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Visiting Scholars and Artists Welcome Presentation by APA President Dr. James Bray

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Good afternoon. I am enormously pleased to welcome everyone here to Western Michigan University for a talk by our guest Dr. James H. Bray, president of the American Psychological Association. It is our honor to have him here with us and a rare opportunity for our campus and community health care professionals to hear from and work with a scholar of Dr. Bray's caliber.

We invited Dr. Bray as part of our Visiting Scholars and Artists Program and worked with our partners in the community--Kalamazoo's Family and Children Services--to make this week's activities possible. This is also an acknowledgment of the areas for which this University is so well known--psychology, counseling, substance abuse work and health care and educational outreach to families.

Dr. Bray's background is in the areas of substance abuse among adolescents as well as his capabilities in the area of family therapy and at-risk young people. His own rich history and the influence he wields as a result has recently been magnified by his new role as APA president.

When he became APA president this past January, he added the power and reputation of its 150,000 members to his base and he now has the opportunity to advocate for families as one of America's most influential mental health public policy leaders.

This afternoon's presentation on "Adolescent and Young Adult Drug and Alcohol Abuse: Parents, Teens and Propaganda" is designed for the entire community. In addition to this talk, our graduate students and faculty and community professionals also will have the pleasure of working with him in three clinical training presentations.
• Welcome Dr. Bray, and welcome to all of you attending today. Enjoy this opportunity.