Supply chain program ranked second in nation

The celebrated integrated supply management program has been named second in the nation for its emphasis on teaching technology, software and quantitative tools in an undergraduate program by Software Advice, a company that serves as a resource for software buyers.

The company, which does detailed research on thousands of software applications as well as system analysis, conducted a study of supply chain programs.

The goal of the study was to help students gain insight into the curricula of what are commonly regarded as the top U.S. programs.

The unique, integrated nature of WMU’s supply chain program contributed to its topping the list, coming in second in the nation after Texas A&M University and placing ahead of Michigan State University, the University of Tennessee and Arizona State University.

“The Western Michigan University integrated supply management program is truly special,” says Forrest Burnson, research associate with Software Advice. “It ranked highly on our list due to the emphasis on the program places on teaching software and technology in the

Alumni Center on track; many chances to donate

Renovation of East Hall to create the WMU Alumni Center is nearing the halfway point, according to a recent report by the Office of Development and Alumni Affairs.

The office says the project was 42 percent complete as of Jan. 27, with some areas of the building beginning to look finished, and on schedule for a special grand opening celebration during the 2015 homecoming weekend.

That and other news, including details about ongoing as well as newly completed renovations, are being presented in Progress Hill Postings, a biweekly update on happenings at the Alumni Center.

The website is keeping members of the University community informed about the center’s progress, from items being salvaged and sustainability efforts to the building’s new spaces and features. The site may be accessed by visiting MyWMU.com/AlumniCenter.

It also presents information about how

Donor’s final gift to WMU establishes a fine arts professorship

After decades of joyfully supporting the fine arts and WMU students, the late Marta “Marti” Hearron of Kalamazoo made one final major gift to be revealed only after her death.

Hearron, a renowned biostatistician for the Upjohn Co., died Nov. 29. Her estate included a $2 million gift to WMU that will establish the Arthur E. and Martha S. Hearron College of Fine Arts Distinguished Professorship.

It also will provide funding for some of her favorite arts programs as well as endow a new Medallion Scholarship for students in the fine arts.

The gift, and the fact that the endowed

professorship is the first in College of Fine Arts history, were announced Feb. 5 by Dean Daniel Guyette.

“In typical Marti fashion, she required that this gift remain undisclosed and anonymous until after she was gone,” Guyette said. “But rest assured, we made sure she knew how much we loved and appreciated her generosity, sense of humor and wonderful spirit.”

For years, Hearron and her late husband Arthur were devoted supporters of the fine arts at WMU, attending at many events as possible and establishing several scholarship funds to enable the fine arts education of dozens of students who became known as “Hearron kids.”

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Around campus and beyond

Local infant mortality is talk topic

A guest lecture titled “Infant Mortality: A Third World Problem in Our Own Backyard” is set for 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. Friday, Feb. 13, in 2202 Danbury Hall. During the talk, Catherine Kothari with the WMU Strayer School of Medicine will explore how it is that Kalamaazoo County will have black infant mortality rates comparable to some developing countries...and what can be done about it.

Horn Day 2015 features alumna

Staff Sergeant Cecilia Kozlowski, a WMU alumna and member of “The President’s Own” United States Marine Band, is the guest artist for Horn Day 2015. The day runs from 11:30 a.m. to 8 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 14, in the Dalton Center Recital Hall. It is open to the public and has a $15 admission fee.

The event includes a guest artist master class and recital, small competition for middle and high school participants, WMU Horn Choir recital, WMU student soloists, and a Mass Horn Choir concert.

Great Decisions Series is continuing

Two more presentations are taking place this month in the 2015 “Great Decisions Series” of timely talks by the World Affairs Council of Western Michigan in partnership with WMU. On Feb. 16, Sebastian Masel from Grand Valley State University will present “Is It Religion or Politics That Divides the Middle East?” On Feb. 23, a high-profile trio of women will present “Human Trafficking: In Everyone’s Backyard.”

All lectures are held at 6 p.m. Mondays in the Aquinas Performing Arts Center in Grand Rapids. They are free to WMU students, employees and faculty when they sign up at the university table located in the foyer of the center.

Next entrepreneurship talk is Feb. 20

The managing director of Separation Solutions, also known as SepSol Process Solutions, will headline the next program in the Entrepreneurship Forum speaker series. Jim Lyon will speak at 8 a.m. Friday, Feb. 20, in 2150 of Schneider Hall. The free event begins with breakfast at 7:30 a.m. Reservations are required at wmich.edu/business/e-rsvp or (269) 387-6059.

New Ethics Center event slated

A panel discussion on “Professional Ethics in Challenging Times” is set for 7 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 25, in the President’s Dining Room of the Bernhard Center. Victoria Vuleticich, WMU Cooley Law School, will join WMU’s Norman Hawker, finance and commercial law, and Michael Fritchard, philosophy.

Free Chinese culture workshops set

The Confucius Institute is accepting registrations for three free Chinese culture workshops being held from 6 to 7:30 p.m. on three upcoming Wednesdays. They are Chinese Calligraphy, Feb. 18, in 4003 Brown Hall; Chinese Paper Cutting, March 18, in 4003 Brown Hall; and Chinese Knotting, April 22, in 4003 Brown Hall. Register online at wmich.edu/workshops.

Talk to focus on female journalists in women’s lib era

An internationally recognized expert in the communication field will visit WMU to talk about newspaperwomen in the era of women’s liberation. Katherine Miller, from Arizona State University, will speak from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 18, in 1920 Sangren Hall. Her free presentation is open to the public and part of the WMU Visiting Scholars and Artists Program.

Miller’s research stands at the crossroads of organizational communication, health communication and family communication, and her past research has investigated the processes of stress and support, compassion- ate communication and caregiving.

She is working on a book that examines women, work and family during the 1960s and 1970s by considering the work of her mother and other women journalists and columnists during that era. Her most recent published book, “War Makes Men of Boys: A Soldier’s World War II,” draws on letters written by her father during World War II.

Retirement reception

George Kohrman, information technol- ogy, will be honored for his more than 46 years of service to the University during a retirement reception from 3 to 5 p.m. Friday, Feb. 20, in 2202 Kohrman Hall.

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.

Emeritus produces auto history book

David O. Lyon, emeritus in psychology, has produced a new book titled, “America’s Signature Collection, Gilmore Car Museum, 50th Anniversary Edition.” It was released by ArtBookPrinting.com, a specialty markets program of InnerWorkings, in December 2014.

The 352-page catalog interprets the museum’s vintage automobiles from the horseless carriage to the Art Deco designs of the 1930s to the chromium rippling of the post-war period. Its text captures the lives of the people who built and drove those machines.

Lyon joined the WMU faculty in 1963 and retired in 1998 after having served the last 10 years as director of collective bargaining. He is a longtime volunteer at the Gilmore Car Museum and serves as chair of its Collection Committee and a member of its Advisory Committee.

Physicists pen book on popular topic

Paul V. Pancella, physics, has written his first book with WMU alumnus Marc Humphrey and former physics faculty member Nora Berrah. “Idiot’s Guides: Quantum Physics” was released in January by Publisher Alpha for its “Idiot’s Guides” series.

Humphrey, a former student of Berrah’s and now a team leader with the National Atomic Energy Agency, took the lead role in the project. Berra is now with the University of Connecticut.

“Quantum Physics” explores the behavior of matter and energy at the molecular, atomic, nuclear and even smaller levels. It explores this complex topic, while making it easy to understand for science enthusiasts and students alike. Pancella says the long-running “Idiot’s Guides” series uses the slogan “As Easy as it Gets” and strives to be the easiest way for people to learn things.

Dean named to advisory board

Susan R. Stapleton, chemistry and bio- logical sciences and dean of the Graduate College, has been named to the external advisory board of the Tuskegee Alliance to Forge Pathways to Aca- demic Careers, or T-PAC.

The National Science Foundation recently awarded Tuskegee Uni- versity, along with part- ner institutions Alabama State University and Auburn University, nearly $2.6 million in funding through the Division of Human Resource Development and the Alliance for Graduate Education and the Professoriate program.

That award to the T-PAC alliance will help to recruit diverse doctoral students and facilitate their studies and prepare them for faculty positions in science, technology, engineering and mathematics—STEm—education. The advisory board will work with the T-PAC alliance members in their study on the factors that impact the student’s deci- sion to pursue these STEm faculty careers.

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WMU Horn Choir recital, WMU student class and recital, solo competition for WMU Horn Choir recital, WMU student soloists, and a Mass Horn Choir concert.

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Hearit named interim dean of arts, sciences college

Veteran academic administrator Keith M. Hearit has been named interim dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, effective immediately.

The appointment of Hearit, who has served as an associate dean of the college since July 1, was announced Feb. 3 by Timothy J. Greene, provost and vice president for academic affairs. Hearit will temporarily succeed Alexander Enyedi, whose contract expires in June and who has been assigned alternative responsibilities until his return to the faculty.

In an email message to the faculty and staff of the college, Greene praised Hearit’s “extensive leadership experience” and thanked the new interim dean for agreeing to serve while a national search is conducted to identify a new arts and sciences dean. Greene also outlined the basic process that will be used for the search.

A faculty member in the School of Communication since 1996, Hearit has served in a number of administrative roles at the University, including a three-year stint as associate dean and then dean of the Lee Honors College. He also spent five years serving WMU as vice provost for enrollment management.

Mardi Gras is theme of Children’s Place fun night

Children’s Place Learning Center families and the WMU community are invited to Family Fun Night at the center from 6 to 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 17.

The theme is Mardi Gras, and the event will feature crafts, games, and food. It will be a great opportunity to get to know families, learn about the new preschool and pre-kindergarten program curricula, extended hours, and back-up care.

Children’s Place, located in the middle of WMU’s campus, is a child care option for children of University students, faculty and staff as well as the Kalamazoo community.

It is an NAETC-accredited center that partners with the WMU College of Education and Human Development to provide a high-quality educational experience.

Operating hours are 7 a.m. to 6 p.m., Monday through Friday, except for University holidays, a recess period in December and two staff training days.

In addition to child care for children aged 18 months through 9 years of age, a preschool and pre-kindergarten program are offered as well as the Campus Kids Summer Program. Campus Kids is a fun and educational way for school-age children to spend the summer. Weekly, themed sessions feature field trips, special guests and activities.

A child can be signed up for one week or the whole summer.

For details about Children’s Place, including rates, visit wmich.edu/chilcare or call (269) 387-2277.

WMU earns seventh consecutive Tree campus USA designation

University officials were notified earlier this month that WMU has earned its seventh consecutive Tree Campus USA designation.

Tree Campus USA is a national Arbor Day Foundation program launched in 2008 and sponsored in partnership with Toyota. It promotes student involvement as well as helps colleges and universities establish and sustain healthy community forests.

WMU was one of 29 U.S. colleges and universities, and only two in Michigan, to be recognized by the program during its inaugural year. Schools on the new Tree Campus List are being honored for their efforts during 2014. Some 230 schools and campuses were on the list last year.

To be recertified each year, schools must meet five core standards for sustainable campus forestry. For more information, visit www.arborday.org/programs.

Funds available to hire interns

For the fourth consecutive year, small businesses in West Michigan can apply for funding to help them hire WMU student interns in the science, technology, engineering and math—STEM—disciplines.

“The Small Company Internship Award Program provides matching funds to help businesses with 500 or fewer employees hire WMU students to work on STEM or STEM-related projects that are both beneficial to the company and academically relevant to students,” says Lisa Garcia, director of the University’s Business Connection.

“The funds are provided through the Michigan Corporate Relations Network, a statewide network designed to connect industry to critical university talent in ways that will help the Michigan economy grow and prosper. Applications for this summer are due Monday, March 2.”

WMU has $35,000 to disperse, enough to support about 12 to 14 internships. To apply for funding, download the 2015 application at wmich.edu/businessconnection/hire.

For more information, contact Garcia at lisa.garcia@wmich.edu or (269) 387-6004.

Technology symposium to focus on ‘Teaching in the Cloud’

Faculty and staff are invited to “Teaching in the Cloud,” the second annual Teaching with Technology Symposium set for Wednesday, Feb. 25, in the Fetzer Center.

Registration starts at 12:30 p.m. and will be followed by a keynote talk at 1 p.m. Breakout sessions highlighting how cloud computing is being used for teaching will take place from 2 to 4 p.m.

This year’s keynote speaker is Julia VanderMolen, assistant professor of allied health sciences at Grand Valley State University. VanderMolen, who is well known for her work using technology solutions to increase engagement in her courses, will speak on “Collaborating, Learning and Engaging in the Cloud.”

The breakout sessions are Create ePortfolios Using Evernote, Easy to Use Cloud-based Program, Visual Feedback using Coach’s Eye, Google Apps for Education, Using the Back Channel for Student Engagement, and Preview of Reef, the iClicker Web-based Classroom Response System.

The symposium sponsors are Extended University Programs and the offices of Faculty Development and Information Technology. Advance registration at wnich.edu/facultydevelopment is requested.

Obituaries

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

Thomas C. Hardie II, a former director of WMU’s choirs, died Nov. 15, 2014. He was 91. Hardie retired in 1987 after 30 years of service.

An open house to celebrate his life is set for 1 to 5 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 14, at Hardie’s home in Chicago: 3100 N. Sheridan Road, Unit 9E, Chicago, IL 60657.

Richard E. Munsterman, a former chair of the choirs, died Nov. 15, 2014. He was 93. Munsterman retired in 1987 after 30 years of service.

Memorial gifts may be made to the DeVet and Munsterman Fund at McLaren Northern Michigan, 360 Counoble Ave., Petoskey, MI 49770.
Noted economist to talk on banking, Great Recession

A fellow from the Brookings Institution in Washington, D.C., will discuss “Central Banking in the Great Recession” when he visits campus this month as part of the 2014-15 Werner Sichel Lecture Series.

Donald Kohn, a senior fellow at Brookings, will present the free, public talk at 3 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 18, in 2028 Brown Hall. This year’s Sichel Series carries the theme “Lessons from the Great Recession” and features leading economists from across the country.

Supply chain program

classroom, in addition to its unique cross-discipline approach that requires students to take specialized engineering courses. WMU is well ahead of the curve in preparing a new generation of supply chain professionals, and other universities should look to the example it has set for what a truly modern supply chain management program looks like.

WMU also ranked seventh on the list in terms of overall reputation and was one of only four schools possessing a high technological emphasis and a high reputation rating on the list. In addition, the program is ranked No. 5 in undergraduate supply chain education by Gartner and is recognized nationally by several organizations and publications for its leadership in preparing students for careers in supply chain management.

Kohn is a 40-year veteran of the Federal Reserve System who researches issues of monetary policy, financial regulation and macroeconomics. He served on the Federal Reserve’s Board of Governors from 2002 to 2010, the last four years as vice chairman, and testified before several congressional committees during the recent economic crisis. Kohn has been appointed by the government of the United Kingdom to serve on the Financial Policy Committee at the Bank of England, is a member of an advisory committee at the International Monetary Fund’s Monetary and Capital Markets Department, and is on a number of advisory committees to U.S. government agencies, including the FDIC, Congressional Budget Office and Office of Financial Research.

Donor’s final gift to WMU establishes professorship

The new professorship will allow the college to designate exceptional faculty members or appoint visiting professors who have made significant contributions to their disciplines. The designations will come with supplemental funding to support research and creative initiatives.

The Hearst gift also supports endowing a Medallion Scholarship, WMU’s premier award for incoming undergraduates that provides $50,000 over four years; the Department of Theatre’s Instructional Equipment Endowment; and the Great Works Dance Project Endowment.

Continued from page 1

Alumni Center on track

people can donate to the project and literally cement their or a loved one’s legacy into the Alumni Center.

“The portico will include inscribed bricks, the lobby will feature an artful and unique Wall of Honor, and each step of the grand stairway will exhibit the Bronco pride of WMU’s history and family.”

Visit mywmuc.com and click The Alumni Center to learn more about those and other opportunities to name or memorialize spaces within and around the Alumni Center, or contact Jim Thomas at (269) 387-8785.

The center will serve as a home for all WMU alumni, showcase for the University’s history, starting point for visitors, and community gathering space, among other uses.

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