talk called "Football Physics" from 7 to 8 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 22, in 1104 Rood Hall. Gay's creative explanations have been featured by NFL Films as well as news outlets such as ABC News, ESPN and the New York Times.

Events turn spotlight on autism

A lecture series and colloquium will turn the spotlight on autism this month.

The 26th annual Van Riper Lecture Series, titled "Social Communication Assessment and Intervention for Children with Autism Spectrum Disorders," will take place Thursday and Friday, Oct. 30-31, in the Fetzer Center. Preregistration is required by tomorrow. To register or

obtain details, go to www.wmich.edu/hhs/sppa/vanriper_lecture.htm or call 387-8045.

The fifth annual Rider Colloquium will be held from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday, Oct. 24, in the Fetzer Center. Preregistration, which is required, should be completed by Monday, Oct. 20. To register or obtain details, go to www.wmich.edu/ridercolloquium or call 387-7260.

Lecture series focuses on disasters

The 2008-09 Werner Sichel Lecture-Seminar Series is bringing the economic impact of natural and unnatural disasters into sharper focus. The series began Oct. 1 and will run through April 8. All presentations will take place from 3 to 4:30 p.m. on Wednesdays in 3508 Knauss Hall. The next talk will be on "Hurricane Recovery: Responsibility and Financing." Go to www.wmich.edu/wmu/news/2008/09/062.html for complete series details.

Frostic series to feature Czech writer

Readings of works by the leading Czech writer Arnošt Lustig, followed by a question-and-answer session with the author, will be presented beginning at 8 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 28, in the Little Theater. The event is part of the Gwen Frostic Reading Series sponsored by the University's Creative Writing Program.

Public events part of conference

A talk on "What's Morally Wrong With Homosexuality?" by Wayne State University's John Corvino and an urban-folk concert by Liz Snavelly are being presented in conjunction with WMU's first regional Student Leadership and Activist Development Conference.

Corvino, who is being co-sponsored by the Center for the Study of Ethics in Society fall lecture series, will give the conference keynote talk at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 23, in the Fetzer Center's Kirsch Auditorium. The concert by Snavelly, who performs under the name LVN-MUZIQ (love'n music), starts at 9 p.m. Friday, Oct. 24, in the Bernhard Center on the Bronco Mall Center Stage.

Staff award deadline nearing

Nominations for the fall round of WMU's semiannual Make a Difference awards are due by Oct. 31.

Make a Difference is a campuswide peer-to-peer program that recognizes WMU staff members for their outstanding accomplishments and daily investment of energy and creativity.

Go to www.wmich.edu/makeadifference for nomination forms and more information.

Jobs

Current job opportunities at WMU are announced daily on the Human Resources Web site at www.wmich.edu/hr/careers-at-wmu.htm. Please note that applications must be submitted online by the stated deadline. Complete application procedures are included with each posting.

Business paper gets excellence award



Arugaslan



Edwards



Samant

A paper by three business professors has been named a winner of the 2008 Emerald Literati Network Awards for Excellence. The paper, titled "Evaluating Large U.S.-based Equity Mutual Funds Using Risk-Adjusted Measures," was written by Onur Arugaslan and emeritus Ed Edwards, finance and commercial law, and Ajay Samant, associate dean of the business college.

Their work was one of three Highly Commended papers. This is the second time Arugaslan has won one of the Emerald Literati Network awards, which recognize the efforts of authors and editors and celebrate the outstanding contributions many

have made, not only to journals, but also to the body of knowledge itself.

Professor appointed to national post



Brinkley

Ellen Brinkley, English, has been appointed to the College Board's Advanced Placement English Course and Examination Review Commission. She is among a dozen members nationwide who will review current College

Board documents related to high school courses and realign them according to current and emerging best practices.

Those selected as commission members are regarded as experts in the area of teaching and learning in English. Brinkley has been serving on the College Board's English Academic Advisory Committee for several years. She also was the primary author of the board's English Language Arts Framework. She directs the National Writing Project's Third Coast Writing Project at WMU.

Doctoral student is national fellow



Burt

DeAnna Burt, a doctoral student in educational leadership, has received a \$14,000 Association for the Study of Higher Education/Lumina Fellowship for 2008-09. The fellowship, one of only nine given nationally this year,

promotes and supports the development of new research questions, methodologies and frameworks for the study of topics related to college choice, financial aid and student retention.

Burt is completing a dissertation titled "African American student persistence: A study of the effects of an intrusive advising intervention." She has worked at Baker College in Muskegon, Mich., for nine years, most recently as dean of technology since 2003. She earned her bachelor's and master's degrees from WMU, both in business.



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WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY

Music school adds several new pianos to its instructional repertoire

A dream that's been on the mind of many School of Music faculty members and administrators started blossoming Oct. 2, when eight more Steinway pianos were delivered to the Dalton Center.

Silvia Roederer, the school's keyboard area chair, explains that a concerned group started meeting several years ago and came to a consensus that the quality of WMU's instruments wasn't keeping pace with its ever-growing number of high-quality music students.

It was agreed that the time had



Left photo: The music school's new pianos took center stage when they were unloaded at the Dalton Center. **Top photo:** Lori Simms, music, tests out the new instruments. (Photos by Deanne Molinari)

come to support the enormous and costly effort to acquire new instruments. Working with Steinway dealer Wilbur Miller, the group explored the possibility of turning WMU into an "all-Steinway school," which means 90 percent of the music school's piano inventory has to be Steinway-designed instruments.

"That name carries quite a bit of prestige, as the Steinway brand of piano is largely agreed upon by artists to be the best-quality instrument," Roederer says. "Almost all of the important concert halls in the United States, as well as many abroad, have Steinways. This month's delivery of new pianos represents a very significant first step in our longer-term goal."

Thus far, 14 new pianos have been acquired in a four-year replacement program that has targeted 99 of the instruments for purchase. When completed, the all-Steinway project will cost more than \$2 million. Nearly one-half of the total project cost has been raised through donations funds.

The instruments being acquired range from \$9,000 to \$60,000, depending on their size and brand.

Roederer notes that WMU has 129 pianos in the Dalton Center's performance halls, classrooms, rehearsal spaces, teaching studios, practice rooms, dance studios, music therapy rooms and backstage dressing rooms.

The School of Music enrolls 360 undergraduate music majors, 35 of whom are piano majors, and 70 graduate students. All music majors must have some piano skills by the time they graduate.

25 Year Club to honor faculty, staff members at 2008 induction ceremony

More than 30 people who began their University service in 1983 are eligible for induction into WMU's 25 Year Club.

They will be recognized during the club's annual gala Wednesday, Dec. 3, in the Bernhard Center. Counting 2008's honorees, the organization has 983 members, 403 who remain on the job at WMU and 580 who have retired.

The 31 employees eligible for induction in the 25 Year Club this year are:

Buff Armstrong, Center for Academic Support; Rebecca A. Beech, English; Tanya Bellamy, Lewis Walker Institute; Richard E. Burton, information

technology; Susan Caringella, sociology; Cynthia R. Dunnaway, public safety; Carol A. Eddy, Sindecuse Health Center; Paul V. Engelmann, industrial and manufacturing engineering; Joycelynn P. Fooy, intercollegiate athletics;

Joyce A. Gard, speech pathology and audiology; Damodar Y. Golhar, management; Terri L. Hageman, dining services-Valley #1; Nancy L. Kablitz, dining services-Valley #1; Donna Kaminski, computer science; Jerry G. Kreuze, accountancy; C.R. Krishna-Swamy, finance and commercial law; Daisy Lipsey, accounts receivable; Vivian L. Locke, biological sciences; Gregory B.

Lozeau, information technology; Vicky A. Meinema, accounting; Peninnah S. Miller, Mallinson Institute; Willie T. Murray, multicultural affairs;

Joan E. O'Bryan, information technology; Gregory G. Roseboom, physical plant-utilities; Tim F. Scheu, finance and commercial law; Matthew C. Steel, music; Janice J. VanDerKley, Office of the Vice President for Business and Finance; Robert R. VanDyke, dining services; Lonnie Wesseling, physical plant-building custodial and support services; Bradley A. Wong, music; and Cindy L. Zimmerman-Wingate, accounting.

'Cool' series of faculty development workshops continuing

A wide range of "cool" programs for the campus community have been scheduled through Nov. 25 as part of the Office of Faculty Development Cool Tools Workshop Series.

The workshops are held from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. Tuesdays and 2 to 3 p.m. Fridays. No pre-registration is required.

The next four programs slated are: "Deterring and Detecting Plagiarism through Assignment Design and Simple Search Tools," Friday, Oct. 17, in 157 Bernhard Center; "Creating the Need to Read in Courses," Tuesday, Oct. 21, in 204 Bernhard; "Retesting as a Collaborative Learning Tool"

Friday, Oct. 24, in 204 Bernhard; and "Using Discussion Threads in Blackboard Vista to Foster Student Interaction" Friday, Oct. 31, in 204 Bernhard.

Go to atis.wmich.edu/facdev for a complete list of scheduled workshops. For more information, call the faculty development office at 387-1725.

Exchange

For sale—Hoover Max Self-propelled vacuum cleaner. Upright, 15 inches wide. It may look it's age, but performance is excellent. All tools on board and three extra bags included. Call Gail at 381-6870.

Putting 'home' in Homecoming



Many of WMU's new Setia Scholars, coached by Mark Delorey, student financial aid and scholarships, participated in the 10th annual Homecoming Campus Classic Oct. 4. Among them were from left, (back) Peter Ruei, John Alier, Peter Kuol and (front) Deng Choul. Setia Scholars are youths who have aged out of foster care and are going to college with the help of a University scholarship named for WMU alumnus John Setia. A big part of the University's commitment to supporting these students, who now number 51, is involving them in campus life. (Photo by Mike Lanka)

Ede memorial service set

A service for David Ede, comparative religion, will be held from 3 to 5 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 29, in the Dalton Center Recital Hall. The program will be from 3 to 4 p.m.

Obituary

Eugene D. Paulson, retired director of the Muskegon Regional Center, died Oct. 6 in Norton Shores, Mich. He was 73.



Paulson

Paulson headed the regional center for 25 years, retiring in 1991. The Muskegon native and WMU alumnus was a nominee for the University's Distinguished Service Award.

Prior to coming to WMU, Paulson was principal of Hile Elementary and Junior High School in Muskegon.

He was a former member of the Port City Beagle Club, past president of the Mona Shores Kiwanis, a Big Brother and a member of the of the National University Extension Association.

A memorial service was held Oct. 13 in Muskegon. Memorial contributions may be made to the Loaves and Fishes Food Pantry.

On Campus with Cris Obreiter



READY TO SERVE
(Photo by Jeanne Baron)

Natalia "Cris" Obreiter is the only full-time WMU staffer working with the otherwise all-military personnel in the Haworth College of Business' Department of Military Science. But the 4-foot, 11-inch dynamo definitely holds her own.

Obreiter, nicknamed "the Hammer," was a sergeant in the U.S. Air Force for nine years. She came to WMU in 1994 as a secretary for a College of Health and Human Services program. In 2000, she became the office associate for military science, which has about 150 ROTC cadets and 10 military faculty on three-year rotations.

"I joined the Air Force after high school graduation in the hopes of seeing the world, and stayed at my first installation for nine years," Obreiter says. "Initially, I worked as an aircraft mechanic on the KC-135. But I weighed 93 pounds and the tool box was 75 pounds, so they moved me into the administrative field."

During her enlistment, she served in the Quality Assurance, Public Affairs and Safety offices. Her favorite assignment, though, was that of base Security Police augmentee, for which she received training in riot control and use of various weapons.

At WMU, Obreiter spends much of her time working with students and agencies such as the Department of Defense, ensuring paperwork is properly completed and maintained to both University and military standards. She also manages 11 fund and cost centers; coordinates classes; schedules annual and special events, including commissioning ceremonies; teaches a class on Army Family Teambuilding; serves as the ROTC facility's building coordinator; and even helps shovel the sidewalks.

"I like to think of myself as the battalion mom. The cadets come in as freshmen and are kind of scared and nervous. You watch them develop over the years, and then you cry when they go through commencement—it's like they're your kids," she says. "I keep a big map on my wall that shows where they've gone. Some are captains now with families of their own, so I now have battalion grandkids."

Obreiter enjoys taking WMU classes for her own edification, as well as gardening, reading, and watching stock car races and hockey—"pretty much anything where a fight or a crash could break out." She met her "awesome" husband, David, in the Air Force. He is in the guard and will be deploying for active duty in January. The couple has one daughter, who is attending WMU, as well as one son.

10 study abroad grants available for faculty, staff

Qualified WMU employees may take advantage of 10 grants of \$1,500 each being offered to offset the expenses of a Mexican Language and Culture study abroad opportunity in Querétaro, Mexico.

Mexican Language and Culture will run from July 5-18 during the 2009 Summer II Session in Querétaro. It is being offered by the Faculty Senate International Education Council and Haenicke Institute for Global Education in collaboration with the Department of Spanish.

The deadline to apply for this special two-week program is Monday, Nov. 24.

Participants will study Spanish language and Mexican culture and take part in two field trips. Eligible applicants must complete



go to www.wmich.edu/studyabroad and click the "Faculty and Staff Information" menu link for a downloadable application. For more faculty development information, visit the Haenicke Institute at <http://international.wmich.edu> or contact Brett Berquist at brett.berquist@wmich.edu or 387-5890.

Spanish 1010 or test out of the equivalent level by the end of the Summer I Session.

To apply,

Graduate open house set

Prospective students are invited to "Explore New Worlds" by attending an open house that will showcase WMU's numerous graduate and professional programs.

The Graduate College's 2008 Graduate Program Open House will take place from 4 to 7 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 23, in the Bernhard Center's South Ballroom. The free event allows undergraduate students from around the region, employees of area businesses, and others thinking about furthering their education to explore their options at WMU.

Representatives will be on hand to discuss the University's more than 100 certificate, master's, specialist and doctoral programs, as well as to answer questions about applications, financial aid and other issues.

Emerging Scholars

education. It is designed to celebrate the contributions of faculty who are in the first decade of their careers at WMU and who, by virtue of their contributions to scholarship or creative activity, have achieved national recognition and demonstrated outstanding promise to achieve renown in their continuing work.

Chen, a faculty member at WMU since 2001, is an internationally known expert on Internet use and online privacy. He was praised in nomination materials for his research, teaching and academic service in the areas of Internet user behavior, Internet dependency, electronic business, and online privacy and security.

Chen also was praised widely for his productivity and the interdisciplinary nature of his research. Still others pointed to the fact that he is sought out by scholars around the world as evidence of the impact he will have on his profession and WMU's prestige.

Machiorlatti, a filmmaker and multimedia specialist whose academic

focus is in the areas of feminist theory and intercultural communication, has been a WMU faculty member since 2004. Many of those supporting her nomination lauded her for her consistent work as both a scholar and artist and for following an academic path that allows her to reach not only her academic peers, but the larger community as well.

An award-winning filmmaker, Machiorlatti's work is regularly screened at conferences and film festivals. Her most recent widely viewed work was a video production on "Copyright and Creativity in the Digital Age," which was selected for juried international film festivals.

She also has received professional recognition of her scholarship through publications and conference presentations. Her work, supporters say, is reflected in her teaching and has greatly benefitted her students.

continued from page 1