



Western News

September 10, 2015
Volume 42, Number 1

For and about WMU faculty and staff

Employee records updates due soon

All faculty and staff members are asked to review their personal records and make changes as necessary by Monday, Sept. 21. Updates are needed to assist the University in providing an accurate campus directory, developing effective emergency plans and meeting federal reporting guidelines. Updates received after the deadline will not be reflected in the 2015-16 WMU Directory.

Areas to review focus on privacy wishes, emergency contacts, campus as well as home addresses and phone numbers, and ethnic group affiliations. To make changes to personal data, visit the My Self Service channel in GoWMU. Select Employee Self Service, then Personal Information Summary. Visit wmich.edu/hr/personaldata for an explanation of WMU's privacy flag and other details.

HIGE units move to new building

To better serve WMU's growing international student population, International Admissions and Services and Immigration Services have moved from Ellsworth Hall to the third floor of Faunce's east wing.

Event slated for part-time faculty

Part-time instructors at WMU are invited to attend the Part-time Faculty Community Connection from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 12, in 212 Bernhard Center. The event is being hosted by members of the Professional Instructors Organization, the union for all part-time faculty at WMU. Register at pio.wmich.edu/events. Along with lunch, the agenda will include relevant conversations about instructors, and their work and vision; planning for 2015-16 contract negotiations; small group discussions about part-time faculty goals and priorities; and celebration of the part-time faculty community and its impact at WMU.

Two union contracts approved

New three-year contracts have been reached with the Teaching Assistants Union and Local 1668 and Council 25 of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees—AFSCME.

The TAU contract includes a wage increase of 1 percent in each of the contract's three years for doctoral associates not yet awarded candidacy, plus wage increases set at 2 percent for years one and two and 3 percent for year three for graduate assistants, doctoral graduate assistants and doctoral associates who have been awarded candidacy.

AFSCME provisions include wage increases or one-time payments ranging from 1.75 to 2.25 percent in year one, 2 to 2.25 percent in year two and an additional 2.25 to 3 percent by year three. Wage increases also vary annually depending upon skill set, employee group and whether lump-sum payments are made to base pay.

WMU to be key player in national initiative

The University will play a critical role in a new \$171 million manufacturing innovation initiative announced Aug. 28 by U.S. Secretary of Defense Ashton Carter at NASA's Ames Research Center in San Jose, California.

Carter was on hand to help launch the Flexible Hybrid Electronics—FHE—Manufacturing Innovation Institute as the nation's newest member of the Obama administration's Nationwide Network for Manufacturing Innovation. That publicly and privately funded network is a Congress-backed effort to create up to 15 institutes that provide a competitive, effective and sustainable manufacturing research-to-manufacturing infrastructure for U.S. industry and academia to solve industry-relevant problems.

The new FHE institute is intended to scale up advanced flexible hybrid electronic manufacturing technologies and processes. Its activities will benefit a wide array of markets beyond defense, including automotive, communications, consumer electronics, medical devices, health care, transportation and logistics, and agriculture.

Silicon Valley's FlexTech Alliance is leading the initiative with funding support from the Department of Defense and nonfederal sources such as the City of San Jose, private

companies, universities and several U.S. states. Although headquartered in San Jose, FHE institute nodes around the country already have in place an infrastructure ready to solve some of the known manufacturing challenges.

Sensor and flexible printing specialists from WMU are part of the FlexTech team. They helped write the winning proposal establishing the FHE institute and will serve as its core subject-matter experts. In addition, WMU is one of four nodes around the nation named in the proposal and as such, will create the Flexible Electronics Applications and Technology Center on campus.

The FEAT Center will be directed by Massood Atashbar, electrical and computer engineering, and Margaret Joyce, chemical and paper engineering. Joyce has long revolved her work around flexible printed electronics, while Atashbar has an extensive background in the design and fabrication of



Atashbar



Joyce

Continued on page 8

Six of 10 Universitywide award winners announced

Editor's note: The 10 recipients of Universitywide awards being bestowed during the 2015 Academic Convocation are being announced in Western News in two installments. The remaining four recipients will be announced in the Sept. 24 Western News. This year's convocation is set for 2 to 4 p.m. Friday, Oct. 12, in the Dalton Center Recital Hall.



Berto



He



Knutson



Ray



Riemland



Yoshimoto

Among those receiving Universitywide honors during this year's Academic Convocation are Luigi Andrea Berto, 2015 Emerging Scholar Award; Chansheng He, 2015 Distinguished Faculty Scholar Award; and 2014-15 Annual Make a Difference Award, Kevin Knutson, Caroline Ray, Terri Riemland and Michiko Yoshimoto.

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.

• Berto is an associate professor of history. He is a medieval Latin historian who has carved out an international reputation for his body of new scholarship. In the past seven years, he has produced two books of original historical interpretation and scholarly editions and translations of medieval Latin texts, among other scholarly writings.

Berto's nominators cited him for the remarkable quantity and quality of his research. They also noted that leading authorities praise the rigor of his scholarship and say it is helping to shape his field of study.

Continued on page 8

Around campus and beyond

Classes offered on Chinese culture

The Confucius Institute at WMU is accepting registrations for fall Chinese culture courses that begin the week of Sept. 14. The 12-week, low-cost courses are open to the public now. All of them are taught in English, and are offered to adults age 18 or older for personal enrichment rather than academic credit. Tuition discounts may apply. For more information or to register for a class, visit wmuconfucius.org or call (269) 387-3784.

Series looks at multicultural issues

Several programs have been planned this fall to promote multiculturalism and highlight diversity-related work being done on campus. Among them will be the showing of two PBS videos. "Race—The Power of An Illusion: The Story We Tell" will be shown Friday, Sept. 18, in 1320 Sangren Hall. "The House We Live In" will be shown Friday, Sept. 25, in 212 Bernhard Center. Both will be shown at 11:30 a.m. and be followed by a brief informational session and discussion.

The screenings are part of a new brown bag series created by the Multicultural Mindedness Project Action Team. The team has been working on goals of the Campus Climate for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Tactical Action Community. The group has planned the series largely to share information about its work. The team and First-Year Experience have created a standard diversity curriculum for sections of FYE 2100 that are designed around the PBS videos. Email toni.woolfork-barnes@wmich.edu or call 387-2301 for details.

Olympic gold medalist to speak

Olympic gold medalist Billy Mills will speak on campus about his success when he visits campus Monday, Sept. 21. He will talk at 6:30 p.m. in 1001 Wood Hall about his support system growing up in poverty on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation in South Dakota.

In his speech, titled "The Resilience Factor," he will discuss how he started running to channel his energy after being orphaned at age 12. His determination led him to the 1964 Olympics, where he shocked the world and came from behind to win the gold medal in the 10k race.

Mills is Oglala Lakota, or Sioux, and he credits his culture with helping him achieve his goals. To give back to the community, he helped found the Running Strong for American Indian Youth and became the organization's national spokesperson, traveling to American Indian communities throughout the United States and speaking to young people about healthy lifestyles and taking pride in their heritage.

In 2012, he was awarded the Presidential Citizens Medal, the second highest civilian award in the country, by President Barack Obama for his work with running Strong.

The event is free for students and other members of the campus community. It is being sponsored by WMU's Foundation Scholars Program, Seita Scholars Program and Division of Multicultural Affairs. For additional information, contact Ronald Dillard at (269) 387-6230 or ronald.d.dillard@wmich.edu.

NSF awards microbial research grant

Kathryn M. Docherty, biological sciences, has been awarded a one-year, \$299,995 grant from the National Science Foundation for



Docherty

a project titled Exploring Ecosystem Contributions of Microbial Diversity to the Vertical Atmosphere. Docherty is the project's principal investigator, with Kristina Lemmer, mechanical and aerospace engineering, serving as co-principal investigator.

The project seeks to expand knowledge about airborne microbial communities, or AMCs, which include bacteria and fungi. It will involve sampling the composition of AMCs at five altitudes above four natural ecosystem types in North America and result in a better understanding of how the biosphere functions and humans impact it.

Docherty's research interests are in environmental microbiology and microbial ecology. Lemmer is an expert in both physical and non-intrusive plasma diagnostics. They will be using a novel combination of tethered and launched balloon-borne samplers to conduct their AMS research.

Student's poetry book wins award

Iliana Rocha, a doctoral student in English, has penned a book of poetry that won the 2014 Donald Hall Prize for Poetry and



Rocha

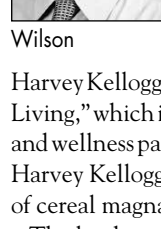
now has been published by the University of Pittsburgh Press. The book, "Karankawa," examines some of the ways people construct or reconstruct their individual histories.

Rocha was raised in Texas, and her work was inspired by the Karankawa Indians, who lived along the Texas coast of the Gulf of Mexico. Her aunt lived in the region generally inhabited by the Karankawa Indians, and her passing was the impetus for the collection.

Rocha has been working on her poetry collection for 10 years. She is entering her fourth year of studies at WMU and plans to graduate in April 2016.

Independent publishers honor prof

Brian C. Wilson, comparative religion, has won a silver medal in the biography category of the 2015 Independent Publisher Book Award competition. The awards annually honor the world's best independently published titles.



Wilson

Wilson was honored for his book "Dr. John Harvey Kellogg and the Religion of Biologic Living," which is about Battle Creek's health and wellness past and its central figure, John Harvey Kellogg, who was the older brother of cereal magnate W.K. Kellogg.

The book was published by Indiana University Press in September 2014. To a large extent, Wilson wanted to use the book to correct misperceptions about Kellogg perpetuated in works of popular culture, such as the novel "The Road to Wellville" and subsequent film by the same name. It is available at amazon.com and from the Indiana University Press at iupress.indiana.edu.

Exchange

For lease—Fully-furnished Westside ranch near WMU for six to eight months. Three-bedroom, two-bath home with two-car garage and daylight basement. No

pets, no smoking, single person preferred. Lease for \$1,800 per month plus utilities. Contact: (269) 353-0843.

For sale—Mustang convertible (numbers match): 1966, red, 70,000 miles, show-quality classic, \$34,000.

For sale—Ranch home with walkout on dead end road at 2502 Law Ave. in Kalamazoo. Four bedrooms; three bathrooms; kitchen with eating area; two fireplaces, one stone and one brick; and utility room with lots of storage. Cost: \$210,000. Contact: (269) 342-8362.

For sale—Starter home on corner lot in Comstock schools area. Two bedrooms, one bathroom (freshly painted), mostly finished family room and bonus room in basement. Front and back yard patios. All appliances included. Asking \$72,000. Contact: cindy.zimmerman@wmich.edu or (269) 387-4570.

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.

Western News

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Summer News

Numerous happenings at WMU made for productive summer

The *Western News* may have been on hiatus during the summer II session, but WMU continued to make big news.

- Extended University Programs reopened its WMU-Grand Rapids facility on East Beltline Avenue following a \$5.5 million



The renovated Belpline facility now has a distinctive Bronco theme. (Photo by Mike Lanka)

building renovation that focused on technical innovation, collaboration and student convenience.

- WMU began the process of identifying an architectural engineering firm to develop the infrastructure that will prepare the 44-acre Colony Farms Orchard property to become Phase II of the Business Technology and Research Park. There will be several opportunities for the public to ask questions about the project and provide feedback.

- The WMU Board of Trustees adopted changes to the University's policy on sexual misconduct that are designed to encourage people to report incidents as well as streamline the process the University uses to respond. At the same meeting, trustees

OK'd revisions to a 2010 policy regarding whistleblowers. Both policies can be found online at wmich.edu/policies.

- Rector Metin Orbay, leader of Turkey's Amasya University, led a delegation to visit WMU and sign an agreement for the two universities to partner in an exchange program. About

50 people from each school will be involved in exchanges. Among the disciplines most likely involved will be math and science education, languages, business, engineering, history, nursing, natural sciences and physical education. The lead WMU office in the initiative is the Mallinson Institute for Science Education.

- Trustees signed off on a recommendation to allow the College of Aviation to become part of a nine-state tuition reciprocity program starting in 2016-17, making enrollment in the college more accessible to nonresident students from across the Midwest.

- WMU announced that the College of Education and Human Development will offer a graduate certificate in English as a Second Language this fall. The program fulfills the Michigan Department of Education's requirements for the ESL Endorsement.

- WMUK-FM, the University's public radio station, was recognized for its broadcast-



Orbay, left, and Dunn sign the WMU-AU exchange pact. (Photo by Mike Lanka)

ing excellence by Public Radio News Directors Inc. Despite this year's fierce competition, with more than 1,100 entries from public radio newsrooms across the country, awards went to work by Rebecca Thiele, Gordon Evans and Chris Killian.

- WMU announced it had become just the fifth organization in

the country to receive accreditation for landscape management and operations under a new sustainability-oriented program established by the Professional Grounds Management Society, and only the second to receive the highest level of accreditation possible.

- WMU unveiled its revised website. The most noticeable changes are screen-filling graphics, an abundance of white space and new typography. The new site also is tailored so it quickly meets key audiences' needs and expectations, and is designed to be attractive and readable for every type of Internet-capable device.



The new home page as it might look on a cell phone

The new site also is tailored so it quickly meets key audiences' needs and expectations, and is designed to be attractive and readable for every type of Internet-capable device.

Obituaries-Notifications received in July and August

Editor's note: Visit wmich.edu/news/obituaries for more details about these WMU family members.

Lester F. Baird, a retired pipefitter in the maintenance services, died Aug. 20. He was 66.

John "J.B." M. Barney, a retired electrician in maintenance services, died June 13. He was 60.

James W. Dempsey, emeritus coordinator of transfer relations and a former acting director of admissions and orientation, died July 12. He was 84.

Joseph J. Eisenbach, emeritus in special education and a former chair of that department, died June 25. He was 92.

Dorothy L. (Bladt) Franzen, emerita in education and professional development, died May 9. She was 91.

Shelley S. Grant, a former manager of building support services, died April 1. She was 56.

MaryAnn Haws-Johnson, a retired coordinator of what is now the Swain Education Library, died May 12. She was 76.

Buster C. Howell, retired material handler in landscape services, died Jan. 23. He was 81.

Judith A. Kirk, coordinator of authority control in University Libraries, died March 20. She was 57.

John W. Racine, a supervisor of computer labs for information technology, died July 21. He was 53.

Dr. Ernest E. Rossi, emeritus in political science and a former administrator, died Aug. 7. He was 86.

Leonard E. Srackangast, a retired supervisor in building custodial and support services, died March 8. He was 70.

Robert I. Sundick, emeritus in anthropology, died June 29. He was 71.

M. Noreen VanderBeek, a retired finance clerk in accounts pay-



Baird



Barney



Dempsey



Eisenbach



Franzen



Grant



Howell



Kirk



Racine



Rossi



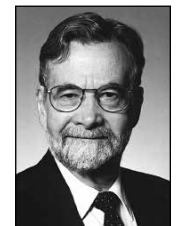
Sundick



VanderBeek



Wirbel



Ziring

able, died June 1. She was 96.

Robert S. Wirbel, a retired administrator of safety in the Division of Environmental Health and Safety, died Nov. 1, 2014. He was 87.

Dr. Lawrence Ziring, emeritus in political science and an emeritus Schneider Professor of International Relations, died July 17. He was 86.

Summer News

August Service

The following faculty and staff members are recognized for 50, 45, 40, 35, 30, 25, 20, 15, 10 and five years of service during August.

50 Years—Rudolf J. Siebert, comparative religion.

45 Years—Howard J. Dooley, history, and Donald Nelson, computer science.

40 Years—Chuck J. Forman, landscape services; Barbara L. Harris, teaching, learning and educational studies; and Timothy R. Kellogg, business services.

35 Years—Sisay Asefa, economics; Daniel J. Farrell, management; James A. Gilchrist, Office of the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs; Edward L. Harkness, art; Dean R. Johnson, electrical and computer engineering; Jon R. Neill, economics; Darcey M. Stevens, family and consumer sciences; Patricia L. Suhusky, art; John A. Tanis, physics; and Robert G. Trenary, computer science.

30 Years—Judah Ari-Gur, mechanical and aerospace engineering; Pnina Ari-Gur, mechanical and aerospace engineering; Debra S. Berkey, human performance and health education; Steven Darrell, Bernhard Center Dining Service; Wei-Chiao Huang, economics; Inayat U. Mangla, finance and commercial law; Allen J. Schwenk, mathematics; Andrew S. Targowski, business information systems; Jay S. Treiman, mathematics; and Roy V. Zimmer, University Libraries.

25 Years—Kent Baldner, philosophy; Susan L. Caulfield, interdisciplinary health programs; James M. Croteau, counselor education and counseling psychology; Satish Deshpande, Haworth College of Business; Paul Pancella, physics; Sharon S. Russell, lifelong learning and education; William A. Sauck, geosciences; James W. Smith, public safety; Benjamin Torres, Spanish; Susan Uchimura, music; Daneen Wardrop, English; Mark V. Wheeler, economics; Klayton T. Woodworth, WMUK; and Huizhong Zhou, economics.

20 Years—Mary Z. Anderson, counselor education and counseling psychology; Paula Andradi, physician assistant; J. Kevin Corder, political science; Charles E. Crawford, sociology; David Curwen, dance; Tycho K. Fredericks, industrial and entrepreneurial engineering and engineering management; Jan Gabel-Goes, business information systems; Thomas W. Gorczyca, physics; Chansheng He, geography; Matthew L. Higgins, economics; John Allen Jellies, biological sciences; Bharti J. Katbamna, speech pathology and audiology; Joseph M. Kayany, communication; Mary D. Lagerwey, nursing; James B. Lewis, human performance and health education; Elena B. Lisovskaya, sociology; John Lychner, music; Timothy McGrew, philosophy; Richard G. McMullen Jr., Center For Academic Success Programs; John B. Miller, chemistry; Dewei Qi, chemical and paper engineering; Laurie Hays Rivera, accountancy; Silvia Rossbach, biological sciences; David S. Smith, music; Paul R. Solomon, art; Jocelyn D. Steinke, communication; Grace C. Tiffany, English; Delores D. Walcott, interdisciplinary health programs; and Elena M. Wood, admissions.

15 Years—Todd J. Barkman, biological sciences; Sheena Mynette Bolton, College of Health and Human Services; Paul Ciccantell, sociology; Miriam P. Coleman, business information systems; Mark G. Cummins, chemical and paper engineering; Vincent Desroches, world languages and literatures; James A. Eckert, marketing; Jerrie L. Fiala, industrial and entrepreneurial engineering and engineering management; Johnson Haas, geosciences; Lynne Heasley, history; Loren Heun, statistics; Kevin High, College



Summer means different things to new and veteran employees.

ABOVE RIGHT: President John M. Dunn helped orient 44 new tenure-track and numerous part-time faculty to WMU during informational sessions Aug. 17 and 18. (Photo by Mike Lanka)

ABOVE: After intensive activities such as staging a month of freshman orientation sessions and closing out the fiscal year's books, employees across campus and their guests took time out Aug. 21 to picnic and play at Miller Auditorium during a social gathering sponsored by the Administrative Professional Association, one of WMU's two groups for nonbargaining employees. (Photo by Jeanne Baron)

Susan Hoffmann, political science; Pairin Katerattanakul, business information systems; Robert L. Kelly, landscape services; Scott W. Kendall, information technology; Carla M. Koretsky, Lee Honors College; Cindy Linn, biological sciences; Juanita Manning-Walsh, nursing; Kelly A. McDonnell, counselor education and counseling psychology; Timothy J. Michael, human performance and health education; Patricia M. Montilla, Spanish; Amy Naugle, psychology; Jennifer Palthe, management; Muhammad A. Razi, business information systems; Edward A. Roth, music; Michael J. Ryan, economics; Eve Salisbury, English; Ola M. Smith, accountancy; Laura T. Spielvogel, anthropology; Bilinda Straight, anthropology; Lisa Whittaker, College of Aviation; Nicolas Witschi, English; and Devrim Yaman, finance and commercial law.

10 Years—Fritz Allhoff, philosophy; Barbara A. Barton, social work; Amy B. Curtis, College of Health and Human Services; Autumn Edwards, communication; Chad Edwards, communication; Matthew R. Folck, intercollegiate athletics; Justine M. Foster, College of Aviation; Jill M. Hermann-Wilmarth, teaching, learning and educational studies; Mark S. Hurwitz, political science;

Donald Kane, biological sciences; Cynthia Klekar, English; Karen M. Lancendorfer, marketing; Helene Landon, Valley #1 Dining Service; Mahendra S. Lawoti, political science; Thaweephan Leingpibul, marketing; Leszek T. Lilien, computer science; David M. Longjohn, admissions; Edwin Anton Martini, Extended University Programs; Heather M. McGee, psychology; Casey Douglas McKittrick, English; Nancy C. Meister, student affairs; Christine Moser, economics; Patrick A. Niemi, theatre; Susan V. Piazza, special education and literacy studies; Viviane Ruellot, World languages and literatures; Rebecca A. Scheffers, College of Engineering and Applied Sciences; Brian Schmidt, College of Aviation; Scott Slawinski, English; Kenneth H. Smith, music; Yumi Takahashi-Ede, arts and sciences advising; Ron

Van Houten, psychology; Michael F. Vlassis, Miller Auditorium; Udaya Raj Wagle, public affairs and administration; Philip G. Walcott, physician assistant; Caroline B. Webber, family and consumer sciences; Peter W. Wielhouwer, political science; and Kristina Wirtz, anthropology.

Five Years—Betty A.J. Adams, Mallinson Institute; Jennifer Anne Brown, nursing; Christina D. Chin, art; Martha Anne Councell-Vargas, music; Joseph Brian Erskine, Residence Life; Susan Freeman, gender and women's studies; Nicholas J. Gooch, landscape services; Anne-Marie Guidy-Oulai, business information systems; Sally E. Hadden, history; Christopher Alan Hoffmann, physics; Dean F. Kruse, Residence Life; Thomas Dale Lynema, information technology; Whitney Moncrief, dance; Thisbe E. Nissen, English; Nolan B. Patton, Residence Life; Jessica R. Pelkey,

marketing; Staci Perryman-Clark, English; Shannon Sauer-Becker, construction division; Elizabeth Holly Terrel, Theatre; Gayle A. Thompson, human performance and health education; and Katherine N. Young, College of Engineering and Applied Sciences.

July Service

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

30 Years—Marilyn J. Shriver, WMU-Battle Creek/Lansing.

20 Years—Richard Haynes, maintenance services, and Joseph Kretovics, educational leadership, research and technology.

15 Years—Patricia A. Amsterburg, maintenance services; Maggie Coughlin, economics; Fredrick J. Dobney, history; and Jay A. Wood, mathematics.

10 Years—Barbara J. Loney, Office of the Vice President for Student Affairs, and Sandra M. Williams, Office of the Vice President for Student Affairs.

Five Years—Patricia E. Villalobos, art.

CELCIS one of six programs to reach reaccreditation milestone

The University's internationally recognized center for English language instruction is one of just six programs worldwide to already have achieved a second reaccreditation by the Commission on English Language Program Accreditation.

The CEA reaccredited WMU's Center for English Language and Culture for International Students—CELCIS—for a 10-year period through 2025 following a comprehensive self-study and site visit in April.

CELCIS has been providing intensive English language instruction at WMU since 1975. The WMU program was initially accredited by CEA in 2000. It was one of the first programs in the Midwest to earn the designation and was reaccredited for an additional 10 years in 2005.

"This accreditation sets our program apart from other language schools and inspires the excellence we are dedicated to maintaining,"

CELCIS Director Tom Marks says. "CEA is the accepted accrediting body for intensive English programs—not only in the U.S. but all over the world. It is the gold standard recognized by students, faculty and instructors, and our international partners, recruiters and agents."

CEA was founded in 1999 by English language professionals as a specialized accrediting agency to provide a means for improving the quality of English language teaching and administration through accepted standards. It conducts accreditation reviews in the United States and internationally.

Specific standards are evaluated during the accreditation process, including mission, curriculum, faculty, facilities, equipment and



A premier English language program, CELCIS annually attracts hundreds of students. (Photo courtesy of CELCIS)

supplies, administrative and fiscal capacity, student services, recruiting, length and structure of the program of study, student achievement, student complaints, and program development.

CELCIS provides instruction in English

as a second language for non-native speakers who will use English to study at an American college or university or in their workplaces. Students travel from around the globe to study in CELCIS, with the top four countries of origin being Saudi Arabia, China, Japan and Iraq. An average of 200 students enroll in the program each semester, and some 500 students enroll each year.

Campus looks forward to fall activities celebrating major events, developments

Classes opened this fall with the campus community looking forward to numerous events that turn the spotlight on WMU's history, traditions and continued growth.

Special celebratory events

The Department of Geosciences, formerly the Department of Geology, is about



to begin a year-long celebration to commemorate its 50th anniversary. First up is Alumni Rally Weekend from Friday through

Sunday, Sept. 18-20. The geology department was separated from the Department of Geography and made a new academic unit July 1, 1965. Details are available by visiting wmich.edu/geology.

- More than 25,000 students and other members of the WMU community are expected to gather for the annual Bronco Bash on the pedestrian mall in front of Sangren Hall from 3 to 7 p.m. Friday, Sept. 11. The free event is a huge celebration welcoming students to the campus and to Kalamazoo. It features games, live entertainment and more than 450 booths, providing information about WMU, the wares of area merchants and local volunteer opportunities. Food is available for purchase.

- Local organizations have joined forces with the Office of Lesbian, Bisexual, Gay and Transgender Student Services to stage the fourth Fall Fab Fest from 1 to 4 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 13, in the Student Recreation Center. Open to all local students and community members, this free event celebrates community as well as welcomes LGBGT people to town. It features information about supportive resources, food and a variety of entertainment.

Infrastructure-related events

- The WMU Board of Trustees July 8 voted to name the building that houses the engineering college for WMU's sixth president, Dr. Elson S. Floyd, who died in

June. Elson S. Floyd Hall will be the new name for the massive College of Engineering and Applied Sciences facility that was begun during Floyd's presidency.

The naming will take place Friday, Oct. 16, at the Parkview Campus, where the college is housed. Floyd was WMU's president from 1998 to early 2003. He went on to serve as president of the University of Missouri and then Washington State University. He died June 20. For more about Floyd at WMU, visit wmich.edu/news/2015/07/25452. A video of WSU's tribute to Floyd may be viewed at experience.wsu.edu.



WMU's impressive engineering building will be named Floyd Hall. (Photo by Mike Lanka)

- Lt. Gov. Brian Calley will be on campus Friday, Sept. 11, to help launch a critical new resource center for Michigan families that have children with autism. Calley will join President John M. Dunn for a by-invitation-only ribbon cutting and grand opening of Western's Evaluation Center for Autism and Neurodevelopmental disorders.

Known as WECAN, the new center is located in the Unified Clinics area of the WMU Stryker School of Medicine Clinics facility located off of Oakland Drive. WECAN is one of several elements to the WMU Autism Center for Excellence funded by a special \$4 million appropriation last year by the Michigan Legislature. Families will be able to visit WECAN and work with a diagnostic team to have children's skills assessed along with family needs.

- The University's governing board July 8 unanimously approved making Heritage

Hall the new official name for the building that will house the WMU Alumni Center. Heritage Hall, the site formerly known as East Hall, has been under renovation since mid-2014 to become the center's home. It is slated to open during the 2015 homecoming weekend Oct. 23-25.

Heritage Hall will be spotlighted during the Mercantile Bank of Michigan Breakfast Speaker Series hosted by the Haworth College of Business at 8 a.m. Friday, Sept. 25, in 2150 Schneider Hall. Jim Thomas, vice president of development and alumni relations, and Renee Pearl, director of engagement, will discuss "Heritage Hall: Our community's commitment to higher education." The event is free but reservations are required at (269) 387-6059 or wmich.edu/business/mercantile-rsvp.

- After more than two years of construction-related work, Western Heights, the new two-building residence hall complex near the Bernhard Center, has opened to students.

Western Heights houses 680 new and 60 returning students in an environment designed to build a sense of community and encourage socialization.



For the first time in 50 years, new residence halls for incoming students have been built. (Photo by Mike Lanka)



Thomas



Pearl

Share your viewpoint in faculty, staff survey

Members of the campus community have an opportunity to share their views about promoting student persistence to graduation.

That opportunity is taking the form of a survey that is open through Friday, Sept. 18, and being deployed by the Broncos FIRST team in the Center for Research in Instructional Change in Postsecondary Education.



Members of the campus community have an opportunity to share their views about promoting student persistence to graduation.

Faculty and staff members with access to WMU email should look for the survey link in their email inbox. Employee groups without computer access will have an opportunity to take a paper version of the survey.

The goal of the survey is to identify what areas may impact students' persistence towards graduation at WMU. The next step will be to use existing professional learning communities to study those factors so the University can transform its graduate rate.

Broncos FIRST is getting support from a more than \$3.2 million grant that the University received in 2014 from the U.S. Department of Education's First in the World Grant program. Co-directing the WMU grant project are Andrea Beach, education leadership, research and technology, and Charles Henderson, physics and Mallinson Institute for Science Education.

Visit wmich.edu/changeresearch/broncosfirst/survey for more information about Broncos FIRST.

Several new administrators appointed

Recent personnel moves have resulted in seven faculty and staff members assuming new administrative positions within the University.

- James P. Cousins, history, was named interim associate dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, effective Aug. 17. Cousins has been serving as director of undergraduate studies for the history department. He is replacing Jonathan Bush this fall while Bush is completing an American Council on Education Fellowship.

- Carol R. Dedow was named the deputy chief of the Department of Public Safety and began her new duties in July. Dedow has been a WMU police officer for 31 years and most recently was serving as captain of services in the parking division. She replaces Blaine D. Kalafut, who has retired.

- Joseph Kuchenbuch, formerly program director at Psychological Consultants of Michigan for 14 years, was named director of Behavioral Health Services in the Unified Clinics, effective June 15. Kuchenbuch replaces Thomas W. Blackmon, who has retired.

- Mary D. Lagerwey, nursing, was named director of the WMU Bronson School of Nursing, effective July 1. Lagerwey has served as interim director of the school since Jan. 1. She replaces Dr. Shaké Ketefian, who has retired.

- Edwin Martini, history, was named associate dean of Extended University Programs, effective July 1. Martini has been an associate dean of the College of Arts and Sciences. He fills a vacancy due to a University leave.

- Jana K. Schulman, English, was named director of the Medieval Institute, effective July 1. Schulman has been on the English faculty and an affiliated faculty member of the institute since 2002. She replaces James M. Murray, who has returned to the faculty.

- Ann A. Tyler, speech pathology and audiology, was named associate dean of the College of Health and Human Services, effective July 1. Tyler has served as chair and professor of speech pathology and audiology since coming to WMU in 2007. She replaces Dr. Richard G. Long, who has returned to the faculty.



Cousins



Dedow



Kuchenbuch



Lagerwey



Martini



Schulman



Tyler

University implements preferred-name policy for both students, employees

WMU has adopted a preferred-name policy that allows students to be identified by the first name they prefer rather than their legal name in a wide range of campus settings and activities.

The legal names will still be used for enrollment, transcripts, diplomas, financial aid e-learning and certain federal reporting, students will be free to select the first name of their choice for class lists, email, ID cards, the GoWMU computing

portal and campus directories.

With this move, WMU becomes one of just 146 schools around the nation and five

in Michigan that have adopted some form of preferred name policy, according to Campus Pride, a national service and advocacy group for LGBTQ and ally student leaders and campus organizations.

The option went live on University electronic record systems Aug. 28—just in time for the start of the fall 2015 semester. The option reflects the University's commitment to diversity and inclusion, WMU officials say, and is expected to be popular with students who wish to adopt either a gender-specific or gender-neutral name. It also will appeal to WMU's sizeable international population, many of whom like to choose a first name that helps them more easily assimilate.

The preferred name option also extends to campus employees who can change their preference through Human Resources. Faculty and staff members are encouraged to use preferred first names in their interactions with students and in all WMU communications except where use of a legal name is required by University business.

For more information about the change, the areas in which preferred names will be used and how to go about using the option, visit wmich.edu/registrar/policies/preferred-name.

Governing board approves 5 staff retirements, 5 staff members

The retirements of five staff members were approved by the WMU Board of Trustees during its July 8 meeting. Trustees also signed off on five faculty resignations and one administrator's return to the faculty.

The retiring staff members' names, positions, years of continuous service and effective dates of retirement are: Cynthia E. Bradley, human performance and health education, 10 years, effective July 31; Deborah J. Goostrey, College of Health and Human Services, 12 years, effective June 1; Blaine D. Kalafut, public safety, 38 years, effective June 30; Judith A. King, College of Health and Human Services, 15 years, effective July 31; and Craig E. Wolford, accounting services, 26 years, effective June 30.

The faculty members resigning are: Kirsten Harvey, assistant professor of dance, effective Aug. 16; John M. Mueller, assistant professor of management, effective Dec. 31; Gayle A. Thompson, assistant professor of human performance and health education, effective Aug. 16; Lindsay Powell Toth, faculty specialist I-lecturer of human performance and health education, effective Aug. 16; and Louise A. Wurst, professor and chair of anthropology, effective July 31.

Returning to the faculty is Barbara Liggett, public affairs and administration, from director to professor, effective Jan. 4, 2016. In addition, she was granted a sabbatical leave, effective for the spring 2016 semester.

Year-end strategic planning report details accomplishments

On the eve of transitioning to an updated five-year strategic plan, WMU in July released a year-end report detailing outcomes achieved during the third year of its initial three-year plan.

The report, "Strategic Plan Year Three Year-end Report on Progress and Outcomes," is available at wmich.edu/strategic. It includes an assessment of how well WMU did in terms of implementing recommendations from the 2013-14 annual report and addressing stated priority initiatives for 2014-15.

In addition, the report includes selected success stories from a variety of campus units as well as a brief update on how the plan's tactical action communities and their project action teams are being transitioned as strategic planning becomes more integrated into WMU's culture.

Known as The Gold Standard, the University Strategic Plan began being updated this summer. That effort is continuing this fall, with the goal of a 2015-20 version being ready for a soft implementation in early 2016.

Jody Brylinsky, associate provost for institutional effectiveness, says by the end of the 2014-15 academic year, WMU had completed or made progress on 83 percent of the 166 initiatives and 10 implementation recommendations that had been identified as priorities for the year.

Overall, WMU saw notable accomplishments in the areas of improving schedul-

ing and communication for strategic plan reporting, and addressing how enterprise risk management principles can assist in achieving strategic goals.

Brylinsky says considerable strides were made regarding WMU's strategy to increase research and creative activity. She says this success was especially impacted by University centers and institutes and by faculty and

graduate student discovery.

Other improvements are expected to boost student success. They were achieved by major initiatives associated with study

abroad and student engagement activities. Additional successes were seen in initiatives to support professional development and training to improve the campus climate, enhance University marketing, and expand WMU's global footprint.

Updating process underway

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WMU lauded for societal impact, outstanding value

WMU has been named both a top national university and one of the best higher education values in the Midwest by *Washington Monthly* magazine.

The bimonthly magazine that covers the nation's politics, government, culture and media released its 2015 College Guide Aug. 24. Its latest list puts WMU at No. 92 among national universities and No. 13 in the Midwest in the Best Bang for the Buck category.

The report says significant efforts were made to address all areas associated with prioritizing strategic initiatives that, if accomplished, would have the greatest impact on the University.

It identified the areas that need the most focus as enrollment management and diversity of the staff profile, degree completion, increasing research expenditures, and maintaining a robust global and experiential learning experience for WMU students.

Progress also was reported in the area of WMU's strategic plan management, with growth observed in the areas of leadership, strategic thinking and planning, alignment, and priority measurement.

Among the steps highlighted were integrating strategic planning with enterprise risk management, implementing a campus-wide program review, improving data collection and progressing toward a centralized reporting system with more consistency in terminology and accountability in reporting.

Washington Monthly's rankings rate institutions based on criteria it characterizes as college qualities that are good for the nation. Criteria include producing cutting-edge research and new Ph.D.s., promoting social mobility by recruiting and graduating low-income students, and encouraging students to give back through service.



This is the third time WMU has appeared on *Washington Monthly's* list of top-100 national universities since the magazine launched the initiative in 2005. It's also the University's third appearance on the Best Bang for the Buck list.

In terms of state schools, only Michigan State and Michigan Technological universities and the University of Michigan join WMU on the top-100 national universities list while a total of 13 are on the Midwest Best Bang for the Buck list.

Campus United Way campaign officially underway

WMU will launch its 2015 United Way campaign at 9:15 a.m. Thursday, Sept. 17, in front of Sangren Hall with the help of Kalamazoo Mayor Bobby Hopewell, WMU administrator and Portage Mayor Peter Strazdas, regional United Way CEO Mike Larson and WMU's Robert Miller, associate vice president for community outreach.



They will join Buster Bronco to kick off the campaign to raise \$275,000 as part of the larger "Change the Story" campaign of the United Way of the Battle Creek and Kalamazoo Region. Distribution of pledge cards to all faculty, staff and retirees is underway.

Those who make any new, undesignated gifts of at least \$50, or undesignated gifts that have increased from the previous year by \$25, automatically are entered in a drawing by the regional United Way for up to \$30,000 toward a new vehicle from one of the sponsoring dealerships. In order to be included in this drawing, pledge forms or completed entry forms must be received at the WMU Office of the President by 5 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 11. The winner will be announced Thursday, Dec. 10.

This year, the regional United Way is again offering an opportunity to post on Facebook or Twitter a message of support for the campaign through a link on its website, changethestory.org. By using the tag #changethestory and making it easy for people to "donate" a tweet or post, the organization hopes to build awareness and support for the campaign.

For more information on the United Way of the Battle Creek and Kalamazoo Region, visit changethestory.org. For questions about making a pledge or donation, or to schedule a United Way meeting for a campus unit, contact wmu-unity-way@wmich.edu.

Help sessions scheduled on Library Search engine

In May 2015, University Libraries introduced Library Search, a simplified and centralized way to conduct research.

It combines the library catalog with hundreds of databases to provide expanded results for books, articles and audio visual materials. Both students and employees are encouraged to attend a drop-in session to

learn more about the new search tool.

Sessions have been set for Tuesday, Sept. 15, from 1 to 3 p.m., and Wednesday, Sept. 23, from 2 to 4 p.m., in Room 2809 of the Swain Education Library.

For more information, visit libguides.wmich.edu/librarysearch or contact Michele Behr at (269) 398-5611.

On Campus with Erasmo Salinas



EXTENDING WMU'S REACH
(Photo by Jeanne Baron)

Being a Bronco is almost a way of life for alumnus Erasmo "Mo" Salinas, assistant director of WMU-Grand Rapids. Salinas came to the University as a student and has built both his academic and professional careers here.

A first generation, low-income student, he worked 30 hours a week while going to school full time and wasn't able to participate in an internship. He graduated with a bachelor's degree in marketing in 2006 but soon discovered he needed more work experience.

So the Shelby native took a radio advertising sales job in Muskegon, only to be laid off during the Great Recession. His future wife, Angela, a fellow WMU graduate who works at Grand Rapids Community College, encouraged him to switch gears. It was good advice. His engaging personality and commitment to education along with his bilingual abilities in Spanish and English landed him a job with the University's admissions office in 2008. After a week's intensive training, Salinas was on the road recruiting.

"I really learned to appreciate what the University leadership is trying to do with the three pillars and diversity and all those other components that really, truly make Western Michigan University the nationally recognized institution that it is today," he says.

Salinas, who completed a master's degree in higher education and student affairs at WMU, assumed his current post in April. He was already familiar with Grand Rapids, having done recruiting there as well as being a Caledonia resident. Salinas fills in for the WMU-Grand Rapids director, coordinates and assists with daily operations, and does community outreach. He also works with WMU's academic departments to schedule all Grand Rapids course offerings and develops three-year projections for future offerings.

"The best part is I get to work for my alma mater. I get to promote the institution that has essentially provided me the skills that have helped me to become what I am today," he says. "And I love the people I work with. Just as with the main campus, it's all about the students and how we can provide them the very best experience and education possible."

Salinas enjoys spending time with family, especially Angela and his 2-year-old daughter, and likes to play golf with friends. He confesses to being a passionate alumnus who wears Bronco gear down to his cufflinks, attends every home football game and considers tailgating for Western his No. 1 hobby.

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Six of 10 Universitywide award winners announced

Distinguished Faculty Scholar Award

This honor is WMU's highest award for a faculty member. It recognizes those whose work constitutes a significant body of achievement that is widely recognized within the national and international academic communities.

- (Chansheng) He is a professor of geography who has been a WMU faculty member since 1995. He is an expert in water resource modeling and assessment as well as integration of geographic information system and simulation modeling for watershed management.

Nominators lauded him for his outstanding leadership and tireless efforts in addressing and raising awareness about a wide range of issues related to water resources management. They also praised him for his innovative yet practical research, high level of professional and scholarly activity, and resourceful collaborations.

Annual Make a Difference Award

This award goes to staff members who have made exceptional contributions to the University. It is the highest honor WMU bestows specifically to non-faculty employees for their service.

- Knutson has been director of academic advising in the College of Arts and Sciences since 2006. He began his WMU career in 1994 as a residence hall director and has been serving in student advising roles since 2000. Those nominating Knutson almost

unanimously praised him for going the extra mile to support students and ensure they succeed. They also cited him as an expert advisor, and a great mentor and role model.

- Ray joined the staff in 2008 as an employer relations/recruiter in the Haworth College of Business Career Center. She was promoted to career development specialist in the Career Center in 2013. Ray was consistently praised for going above and beyond her job duties to help students succeed and for spending countless hours on volunteer projects, especially the Reclaim the W program for previously academically dismissed students that she helped build.

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WMU to be key player in national initiative

sensors. Together, they are integrating ink formulation, printing processes and sensor technology development in a way no other university has replicated.

"This is not a center for research, it's a center for manufacturing," Joyce says of FEAT. "The focus of the center will be to assist industry in the scale-up of their technologies and to identify new technology needs in the process. We will be working on technologies that will protect our military and enrich the lives of U.S. consumers."

Atashbar adds that nationally, the FHE institute and its nodes will work together on technologies that meet the expressed needs of the military and can be transitioned to

- Riemland has been senior administrative assistant in Student Activities and Leadership Programs since 2009. She joined the staff in 2005 and previously worked in three other units. Nominators lauded her for her dedication to students as well as her office, and emphasized that she has an amazing worth ethic, level of professional skill and ability to connect with others.

- Yoshimoto is program manager for the Soga Japan Center, a position she has held since joining its staff in 2014. She is praised for dramatically increasing WMU's regional profile through her outstanding organizational abilities, tireless outreach and hard work, and boundless energy.

consumer markets.

"The same technology that might allow physiological or environmental sensors in uniforms, could also be useful to consumers for workout monitoring devices," he notes. "There are a variety of industries looking for small, reliable and cost-effective flexible sensors that monitor environmental, physical, chemical and biological parameters."

Joyce says obtaining funding to launch the FHE institute was an extraordinarily competitive and multi-step, two-year process. Now, she adds, WMU's role will be to work with materials suppliers to build a materials registry and to assist companies in the scale-up of their technologies.