Hettinger, Miller to lead Board of Trustees
James F. Hettinger of Fennville and Kenneth Miller of Kalamazoo have been elected chair and vice chair, respectively, of the WMU Board of Trustees.

The two, both WMU alumni, were elected at the board’s Jan. 22 meeting and will serve throughout 2015. This is Hettinger’s second year in the board leadership role. Miller replaced Trustee Mary Asmonga-Knapp of Battle Creek as vice chair. She remains on the board.

Hettinger, the 1995 Michigan Economic Developer of the Year, retired in 2008 as head of Battle Creek Unlimited after 30 years of service with that economic development organization. Late last fall, he was asked to retake the organization’s reins as interim executive director. He has been serving as a WMU trustee since 2009.

Miller is a principal with Havirco, a Kalamazoo-based investment management firm launched in 1983. He is also the owner of the Millennium Restaurant Group LLC. He is in his second eight-year term as a WMU trustee and has twice served as chair of the WMU board.

Other WMU board officers elected to one-year terms at the Jan. 22 meeting were: Betty A. Kocher, secretary to the board; Jan J. Van Der Kley, treasurer and assistant secretary; and Patti VanWalbeck, assistant treasurer. Van Der Kley is the University’s vice president for business and finance, and VanWalbeck is associate vice president for business and finance.

Nation’s first sustainable brewing degree announced
The Kalamazoo area closed out its 2015 Beer Week celebration Jan. 17 with news that the nation’s first higher education programs in sustainable brewing are being launched at Kalamazoo Valley Community College and WMU.

The brewing programs, which will be offered starting in fall 2015, were developed by the two schools working in close coordination with the industry.

The resulting “two-plus-two” program in sustainable craft brewing will offer students the opportunity to earn a certificate or associate degree at KVCC, then move on to a Bachelor of Science degree that marries industry art and science with WMU’s national reputation in sustainability.

“Water use and water recovery are among the top issues among craft brewers around the nation,” says Edwin A. Martini, associate dean of the College of Arts and Sciences. “WMU brings the resources of a research university and a national reputation in water research and sustainability to the table, and KVCC’s food science and culinary arts expertise is providing the entry point and first credentials for students.

“Knowing that the craft beer industry is key to our community and state’s economic development, we enlisted the help of our industry advisors and designed a rigorous curriculum to meet the needs of this dynamic industry,” Martini said.

Google Apps for Education at WMU aids teaching, learning
WMU has adopted a suite of Web-based productivity tools and storage from Internet giant Google that will improve collaboration and productivity for teaching and learning.

Starring Jan. 6, Google Apps for Education—GAE—at WMU became available to all members of the University community who have an “@wmich.edu” email account.

WMU is offering the core applications of GAE and initially is focusing on enhancing the teaching and learning experience for both faculty members and students.

WMU’s initial rollout of GAE consists of five core apps that are familiar to many people. Adam Newsted, information technology director, says by enabling those products, every faculty member and student will have immediate access to five core apps that are familiar to many people. He notes that WMU plans to activate additional apps down the road, but there are no plans at this time to replace the University’s Webmail email system with Gmail, Google’s email system.

The core apps being offered are: Calendar; Contacts; Drive, for Web-based document editing using components such as Google Forms, Docs, Spreadsheets, Presentations and Drawings; and for unlimited storage;
Hawking biography to be screened

A biography of renowned physicist Stephen Hawking will be shown at 7 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 31, in 1102 Road Hall. The screening of this PBS documentary is free and open to the public. It is being sponsored by the Department of Physics and the Kalamazoo Astronomical Society. KAS will provide popcorn and soft drinks, and those who attend are welcome to bring snacks to share. Visit kasonline.org for more information.

Programs for spring from Ethics Center

The Center for the Study of Ethics in Public Affairs is offering two programs this spring that will be of interest to faculty, staff and students.

The Ethical Knowledge Course will meet Tuesday, Feb. 2, through March 23, from 6 to 8 p.m. The course is open to all members of the WMU community. Students must submit a registration form online before Feb. 1 or call 386-4535. There is no fee for participation, and a certificate of completion will be awarded to participants who attend 80 percent of the classes.


Veenstra will speak at 7 p.m. in 2028 Brown Hall. The screenings of this PBS documentary are free and open to the public. For more information, visit www.michigan.edu/cep/events.

Job opportunities

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.

Instructor appointed to circuit court

Paul J. Bridenstine, political science, has been appointed by Gov. Rick Snyder as a judge in Michigan’s 9th Circuit Court. His appointment fills a vacancy left by the Oct. 31 retirement of Circuit Judge John F. Richard. Bridenstine, a part-time instructor at WMU, had been serving since 2000 as a judge in Michigan’s 9th District Court. He will face election in the November 2016 general election for his new position on the Kalamazoo County circuit court bench.

Bridenstine earned a bachelor’s degree from the University of Notre Dame and a law degree from the University of Detroit Mercy. From 1992 to 2000, he was assistant prosecuting attorney for the city of Kalamazoo.

Staffer pens book for advisors, advises

Marnie Di Pierro, Graduate College, has written a new book titled “Navigating the Dissertation: Strategies for New Doctoral Advising Faculty and Their Advisers.” The book was published by New Forums Press and released in October.

Di Pierro has been director of the Graduate Center for Research and Retention for 13 years. She has coached more than 90 doctoral students across a broad spectrum of fields to complete their dissertations and graduate.

Her book examines the intricacies of the doctoral educational process and delineates a process for continuous improvement that will shape and enhance better professional relationships between dissertation advisors and their advisees as well as cultivate opportunities for increased retention and graduation.

It includes critical principles, intertwined with students’ real-life experiences, and departs from other books that provide generally only a one-dimensional view, usually from the student’s perspective.

Prof edits civilization series book

Andrew Targowski, business information systems, is the editor of “Virtual Civilization in the 21st Century.” The book was published this past fall by Nova Science Publishers and includes chapters by Targowski as well as his BIS colleagues K.C. Chen and Muhammad A. Razi for the “Focus on Civilizations and Cultures” series.

It analyzes a new phenomenon in civilization: the transformation of the current “information wave” into “virtual civilization.” It posits that for the first time in 6,000 years of human civilization, society has become a quantum society, which can be real and virtual at the same time.

The book examines numerous aspects of this new civilization’s culture, societal divides, trends, architecture and development. It also discusses how virtual civilization may define the success of human civilization in the 21st century.

Weeklong celebration honors student employees

WMU will recognize its nearly 4,000 student employees during the 29th annual Student Employee Appreciation Week, Monday through Friday, Feb. 23-27.

The week is dedicated to all student employees and is a time to recognize their hard work and countless contributions to WMU.

Through two related awards, it also provides an opportunity to showcase the University’s outstanding student employees and the staff members who supervise them.

Career and Student Employment Services is accepting award nominations online through Friday, Feb. 13, for these awards. Faculty and staff members may make nominations for the Belleville Student Employee of the Year award, with the winning student’s nomination being forwarded to a national competition, while students may make nominations for the Supervisor of the Year award.

WMU employees are encouraged to submit award nominations and to thank their student workers in some way during appreciation week.

All 2015 award winners and nominees will be announced as well as celebrated during an afternoon reception Wednesday, Feb. 25, in the Bernhard Center’s East Ballroom.

To make an award nomination, complete an online form at www.michigan.edu/hr/career/seaw.

Around campus and beyond

The week-long celebration will also feature many events, including employer appreciation week, to be announced as well as celebrated during appreciation week.

Their Advisees.” The book was published by Nova Science Publishers and includes chapters by Targowski as well as his BIS colleagues K.C. Chen and Muhammad A. Razi for the “Focus on Civilizations and Cultures” series.

It analyzes a new phenomenon in civilization: the transformation of the current “information wave” into “virtual civilization.” It posits that for the first time in 6,000 years of human civilization, society has become a quantum society, which can be real and virtual at the same time.

The book examines numerous aspects of this new civilization’s culture, societal divides, trends, architecture and development. It also discusses how virtual civilization may define the success of human civilization in the 21st century.
New admissions director takes helm next month

Dachea (Dah-SHAY) Hill, director of admissions at Northeastern Illinois University in Chicago, will head enrollment efforts at WMU beginning Monday, Feb. 9.

Hill has been an NIU administrator since 2013. Her background includes technical skills in a number of admissions-related programs and experience in applying them to recruitment.

During her time as NIU’s admissions director, she played a key role in expanding the university’s recruitment reach and admissions yield.

Hill previously was at Purdue University—Calumet from 2007 to 2012, beginning as a recruiter and academic advisor and ending with a 10-month stint as interim director of admissions. She also has served as an academic coordinator at the University of Illinois at Chicago and in multiple admissions positions at DePaul University.

Hill will succeed Penny Bundy, who is now WMU’s director of graduate admissions.

‘Who’s Who’ nominations accepted

Nominations are being accepted for “Who’s Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges.”

College-bound students and their families are invited to come to campus Sunday, Feb. 8, for College Goal Sunday and learn how to maximize their financial aid opportunities.

The event, set for 2 to 4 p.m. in Schneider Hall, is being held at sites across the country to help high school seniors and others fill out their Free Application for Federal Student Aid, or FAFSA. This form must be filed by the Sunday, March 1, deadline to ensure eligibility for the most financial assistance possible.

WMU’s event, one of dozens being held around the state as part of the MI College Goal effort, is open to everyone thinking about attending college, regardless of age.

Volunteers from WMU’s Office of Student Financial Aid and Scholarships will be on hand to answer questions about financial aid resources and help guide attendees through each step of completing and filing the FAFSA.

Visit micollegegoal.org for a complete list of items to bring and details about how to win a $1,000 scholarship, an iPad Mini or a $25 Amazon gift card. Contact Carol Mountjoy, student financial aid and scholarships, at carol.mountjoy@wmich.edu or (269) 387-6000 for more information about WMU’s on-campus event.

Disability Services for Students offers learning series for employees

The Disability Services for Students office is offering a series of programs from 11:45 a.m. to 1 p.m. over several Fridays to promote awareness of the challenges that students with disabilities face at WMU and how employees can help support these students.

Programs include a meal at 11:45 a.m. and feature a video on a disability topic, student panelists and a question-and-answer session. The program dates, topics and meeting locations are: Feb. 6, hearing impairments, 2908 Wood Hall; Feb. 13, autism spectrum disorder, 2302 Freidmann Sciences Building; Feb. 20, visual impairments, 1320 Schneider Hall; March 20, autism spectrum disorder, 2302 Freidmann Hall; March 27, learning disabilities and ADHD, 2021 Brown Hall; April 3, learning disabilities, 1284 Health and Human Services Building; April 10, hearing impairments, 6623 Everett Tower.

Visit wmich.edu/facultydevelopment and click the Register for workshops button to register for a program. Direct questions to Kellie Skiba at kellie.l.skiba@wmich.edu or (269) 387-2116.

WMU trustees approve 13 retirements, 1 resignation

The retirements of one faculty member and 12 staff members were approved by the WMU Board of Trustees during its Jan. 22 meeting.

Trustees also signed off on one faculty resignation and sabbaticals for two administrators who are returning to the faculty.

The faculty member who is retiring is doing so with emeritus status. Her name, position, years of continuous service and effective date of retirement is Mary Patricia Fuehr, nursing, 12 years, effective Dec. 31.

The staff members retiring are: Susan M. Alexander, public safety, 21 years, effective Jan. 1; Pamela J. Buist, WMU Apartments, 34 years, effective Dec. 31, 2014; Teresa A. Coburn, Sindecuse Health Center, 20 years, effective Feb. 28; Jonathan Epstein, Sindecuse Health Center, 10 years, effective Jan. 12; Marc P. Fawley, building custodial and support services, 24 years, effective Jan. 19; Joyceelyn F. Fooy, Division of Intercollegiate Athletics, 31 years, effective Jan. 31; Margie A. Glenn, cash operations, 15 years, effective Jan. 9; George R. Kohman, information technology, 46 years, effective Feb. 20; Candace E. List, history, 23 years, effective Dec. 18, 2014; Roger K. Mills, construction, 34 years, effective Dec. 31, 2014; Brenda Wardlow, building custodial and support services, 17 years, effective Dec. 31, 2014; and Teresa L. Ziebarth, mathematics, 17 years, effective Dec. 31, 2014.

The faculty member resigning is M. Daniela Hernandez, mathematics, effective Dec. 21, 2014.

The two administrators returning to the faculty are: and who both received sabbatical leaves for the fall 2015 semester, are: Marc A. Lescott, park management at the Kalamazoo Nature Center, 34 years, effective Jan. 1, 2015; and James Murray, from director of the Medieval Institute to professor of history, effective July 1, 2015.

Graduate College Fellows announced for 2015

Christine Browning, mathematics, and Julie Apker, communication, have been selected as Graduate College Fellows for 2015.

Now in its third year, the fellows program gives WMU faculty members an opportunity to develop as leaders on campus while making significant contributions to graduate education.

During her fellowship, Browning will focus on data collection, environmental scanning and benchmarking peer institutions. The data collection will aid the Graduate College’s efforts in marketing and communicating innovations and achievements and in recruiting and retaining a student body that reflects societal diversity.

Apker, a Graduate College Fellow this past year, will continue for a second year and focus on student and faculty engagement and success. She has been instrumental in helping develop an online orientation for graduate students and organizing professional and personal development programming for students.

Now, she will be working on training opportunities for new mentors and graduate directors.

College-bound students invited to free financial aid program

College-bound students and their families are invited to come to campus Sunday, Feb. 8, for College Goal Sunday and learn how to maximize their financial aid opportunities.

The event, set for 2 to 4 p.m. in Schneider Hall, is being held at sites across the country to help high school seniors and others fill out their Free Application for Federal Student Aid, or FAFSA. This form must be filed by the Sunday, March 1, deadline to ensure eligibility for the most financial assistance possible.

WMU’s event, one of dozens being held around the state as part of the MI College Goal effort, is open to everyone thinking about attending college, regardless of age.

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Visit micollegegoal.org for a complete list of items to bring and details about how to win a $1,000 scholarship, an iPad Mini or a $25 Amazon gift card. Contact Carol Mountjoy, student financial aid and scholarships, at carol.mountjoy@wmich.edu or (269) 387-6000 for more information about WMU’s on-campus event.

Obituaries

Editor’s note: Visit wmich.edu/news/obituaries for additional details.

Joel Kendrick, WMU Pilot Plants general manager and a leader in boosting recycling efforts in the fast and packaging industries, died Monday, Jan. 19. He was 56.

Services have been held. To make a memorial guestbook entry, visit langelands.com.

Ellen Page-Robin, founding director of WMU’s gerontology program and emerita in community health services, died Jan. 3. She was 82. Page-Robin joined the faculty in 1968 and retired in 1998 after more than 30 years of service.

A memorial service will be held March 21 in the Kiva Room at Friendship Village, 1400 N. Drake, Kalamazoo. Details will be published as they become available. Messages may be left at avinkcreations.com.

Erwin W. Rayford, emeritus in industrial technology and education, died June 18, 2014. He was 94. Rayford joined the WMU faculty in 1967 and retired in 1983 after 16 years of service. Messages may be left at redmondfuneralhomes.net.
Trustees grant sabbatical leaves in December to 36 faculty members

The WMU Board of Trustees granted sabbatical leaves to 36 faculty members during its Dec. 18, 2014, meeting.

The sabbaticals effective for the fall 2015 semester are: Onur Arugaslan, finance and commercial law; Muralidhar Ghanasala, mechanical and aerospace engineering; Robert Harmon, marketing; Berit Miller, occupational therapy; Wilson Warren, history; Lisa Whittaker, aviation sciences; and Qi Ji Zhu, mathematics.

The sabbaticals effective for the spring 2016 semester are: Lisa Baker, psychology; Lusam Bierlein Palmer, educational leadership; research and technology; Sung Chun, physics; John Dilworth, philosophy; Chad Edwards, communication; Jill Hermann-Wilmarth, teaching, learning and educational studies; Kevin High, aviation sciences;

Google Apps for Education at WMU

Google Apps for Education at WMU is Eli Collins-Brown, educational leadership, research and technology; Sung Chun, physics; John Dilworth, philosophy; Chad Edwards, communication; Jill Hermann-Wilmarth, teaching, learning and educational studies; Kevin High, aviation sciences;

Google Apps for Education at WMU

Hangouts, for instant messaging, video chat and Web conferencing; and Sites, for personal websites with browser-based authoring.

WMU’s GAE suite allows users to create, share and edit files simultaneously and in real-time. Google automatically stores everything in the cloud and provides 24/7 support at no cost to nonprofit institutions such as WMU. Users will have a consistent experience regardless of whether they are collaborating by computer, tablet or smartphone, and they will have unlimited storage for free. In addition, their documents remain their own property and Google will not send them advertisements based upon the content of those documents.

Working directly with students to assess their emotional needs and coordinate follow ups or referrals for care is a large part of Kenny Martin Jr.'s job at WMU. Helping students receive the care they need is rewarding and requires coordination from many departments on campus, including the Office of Student Affairs, Department of Public Safety, Residence Life and Simdecuse Health Center.

Besides being a case manager in the Division of Student Affairs, Martin chairs the campus’ Emergency Intervention Team that meets biweekly to discuss students who are at high risk or who might need treatment outside of the University in a community program.

“The trend is people tend to be suffering more from depression, or at least there is more awareness and discussion about depression,” he said. “There are social demands and issues such as a lack of income and the downturn of the economy.”

There are several on- and off-campus resources for at-risk students to obtain help, Martin notes, adding that contact information and a link to the University’s Student Concern Form is available at wmich.edu/care.

Originally from Detroit, Martin came to WMU to study computer information systems. He changed his major to fulfill a desire to help others and earned a bachelor’s degree in social work.

“Growing up in an economically challenged neighborhood in Detroit, I saw a lot of people in need, a lot of families affected by the downturn in the economy,” he said.

Martin stayed in Kalamazoo after college, working for 18 years with Kalamazoo Community Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services and five years with InterAct of Michigan. He returned to WMU a few years ago and earned a master’s degree in social work. He began to work for the University one year ago in his current job.

He and his wife, Laura, also a WMU graduate, live in Texas Township with their 2-year-old son and his 10-year-old stepson. In his spare time, Martin enjoys working out at the gym and is an avid college football fan. His Saturdays during football season are typically spent watching games on television. He also enjoys cars, particularly concept cars, and has attended the Detroit Auto Show almost every year since he was 12 years old.

Brewing degree

science-based degree program that will help craft brewers address big environmental issues as they use the very best of brewing art and science in a program that can only be described as meeting the industry's gold standard.

The science of brewing, Martini says, will be addressed through a curriculum that includes chemistry, biosciences, physics and environmental science. Mixed in with the science curriculum are a series of interdisciplinary courses that address sustainability and marketing, and the relationship between food, beverages and culture throughout history.

The programs’ brewing process will be taught on KVCC’s new campus in a teaching brewery designed with the comprehensive functionality of industry equipment and facilities that incorporate sustainable brewing practices. Hands-on experience, internships and an opportunity to understand every part of the industry are part of the plan.

Staff award nominations due Feb. 28

Nominations for the next round of WMU’s semiannual Make a Difference awards are due by Saturday, Feb. 28.

Make a Difference, a campuswide peer-to-peer program that comes with a monetary prize, recognizes WMU staff for their accomplishments and daily investment of energy and creativity.

Nomination instructions and forms are available year round at wmich.edu/makeadifference/nominations.