



# Western News

NOVEMBER 13, 2014  
Volume 41, Number 6

For and about WMU faculty and staff

## Employees urged to update status

WMU is required to collect information regarding disability status and veteran status to comply with new federal government guidelines for individuals with disabilities and veterans of the U.S. Armed Forces. All faculty and staff members are asked to assist by reviewing and, if necessary, updating two aspects of their personal information.

To do so, visit the My Self Service channel in GoWMU, select Employee Self Service and then Main Menu. Next, select Self Service, Personal Information and Personal Information Summary. Scroll down to the Employee Information section to review your military and disability status. To make changes, select the Change Employee Information button and then place a "Y" for yes in the appropriate box and click Save.

Visit [wmich.edu/hr/resources/selfservice](http://wmich.edu/hr/resources/selfservice) for Employee Self-Service Guides. Included are guides that provide additional information about disability and veteran status as well as about how to access and use Employee Self Service.

## Winter closure extended to Jan. 2

President John M. Dunn notified employees in a campuswide email earlier this month that Friday, Jan. 2, has been added to the period designated as the 2014 winter closure. Dunn also thanked employees for helping to make the fall semester a successful one.

In addition, he noted that there will be no need to use annual leave for Jan. 2, but as with every closure period, some employees's work schedules may differ from the posted winter closure schedule. Those whose schedules differ will be notified by their supervisors.

## Holiday dining spectacular planned

Dining Services invites employees, students and guests to a Holiday Spectacular dining event from 4 to 8 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 19, in the dining halls for dinner and from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 20, in the Bernhard Café and Market for lunch. Visit [wmich.edu/dining/events](http://wmich.edu/dining/events) for details.

## Poinsettia orders due Nov. 24

The Professional Support Staff Organization is sponsoring its annual poinsettia sale and accepting orders through 4 p.m. Monday, Nov. 24. This year's colors are glitter and red. Small and large poinsettias are available for \$6 and \$10, respectively. They will be available for pickup from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 2, in 105 Bernhard Center. For an order form, contact [cindy.zimmerman@wmich.edu](mailto:cindy.zimmerman@wmich.edu) or (269) 387-4570.

## Only one more Western News this fall

Because of the Thanksgiving recess, the next *Western News* will be published Thursday, Dec. 4. That will be last issue in 2014. The paper will resume publication Thursday, Jan. 15, after the start of the 2015 spring semester.

## CHHS department awarded \$3.7 million

Four recent grants totaling \$3.7 million have been awarded to the Department of Blindness and Low Vision Studies and are aimed at filling a severe shortage of specialists trained to help people with vision problems live fuller, happier lives.

The personnel training grants are from the U.S. Department of Education and span five years. They will help prepare orientation and mobility specialists, vision rehabilitation therapists, rehabilitation counselors, and teachers of children who are visually impaired.

Ultimately, they will help thousands of people who are blind and visually impaired by educating the next generation of specialists who will work with visually impaired youths and adults in schools and organizations, as well as by recruiting scholars who represent the diverse populations they will serve. The awards respond to severe personnel shortages nationally and statewide and address employment challenges faced by those with visual impairments.



About 70 percent of Michigan's rehabilitation staff will retire in the next five years. (Photo courtesy of blindness and low vision studies)

The four grants, along with the amounts, the blindness and low vision studies faculty members who are the principal investigators, and a brief description, are:

- Orientation and Mobility Personnel Preparation, \$746,971, **Dae Shik Kim**. Orientation and mobility professionals supported by this award will teach safe and efficient travel skills to working-age

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## Forums to discuss progress on diversity suggestions

Progress toward recommendations for WMU's Campus Climate for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion study will be shared this month during two public forums.

Roger L. Worthington, campus climate study consultant, will lead the discussion from 4 to 5:30 p.m. today, Thursday, Nov. 13, and from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Friday, Nov. 14, in the Multicultural Center of the Trimpe Building. Refreshments will be provided.

The WMU study was the product of a multiyear, commissioned effort that included a survey and focus groups. Among the survey respondents were 4,072 students, 493 faculty members, 924 staff members and 126 administrators. They amounted to nearly 20 percent of the campus community, double the rate typical for such surveys.

The forums will showcase the initiatives that are in progress and encourage attendees to further engage and energize the campus community toward continued efforts. They are being sponsored by the Campus Climate for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Tactical Action Community, which is part of WMU's strategic planning infrastructure.

Visit [wmich.edu/diversity](http://wmich.edu/diversity) for the full study report or an executive summary.

## Trustees extend president's contract into 2017

Acting during a special session Nov. 7, the WMU Board of Trustees unanimously voted to extend the contract of President John M. Dunn for an additional year, with that term now to end June 30, 2017.



Dunn

Dunn was lauded by board Chair James Hettinger, who praised the president's performance and laid out the board's commitment to leadership stability. "We have made huge progress in the past five years," Hettinger noted. "We are not only a Carnegie research institution, but we've now affiliated with a law school and added a med school, and we are playing at a whole different level than we were 10 or 15 years ago. Future leadership

is going to be critical to this institution."

Trustee William Johnston added his praise, thanking Dunn for agreeing to the extension and for "bringing great aspirations to the University, the University community and to the community at large."

As part of its resolution, the board increased Dunn's salary by 2 percent, the same percentage increase awarded earlier this fall to employee groups who do not have union representation.

Dunn's 2 percent increase brings his annual salary to \$390,431. Following his past practice, Dunn will donate back to WMU the cumulative amount of his pay increases since his 2007 starting salary of \$345,000. This means that this year, he will donate more than \$45,000 to be used for student scholarship aid.

# Around campus and beyond

## Entrepreneurship Forum speakers set

The next two Entrepreneurship Forum speakers will be Norm Braksick, a retired Foods Resource Bank executive, Friday, Nov. 14, and Matt and Rene Greff, of Arbor Brewing, Friday, Dec. 5. Visit [wmich.edu/businessnews/calendar](http://wmich.edu/businessnews/calendar) for details.

## Public pregame event scheduled

Festivities will surround the home football game with Eastern Michigan University at 2 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 15, which is Education Day and the Hall of Fame game. The day also has been reserved as a time for WMU Cooley Law School and WMU Stryker School of Medicine community members to experience Bronco athletics. Visit [wmubroncos.com/pdf4/144288.pdf](http://wmubroncos.com/pdf4/144288.pdf) for details about the pregame event.

## Special movie screening set for WMU

The documentary film "Pilot Error," which counts four WMU alumni among its cast and crew, will be screened during Western Night at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 18, in the Kalamazoo 10 theatre. WMU's alumni will greet theatregoers and sign autographs before the movie, and there will be a talk-back session after the movie. Tickets will cost \$5 for students.

## Famous photographer to speak

Internationally renowned photographer Garth Lenz will speak at 5:30 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 20, in 2008 Richmond Center.

Lenz will discuss his work documenting the environmental consequences of oil exploration in Alberta, Canada. He will draw from images to contrast the beauty and biological significance of Canada's boreal forest with the world's largest energy project—the Alberta Tar Sands.

## Faculty member to give reading

Richard Katrovas, English, will read from his works at 8 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 20, in 208-09 Bernhard Center. Katrovas is the author of 14 books of poetry, fiction and nonfiction. Pulitzer Prize winner Tracy Kidder called one of his works "a potent, fascinating book."

## BTR Park update slated this month

Bob Miller, associate vice president for community outreach, will present an update on the Business Technology and Research Park during the Mercantile Bank of Michigan Breakfast Speaker Series Friday, Nov. 21. Visit [wmich.edu/business/mercantile-rsvp](http://wmich.edu/business/mercantile-rsvp) for details.

## APA schedules holiday gathering

The Administrative Professional Association will hold its annual holiday gathering from 6 to 10 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 17, in the Music Tavern (the back room of Bell's Brewery Eccentric Café). The registration deadline is 5 p.m. Monday, Dec. 1. Visit [mywmu.com/apaparty](http://mywmu.com/apaparty) for cost and registration details.

## Former trustee publishes book

George Franklin, a former WMU trustee and vice president of worldwide government relations for the Kellogg Co., is the author of "Raisin Bran and other Cereal Wars: 30



Franklin

Years of Lobbying for the Most Famous Tiger in the World," published by iUniverse LLC.

The 154-page book gives readers an inside look at the life of a corporate lobbyist. A fun and easy read, it provides

unique insights into the widely misunderstood role of corporate government relations and how it affects public policy, with plenty of interesting stories along the way.

Franklin served as a WMU trustee from 1989 to 2001 and now is president of Franklin Public Affairs LLC in Kalamazoo, a government relations and public policy firm.

## Math educator named ISDDE Fellow

Christian Hirsch, mathematics, was recently appointed a fellow of the International Society for Design and Development in Education. Hirsch received the honor



Hirsch

at the society's annual conference held at the University of Cambridge in October.

The award recognizes scholars who have outstanding records as designers and project leaders whose work provides

evidence of quality and innovation in the development of educational products for mathematics and science education, and in the design process itself.

Cited among Hirsch's body of design and development work was Making Mathematics Accessible to All, a statewide, multiuniversity and multiyear professional development program that broke new ground. Among his curriculum-related works cited was Core-Plus Mathematics, a problem-based, inquiry-oriented and technology-rich four-year integrated high school mathematics program that has received national and international accolades.

## Professor elected to national board

Michael G. Miller, human performance and health education, has been elected to the board of directors for the National Strength and Conditioning Association.



Miller

The association has nearly 42,000 members representing 72 countries and is the leader in the research and education of strength and conditioning professionals.

It offers certifications as Certified Strength and Conditioning Specialist, Certified Personal Trainer, Certified Special Population Specialist, and Tactical Strength and Conditioning-Facilitator.

Miller is the director of WMU's graduate athletic training program and a National Athletic Trainers' Association Fellow. He chairs that association's Research and Development Committee for the Executive Committee for Education and as such, is coordinating research activities in order to develop a "research agenda for the future of athletic training education."

## Emeriti Council funds \$9,200 in student scholarships

Twenty-three deserving undergraduate students have been awarded \$400 Emeriti Council Book Scholarships to help them purchase textbooks and school supplies.

All \$9,200 in book scholarship funds was awarded by representatives from student financial aid and scholarships to recipients based on financial need and academic merit.

The Emeriti Council established the scholarships in 2004 to help students defray the high costs of textbooks. Since then, \$84,000

has been awarded to 239 students, many of whom have thanked the council for this unexpected financial assistance.

The organization also oversees the Emeriti Council Medallion Scholarship Fund. At present, three students are benefiting from those scholarships, which are now valued at \$50,000 over four years.

The council is a 12-person body elected by and from the University's emeriti. Along with supporting all emeriti, its principal goals include fostering strong relationships between emeriti and the University as well as supporting the University's growth and development.

Gifts to either the Book or Medallion scholarships are tax deductible and, regardless of size, important to WMU students.

To help support one or both of those scholarships, make a gift by credit card at [mywmu.com/mygift](http://mywmu.com/mygift) or send a check payable to the WMU Foundation to: WMU Foundation, Gift Processing Office, Kalamazoo, MI 49008-5403. Be sure to indicate your gift designation.

Visit [wmich.edu/emeriti](http://wmich.edu/emeriti) for more information about the council.

## Jobs

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

## Western News

Volume 41 Number 6

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WESTERN NEWS (USPS 362-210) is published by the Office of University Relations, Walwood Hall, Western Michigan University, 1903 W. Michigan Ave., Kalamazoo, MI 49008-5433, every other week during the fall and spring semesters and Summer I session. Periodicals postage paid at Kalamazoo, MI 49008-5165.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to *Western News*, Office of University Relations, Western Michigan University, 1903 W. Michigan Ave., Kalamazoo, MI 49008-5433.

**DEADLINE:** Items to be considered for publication should be submitted to the Office of University Relations by 5 p.m. Friday the week preceding publication. Publication dates for the fall semester are **Sept. 4 and 18, Oct. 2, 16 and 30, Nov. 13 and Dec. 4.** Items may be submitted to Jeanne Baron via: email, [jeanne.baron@wmich.edu](mailto:jeanne.baron@wmich.edu); mail, Campus Mail Stop 5433; phone, (269) 387-8433; or fax, (269) 387-8422.

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WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY

# Experience a world of different cultures during one week

WMU will highlight various countries and cultures during its annual observance of International Education Week, set for Saturday through Friday, Nov. 15-21.



The week kicks off Saturday with the Kalamazoo Russian Festival from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. in the Fetzer Center. The event includes a series of humanities lectures and readings.

WMU faculty members making presentations will be **Scott M. Friesner**, Lee Honors College; **James M. Butterfield**, political science; and **Judith A. Rypma**, English.

Opening ceremonies at 9:30 a.m. with local

## General education is event topic

Members of the campus community are invited to two remaining brown-bag lunch discussions concerning the University's general education program.

The events are set for noon to 1 p.m. in the University Center for the Humanities, 2500 Knauss Hall, Tuesday, Nov. 18, and Wednesday, Dec. 3.

They are part of a series being offered by the Faculty Senate's Ad Hoc Committee on General Education to provide a forum for faculty to explore the possibilities of imagining general education differently.

Topics will include exploring the guiding principles and goals of an exemplary general education program.

## Retirement reception

Christian Hirsch, mathematics, will be honored for his 41 years of service during a retirement reception from 3 to 6 p.m. Friday, Nov. 21, in the Oaklands. Visit [www.mywmu.com/hirschfund](http://www.mywmu.com/hirschfund) to learn about an endowment alumni have created in his honor and to leave a congratulatory message or make a gift to the endowment.

## Service

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

**30 Years**—Lou Ann Grover, teaching, learning and educational studies, and Donna St. John, admissions.

**25 Years**—Rex J. DeVries, landscape Services.

**20 Years**—Christine E. Jager, student affairs; Terri Sprague, Human Resources; and Penny Villadsen, building custodial and support services.

**15 Years**—Margie A. Glenn, cash operations; Paul E. Howell, University Libraries; Judith A. King, College of Health and Human Services; Robert G. Miller, associate vice president for community outreach; Linda S. Piper, Bernhard Center Dining

and WMU dignitaries will begin the day, which celebrates Russian culture and includes folk dancers, singers, musicians, Russian cuisine and children's activities.

Also of note, there will be an American Thanksgiving Celebration from noon to 1:30 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 20, in Kanley Chapel, during which international students can learn the history of Thanksgiving Day in the United States and enjoy a traditional Thanksgiving Day dinner.

Other events during the week include Brazilian Day and Cricket Mania Sunday, Nov. 16; Southeast Asian Cuisines Festival Monday, Nov. 17; Window to China and Malaysia Night Tuesday, Nov. 18; Calligraphy Workshop and Day of China Wednesday, Nov. 19; and Japan Festival, Dominican Festival and Legally Desi Friday, Nov. 21.

## Special event tonight spotlights Native Americans

Anishinaabe poet and novelist Gordon Henry Jr. will perform tonight as part of the Lee Honors College's fall Mix It Up Thursdays series.

Henry will present Chippewa-style chants, recitation and storytelling set to the backdrop of musical improvisation at 7 p.m. in 1730 Lee Honors College Building.

During the free event, he will perform with founding members of the music group Northwoods Improvisors. His performance will focus on contemporary Native American storytelling and culture.

## Academic offerings expanding in Battle Creek, metro Detroit

Starting with the 2015 spring semester, courses will be offered in Battle Creek that are tailored to the unit training weekend schedules of Air National Guard members. Meanwhile, an internationally known graduate program for individuals who work with people with autism and other developmental disabilities will be offered in Royal Oak.

The new Battle Creek courses will feature the convenience of online learning blended with face-to-face meetings. For those tailored for Air National Guard members, the face-to-face meetings will be offered on unit training weekends at WMU's College of Aviation, located just across the airfield

Services; and Timothy Howard Unangst, public safety.

**10 Years**—Jonathan Dennis, College of Aviation; Brenda S. Hamlyn, Registrar's Office; Mark T. Scafaria, Facilities Management; Wendy Jean Schutz, Logistical Services; and William Whisman, information technology.

**Five Years**—Lenore Marie Bishop, Registrar's Office; Denise Ann DeGraaf, building custodial and support services; James R. Fritz, information technology; Angelita Mary Kolodziejczyk, Valley #1 Dining Service; Renia Renee May, Davis Dining Services; James Philip Oswalt, maintenance services; Raymond Thompson, College of Aviation; and Kathleen Sue VanFulpen, Valley #2 Dining Service.

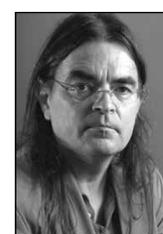


Legally Desi 2013 dancers (Photo by Margaret von Steinen)

International Education Week is a joint initiative of the U.S. departments of State and Education and an opportunity to celebrate the benefits of international education and exchange worldwide.

WMU's observance is being organized by the International Student Activities office in the Haenicke Institute for Global Education.

Attendees will have a chance to hear and view live music and dance performances representing many cultures and countries throughout the week. All events are free, except for nominal entrance fees for the Russian festival and Brazilian Day.



Henry

Henry is a professor of English at Michigan State University and an enrolled member of the White Earth Chippewa Tribe of Minnesota.

He is the author of several books, including the novel, "The Light People," which won the American Book Award in 1994. He also co-wrote the 2004 textbook, "The Ojibway," and edits the MSU Press' American Indian Studies Series.

from the Kellogg Air National Guard Base.

The first tailored course will be an English class that fills credit requirements toward an associate or bachelor's degree. Various academic units and support staff will be on the base during the Nov. 22-23 training weekend to enroll students in the class, discuss additional course possibilities and assess the education needs of guard members.

The other new offering through Extended University Programs is a complete degree program, the Master of Arts in psychology-behavior analysis. It will be offered at WMU-MetroDetroit in Royal Oak.

The degree program is designed to produce qualified, engaged professionals and to move forward the fields of autism therapy and research. It satisfies the educational requirements for becoming a Board Certified Behavior Analyst.

## Theatre department food drive is supporting WMU students

The Department of Theatre's annual "Acting Against Poverty" food drive is supporting the Invisible Need Project food pantry this year.

The drive will run in conjunction with the Friday, Nov. 14, through Sunday, Nov. 23, production of "Hair."

Canned food and other non-perishable items should be brought to the Gilmore Theatre Complex during "Hair's" run.

All donations will go to the Invisible Need Project food pantry.

## On Campus with Cassandra Motycka



DOING DOUBLE DUTY  
(Photo by Deanne Puca)

From scheduling to patient and doctor support, Cassandra Motycka wears many hats as an administrative assistant for both the Vision Clinic and the Van Riper Language, Speech and Hearing Clinic.

She admittedly does “everything except see patients” from her office on the fourth floor of the University Medical and Health Sciences Center, which houses WMU’s Unified Clinics as well as various WMU Homer Stryker M.D. School of Medicine facilities.

In the five years since she joined WMU’s staff, she’s seen patient volume steadily grow and services expand as the Vision Clinic office hired an on-site optometrist in 2011 and added a retail frame and lens business.

Besides the convenience of having vision and audiology services available right on campus, Motycka says patients also appreciate the personalized care they receive.

“The doctors we have here will go above and beyond for their patients. The people who work here will go to people’s homes to help them set up equipment. They treat each patient with such care,” she says. “It is such a pleasure to come to work with people like that.”

Motycka earned two degrees from WMU—a bachelor’s degree in secondary education and a master’s degree in education and professional development. A native of Mendon, she now lives in Vicksburg with her husband Kevin and two children, daughter Elli, 15, and son Patrick, 10. The children’s activities keep the family busy, but Motycka also enjoys running, reading and being involved with her church, Family Bible Church in Mendon.

### Activities staged in honor of veterans, military personnel

Several activities have been taking place this month to honor or assist WMU students, WMU employees and members of the broader community who are military veterans or are currently deployed.

Still to come is a celebration for veterans from all service branches from 2 to 4 p.m. today in the Activities Therapy Building. In addition to food and drink, various services will be provided during the event. Reservations were requested so organizers could get a food count, but they are not required to attend the celebration.

Friday, Nov. 14, is the Veterans Day 5K Run and Celebration beginning at 9 a.m. at the Campus Flagpoles by the Lee Honors College. The event features a 5K run followed by a celebration at the Wesley Foundation that includes a complimentary breakfast and motivational remarks by retired Brig. Gen. Michael C.H. McDaniel, professor of constitutional law at the WMU Thomas M. Cooley Law School.

Also, anyone who is a veteran or still active in the military may contact the Office of Military and Veterans Affairs and request up to four free tickets to the football game against Northern Illinois University (time has yet to be announced) Friday, Nov. 28, and up to two tickets to the hockey game against Colorado College at 7 p.m. Friday, Dec. 12.

To assist deployed troops, items for holiday care packages are being collected. For a list of high-demand items, visit [wmich.edu/military](http://wmich.edu/military) and click Events. Donations may be dropped off in the Student Veteran Lounge, 1304 Ellsworth Hall; at the Campus Flagpoles before the 5K run Nov. 14; and in the lobby of Lawson Ice Arena before the hockey game Dec. 12.



The flag raising at this year’s ROTC 9/11 vigil (Photo by Mike Lanka)

### Application fee waived for MBA open house attendees

Those aspiring to earn a Master of Business Administration can get a head start this month by attending an MBA open house from 9 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 19, in 2320 Schneider Hall.

Applications are being accepted now for the University’s 2015 spring semester. WMU will pay the application fee for individuals who attend the open house and apply the same day.

During the event, attendees will be able to learn more about the MBA program from WMU faculty and staff members as well as alumni of the program.

A similar event also is being held today in the WMU-Grand Rapids facility on Beltline Avenue.

Email [mba-advising@wmich.edu](mailto:mba-advising@wmich.edu) to make a reservation for the open house that is being held in Kalamazoo. Direct questions to [barb.caras-tomczak@wmich.edu](mailto:barb.caras-tomczak@wmich.edu) or (269) 387-5086. Free parking will be available in lot 72R by Schneider Hall.

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### CHHS department awarded \$3.7 million

and older adults with blindness or low vision.

- Vision Rehabilitation Therapy Personnel Preparation, \$697,140, **Helen Lee**. These professionals work primarily with blind and visually impaired adults, providing instruction and guidance in adaptive independent living skills, enabling them to confidently carry out their daily activities.

- Rehabilitation Counseling with an Emphasis in Employer Relations, \$999,782, **Jennifer Wiebold**. Rehabilitation counseling is focused on assisting people with disabilities to achieve their personal, career and independent living goals. The project will prepare graduates from the rehabilitation counseling program with an emphasis in employment and employer relations.

- Preparation of Teachers of Children with Visual Impairments and Orientation and Mobility Instructors of Children, \$1,248,723, **Robert Wall Emerson**. The project will prepare teachers of children with visual impairments. Graduates will work with students with

visual impairments in preschool through elementary and high school.

The highly competitive awards may be applied for every five years, says James Leja, department chair. This year, their funding cycles coincided and all applications were fully funded.

“They all hit at the same time,” Leja says. “So this happened to be, if you will, that perfect, positive storm. This creates a strong foundation for our five departmental programs over the next five years.”

At a time when many professionals in the field are retiring, the number of people with disabilities, including vision problems, is rising, Leja says. This includes many individuals with age-related sources of visual impairment, such as glaucoma and macular degeneration.

WMU’s Department of Blindness and Low Vision Studies is the oldest of its kind in the world. It attracts scholars from across the United States and internationally and annually produces more graduates with specialties in blindness and low vision than any other institution.