



Western News

SEPTEMBER 18, 2014
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For and about WMU faculty and staff

Board of Trustees meeting slated

The next meeting of the WMU Board of Trustees will be held Tuesday, Sept. 30. Starting times and information about the agenda will be released shortly before the meeting. Most board meetings are held in the Bernhard Center.

Diversity-related proposals sought

The campus climate for diversity, equity and inclusion tactical action group is seeking proposals from WMU employees, including administrators, by the 5 p.m. Friday, Oct. 3, application deadline. Proposals are invited from those who are interested in implementing transformational diversity change initiatives derived from internal assessments and recommendations. Visit wmich.edu/diversity/initiatives for more information.

Expo focuses on employee wellness

WMU Benefits Expo '14 will feature more than 30 on- and off-campus vendors that promote a healthy lifestyle. The free event is set for 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 1, in the Bernhard Center Ballroom. In addition to perusing vendor booths, attendees may enroll in Phase 2 of WMU's wellness program (Holtyn screenings); listen to presentations, including one on MPERS; and take part in gift drawings. Visit <http://bit.ly/1wCzTRD> for details. Ongoing information about wellness at WMU is available at wmich.edu/wellness.

New resource card being distributed

The Student Concern Resource Card developed by student affairs to assist faculty and staff who notice students exhibiting unusual or troubling behavior has been redone. The new card is being distributed to all WMU faculty and staff this week. Visit wmich.edu/studentaffairs/concern for more information about reporting concerns related to students.

Award applications due Sept. 30

Applications for the Support for Faculty Scholars Award and Undergraduate Research Excellence Award are due Tuesday, Sept. 30. Details and application forms are available by visiting wmich.edu/research and clicking Funding Sources followed by Internal Funding Opportunities.

Grad students share inspiring ideas

The Graduate Student Association's Grad Talks occur regularly throughout the academic year, giving advanced students the chance to speak for 10 minutes about their research ideas and scholarly or creative projects. During the fall and spring semesters, they take place from 4 to 6 p.m. on the fourth Friday of each month in the Lee Honors College lounge. Student presentations are filmed and published on the GSA's website for reference or future viewing. All enrolled graduate students can apply to participate.

WMU again garners high national marks

For the 24th consecutive year, WMU appears on *U.S. News & World Report's* list of "best national universities" and continues to move up in the group of schools the magazine calls the top tier of colleges and universities in the United States.

In addition, *Washington Monthly* has again named WMU one of the country's top 100 national universities and a "Best Bang for the Buck" school.



High national rankings add value to a WMU degree. (Photo by Mike Lanka)

The 2015 *U.S. News* ranking of more than 1,500 four-year colleges and universities was released Sept. 9 and is available online at usnews.com. A print edition will appear at newsstands late this month.

WMU is listed in the top tier among 280 national institutions—173 public, 100 private and seven in the for-profit arena. For the second year in a row, the University moved up eight spots in that tier. It is now among the schools tied at No. 173, putting WMU among the top-100 public universities on the annual list. The colleges and universities in the best national universities second tier are listed alphabetically rather than on a numeric list.

The rankings are based on 16 criteria that include academic reputation, retention and graduation rates, student-faculty ratios, class size, faculty resources, student test scores and alumni giving. Last year, the rankings were redone to more heavily weigh "output measures that signal how well a school educates its students."

Washington Monthly used similar output measures for the rankings it released in late August. WMU was No. 90 on the publication's list of top national universities and No. 54 in its "best bang for the buck" category. *Washington Monthly* bases its rankings on what schools are doing for their students and the country.

Three to receive one of two Universitywide awards

WMU will honor three faculty members for their professional accomplishments in two critical educational areas during this year's Academic Convocation, which is set for 2 p.m. Friday, Oct. 10, in the Dalton Center Recital Hall.

Sue Ellen Christian and Autumn Edwards will receive the 2014-15 Distinguished Teaching Award and Fritz Allhoff will receive the 2014-15 Emerging Scholar Award.

Distinguished Teaching Award

This award is the highest honor given by the University to recognize faculty members for their work as educators.

- **Christian**, who has been a communication faculty member since 2001, is a former *Chicago Tribune* reporter and teaches journalism. She was praised by her nominators for bringing real-world experience to the classroom and helping her students build the skills they will need to succeed in today's news world.

Her ability to build a positive teaching environment, her commitment to her students and her ability to connect with them and to stay connected over time also were noted as among her teaching strengths.

- **Edwards**, who has been a communication faculty member since 2005, focuses on interpersonal communication and communication theory. She was lauded by her nominators for the passion and ability she demonstrates to help students understand



Christian



Edwards



Allhoff

cutting-edge theoretical concepts and their use in the research lab as well as their value when applied in an organizational setting.

As the faculty member who teaches the introductory course to the school's master's program, she is known for helping graduate students develop a strong research foundation and also for generating interest in research among undergraduate students.

Emerging Scholar Award

This award acknowledges the accomplishments of WMU faculty members who are among the rising stars in U.S. higher education. It celebrates the contributions of those who are in the first decade of their WMU careers and have achieved national recognition and demonstrated outstanding promise to achieve renown in their continuing work.

- **Allhoff**, philosophy, is an ethicist as well as a philosopher whose research has broken new ground in the areas of cyberwarfare, torture and nanotechnology. He was cited for not only the incredible quantity of his research output, but also its quality, breadth and reach. Nominators also praised his boundless energy.

Continued on page 4

Around campus and beyond

Next political forum scheduled

WMUK and Friends of WMU, a political action committee, are hosting a political forum Wednesday, Sept. 24, to allow voters to meet and learn more about 20th Senate District candidates. The event will run from 5:30 to 7 p.m. in Schneider Hall's Brown Auditorium. Gordon Evans, WMUK news producer and announcer, will serve as moderator.

Haworth speaker series begins soon

Laura Latiolais, director of community relations and development at Hospice Care of Southwest Michigan, kicks off the 2014-15 Mercantile Bank of Michigan Breakfast Speaker Series. Latiolais will discuss "Care at the End of Life: What Hospice Provides" at 8 a.m. Friday, Sept. 26, in 2150 Schneider Hall. The free event begins with breakfast. Reservations are required at wmich.edu/business/mercantile-rsvp or (269) 387-6059.

Aviation slates anniversary events

To help celebrate WMU's 75 years of aviation education, the campus community is invited to a pancake breakfast fly/drive in from 8 to 11 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 27 at the College of Aviation campus, located at the W.K. Kellogg Airport in Battle Creek. Children under 5 are free.

The college also will host a 75 Year Aviation Gala Friday, Oct. 24, at its Kellogg Airport facilities. The cost for the evening is \$45 or \$10 per student. In

addition to dinner, the fee will include a commemorative coin and brochure. Visit the 75 Year Celebration page at wmich.edu/aviation for information or to register.

Race will benefit injured veterans

An inaugural 5K run and walk Saturday, Sept. 27, at Kanley Track will benefit Homes for Our Troops, a private nonprofit organization supporting injured veterans. Registration begins at 8 a.m. Visit asp5k.com for details.

Japanese author to give reading

Hiromi Ito, one of contemporary Japan's foremost writers, will read from her works from 4 to 5:30 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 25, in 3025 Brown Hall. Her translator, Jeffrey Angles, world languages and literatures, will read from their newest publication together, a long narrative poem. A book signing will follow the presentation, with books available for purchase.

Fundraiser to benefit music school

The School of Music will present its annual WMU Music Showcase Spectacular at 3 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 28, in Miller Auditorium. This showcase of talent for the internationally recognized music program is a benefit concert, with all proceeds applied toward music student scholarships. Tickets are available from Miller Auditorium at millerauditorium.com or by calling (269) 387-2300 or (800) 228-9858.

Psychology department holding autism conference

An all-star lineup of autism researchers is on tap for the psychology department's annual Michigan Autism Conference Thursday and Friday, Sept. 25-26, at the Radisson Plaza Hotel and Suites in Kalamazoo.

The event, for which registration just closed, builds on the success of last year's conference and accentuates WMU's growing national and international reputation in autism treatment and services.

That reputation was further cemented by the recent awarding of a \$4 million grant from the state of Michigan to boost autism research and professional training initiatives as well as the 2008 launching of the Kalamazoo Autism Center by Richard Malott, psychology. The efforts funded by the new state money will move forward under the direction of Stephanie Peterson and Wayne Fuqua, chair and professor of psychology, respectively, whose longtime focus has been on the use of behavior analysis for the treatment of autism.

During the 2014 autism conference, Lt. Gov. Brian Calley will deliver opening remarks. Alan Poling, psychology, will make a keynote presentation while Peterson will lead one of the workshops. Visit michiganautismconference.org for more information.

Correction

The WMU Thomas M. Cooley Law School speaker pictured on Page 1 of the Sept. 4 *Western News* should have been identified as Lawrence P. Nolan, chair of Cooley's Board of Directors.

Jobs

Current job opportunities at WMU are announced daily on the Human Resources website at wmich.edu/hr/jobs. Please note that applications must be submitted online by the stated deadline. Complete application procedures are included with each posting.

Duo earns award for retention program

Geralyn Heystek and Chris Robinson, Haworth College of Business, have been awarded first place in the Innovation in Business Education Award program sponsored by



Heystek



Robinson

the MidAmerican Business Deans Association. They earned the award for developing the Phoenix Program, an initiative designed to support the growth and success of business students.

The two developed an academic recovery course designed to provide students with needed support in various areas of study and a system to monitor and follow up with all students on probation.

They also worked to establish a dedicated space in the library—the Bronco Study Zone—for students across campus to complete required study hours. That effort was a collaboration with Dean Joseph Reish, Associate Provost Christopher Tremblay, and Katie Easley, College of Arts and Sciences.

Emeritus elected to international post

Peter W. Krawutschke, emeritus in world languages and literatures, has been elected an honorary advisor to the International Federation of Translators, or FIT. Krawutschke was



Krawutschke

elected to the prestigious lifetime position during FIT's World Congress Aug. 4-6 in Berlin.

The organization is an international grouping of associations of translators, interpreters and terminologists that promotes professionalism in those disciplines. It has more than 100 professional associations as affiliates and represents some 80,000 translators in 55 countries.

Krawutschke, who is known around the globe, taught German and retired at the end of 2013 after 46 years of service to the University. He is a past president of the American Translators Association, which is a FIT affiliate, and the only ATA member to also have served as FIT's president.

Staff nominations due Oct. 31

Nominations for fall semiannual Make a Difference awards are due by Friday, Oct. 31.

Those planning to nominate a staff member for this campuswide peer-to-peer awards program should note that semiannual and annual award recipients may still win more than once, but they are now limited to receiving one award every five academic years.

Visit wmich.edu/makeadifference for full details and nomination forms.

Exchange

For sale—All-season, park model home for relocation to a place of your choice. Two bedrooms, one bathroom, central air and heat, 400 square feet. Vinyl siding, shingled roof and deck with hard awning. Price: \$29,900. Contact: Margaret at (269) 823-2476.

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WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY

WMU wins grant, partners with Oxford

The University has been awarded a \$779,072 grant to assemble a digital library and interactive Web portal of historical religious philosophical writings in partnership with the University of Oxford, the oldest and one of the most prestigious universities in the English-speaking world.



McGrew

The project is essentially the brainchild of Timothy McGrew, philosophy, who will be working closely with Oxford's prestigious Bodleian Library to access philosophical religious writings from about the late 1600s through the early 20th century.

McGrew was among a group of researchers summoned to Oxford a little more than a year ago. It was there that he floated the idea of unearthing philosophical and religious writings that have not been refuted, but have long since been forgotten, leaving gaps in the historical record.

The John Templeton Foundation, a philanthropic organization working as a catalyst for discoveries relating to the big questions of human purpose and ultimate reality, is

Honors college building earns silver-level LEED certification

The Lee Honors College Building has been awarded LEED silver certification by the U.S. Green Building Council.

This 'green' building designation brings the number of LEED-certified structures on the WMU campus to 10, with 10 more going through the certification process.

"That makes WMU a leader in the state and region for LEED-certified buildings," says Peter J. Strazdas, associate vice president for facilities management.

Strazdas adds that details are being worked out to begin a graduate class next year that offers practical experience in certifying buildings and can give students the opportunity to earn LEED credentialing.

As the result of a major renovation and addition project completed in 2012, energy usage in the honors college building has been reduced by more than 50 percent, despite the 2,500 square foot addition; potable water usage by 30 percent; and irrigation water usage by 69 percent. In addition, all but 3 percent of construction waste was diverted from landfills through reuse and recycling.

appropriating a little more than \$2.3 million to the project.

Joining the effort is Texas A&M University, which will handle much of the digitization of historical philosophical materials. But a key element of the project also will be placing writings in their proper historical context.

"There are some issues that are always interesting, always sort of hot-button issues—existence of god, miracles—that's always going to get people going from one side or another," McGrew says.

"What the Templeton Foundation said was, 'Look, what's the current state of discussion on this, professionally speaking, and what could be done to make it better, more interesting and more available to people?'"

Final design direction for dining center revealed

The final session to involve the WMU community in the design process for the new Valley Dining Center was held Monday, with representatives from the Detroit firm SmithGroupJJR unveiling the final direction for the center's placement and design.

The direction incorporates comments expressed during the previous public sessions



Artist's rendering of the south facade, which overlooks the pond.

Vet office gets new director

Joyce M. Busch, who has many years of experience managing and working with diverse people and teams in as well as out of the military, began duties Sept. 8 as director of the Office of Military and Veterans Affairs.



Busch

The office provides a variety of services and information to service members and veterans, and their family members.

A mixer has been slated so faculty, staff and students can meet Busch, as well as the office's news outreach and recruitment coordinator, Billy Clayton.

The event will be held from 4 to 6 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 24, in the Student Veteran Lounge on the first floor of Ellsworth Hall.

and should result in the building achieving at least silver-level LEED certification from the U.S. Green Building Council (see related honors college story on this page).

The dining center will be integrated with the surrounding environment and situated on the north edge of Goldsworth Drive overlooking the Goldsworth Valley Pond.

Although designed to primarily serve students living in the Valley, the facility will be open to all WMU students, faculty and staff members, and visitors.

Food service options will be provided in a restaurant-like atmosphere in nine distinct venues offering a wide variety of healthy options. In addition, fresh food will be prepared in front of patrons.

First China Festival offered

An activity-laden China Festival to commemorate the traditional Chinese Moon Festival is set for noon to 5 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 27, in the Student Recreation Center. Visit wmich.edu/news/2014/09/18461 for details.

Obituaries



Healy

Helen J. Healy, emerita in University Libraries, died July 26, in Portage. She was 76. Healy joined the faculty in 1965 and retired in 2000 after 36 years of service.

Gifts may be made to the Peoples Church in Kalamazoo or the Alzheimer's Association. Visit langelands.com for more information.



Van Hoeven

Shirley Van Hoeven, emerita in communication, died Sept. 8 as the result of injuries sustained Sept. 5 when a wrongway driver hit the car she was riding in. Van Hoeven was 79.

A memorial service will be held after her husband, Donald, a retired WMU campus minister, improves from injuries he sustained in the accident.

Van Hoeven retired in 1999 after 28 years of service. Gifts may be made to the communication school's endowed Shirley A. Van Hoeven Graduate Fellowship or the Community Foundation Holland/Zeland Area's John G. Bouwman, Camp Sunshine Endowment Fund. Visit langelands.com for more information.

Service

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

35 Years—Guy R. Barks, Miller Auditorium.

30 Years—Ellen Eberstein, landscape services; Kelley Oliver, Registrar's Office; Christine A. Paver, information technology; and Mark E. Tomlinson, WMUK Radio.

25 Years—Kristina Berns, building custodial and support services; Judith Jones, admissions; Deanna L. Mergen-Henry, West Hills Athletic Club; Joyce A. Parsons, facilities management associate vice president's office; Alison K. Thor, University Libraries; and Carla S. Truppa, building custodial and support services.

20 Years—Cris Obreiter, military science and leadership, and Alonzo Wilson, information technology.

15 Years—Massood Z. Atashbar, electrical and computer engineering; Derek L. Diget, information technology; Lana Stier, Sindecuse Health Center; Evelyn B. Winfield-Thomas, institutional equity; and the following West Hills Athletic Club personnel, Elisa R. Dely, Deno S. Frier, Robert S. Kennedy, Kim A. Livock, Jody J. McBain, Tyler H. Norman, Betsy Sell, Lee E. Smith and Chad W. Ward.

10 Years—Stephanie DenHamer, public safety.

Five Years—Mindi K. Bagnall, art; Julie Kay Carroll, finance associate vice president's office; Jillian F. Frazee, Center for Disability Services; Linda K. Harrison, geosciences; Renee M. Pearl, development and alumni relations; Kelly N. Robertson, Evaluation Center; and Stephanie Anne Westine, Center for Academic Success Programs.

On Campus with Kathleen MacKenzie



TAILOR MADE JOB
(Photo by Deanne Puca)

From her workshop on the third floor of the Gilmore Theatre Complex, costume shop manager Kathleen MacKenzie and her student assistants gather, design, sew and organize hundreds of costume pieces for University Theatre productions.

"My job is to take the students' two-dimensional drawings and make them into three-dimensional costumes that an actor can function in on stage," MacKenzie says.

That task involves locating the right pieces, retrofitting existing or creating new costumes, and keeping track of existing inventory. But MacKenzie also teaches a few costume construction classes and requires every student to learn basic sewing as part of their education.

Her commitment is evident in that she has taught herself how to sew with her left hand so she can teach her left-handed students, as well. "It's a constant learning lab and environment here," she admits.

MacKenzie's interest in costume design started when she was cast in "The King and I" in the first grade, and she found herself with other child actors under the character Anna's hoop skirt during a scene. Later, in the eighth grade, she had the opportunity to interview a costume designer for a school assignment.

"When I was making Barbie dresses, they were making dresses from the 18th century and not modern-day fashion," MacKenzie says. "It was always something that fascinated me."

She earned a bachelor's degree from Eastern Michigan University and a master's degree in costume design from Wayne State University. Shortly after graduating from WSU, she began working as WMU's first costumer, a position she's held for the past 15 years.

Her husband, John, is a producer and director in WMU's information technology office. The couple live in Kalamazoo with their two dogs, and they enjoy participating in local medieval re-enactments.

In addition, MacKenzie is active with American Tribal-Style belly dance, a form of dance that utilizes improvisational choreography by using a common vocabulary of movements with cues allowing dancers from all over the world to dance together. She makes costumes for that activity as well as the couple's medieval re-enactments and has a particular interest in 16th-century textiles from the former Ottoman Empire, now Turkey.

Installation project impacts turnaround, prompts temporary bus stop changes

Construction fencing went up Monday in preparation for installation of a new iconic feature on the University's West Campus that is scheduled for completion in mid-November, weather permitting.

The fencing closes off the turnaround area located at the end of West Michigan Avenue by the Seibert Administration Building and Sangren Hall. It will remain in place while a large symbolic representation of the University seal is installed inside the turnaround.

Although the turnaround was closed to traffic this past weekend, it reopened Monday. Only intermittent closures for specific tasks are expected in the future as work on the project progresses.

However, the Bronco Transit office has decided to avoid using this road area until the construction fencing has been removed. This has resulted in relocation of the bus stops at the Bernhard Center for both the Gold and Brown routes.

- The Brown Route stop has been moved to the corner of West Michigan and North Dormitory Road.

- The Gold Route stop has been moved to the bus shelter on North Dormitory by Ellsworth Hall.

The new seal icon, a creation of Kalamazoo

artist Joshua Diedrich, was commissioned to celebrate WMU's history and craft a more inviting entry to the pedestrian mall that begins in front of Sangren. The piece features a raised version of the University seal that includes a tall 3-D element, as well as two fountains and dedicated lighting.

Fundraising effort being 'Dunn' well—Students have begun selling official Dunn Zone T-shirts, featuring the face of WMU President John M. Dunn, for \$10. All proceeds go to the Student Emergency Relief Fund. The fund is available to all WMU students facing immediate financial need and part of the Invisible Need Project, which also includes a food pantry for students. The project is being supported by the Consider It Dunn Campaign, a fundraising and student engagement campaign. The Dunn Zone, the new student entrance at Waldo Stadium's Gate 8, features giveaways and more for students at home football games. The related fundraising T-shirts are being sold through various registered student groups, at athletic events and at the Campus Flagpoles on Western Wednesdays. Visit <http://bit.ly/1qZan4f> to order a shirt online. (Photo by Mike Lanka)



Continued from page 1

Three to receive awards

A prolific writer and editor, Allhoff has numerous books and journal articles to his credit. He also has been managing editor for 13 different publication series as well as a reviewer for multiple journals and presses.

Allhoff joined the faculty in 2005 and has served as director of graduate studies since 2008. He recently earned a juris doctorate and is taking a professional development leave this semester to serve as a judicial clerk for an Alaska Supreme Court justice.

Campus United Way campaign for 2014 is officially underway

Distribution of pledge cards to all faculty and staff members and retirees has begun for the 2014 campus United Way campaign.

The campaign launched Sept. 16 with a goal of collecting \$282,335. That number symbolizes WMU's commitment to education and represents all certificates and degrees awarded to WMU graduates since 1904, including the anticipated number to be awarded yet this year.

Eligible contributors will be entered into a drawing by the regional United Way for up to \$30,000 toward a new vehicle. Visit changethestory.org for more regional United Way information and wmich.edu/news/2014/09/18457 for campus campaign details. Contact wmu-united-way@wmich.edu with donation-related questions or to schedule a United Way meeting in your department.

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