Talk explores meshing generations at work

Kalamazoo County’s 18th annual Respecting Differences program will delve into the inter-generational nature of today’s workforce during a talk by Scott Zimmer from BridgeWorks. Zimmer will speak on “Bridging the Generational Divide” at 9:30 a.m. and again at 2 p.m. on Wednesday, April 13, in Cherney Auditorium, 714 S. Westnedge Ave. in Kalamazoo. An American Sign Language translator will be at both sessions of “Bridging the Generational Divide” they attend.

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Time to nominate grad students

Department and program chairs as well as graduate directors and advisors are invited to nominate outstanding graduate students by Monday, May 16, for the 2016 Graduate Student Teaching Intensive, set for 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. July 25-29 in Sangren Hall. More information and the nomination form are available at wmich.edu/facultydevelopment/graduate/teachingintensive.

Employees of all ages invited to event

A Sanford Advisory Services workshop for WMU employees called “Retirement Planning Tips: Benchmarking Retirement Readiness” is set for 12:10 to 12:50 p.m. Tuesday, April 5, in 105-107 Bernhard Center. The event can serve as a general “check-up” on retirement planning road maps for employees of all ages and at all career stages. Register at enrollment@sanfordadvisory.com.

Lavender graduation registration open

All graduating students are encouraged to participate in the 2016 Lavender Graduation from 6 to 8 p.m. Wednesday, April 20. The event celebrates lesbian, bisexual, gay, transgender and all graduating students and honors award recipients for their contributions to LGBT inclusion at WMU. Register at bit.ly/229JX1J. For more information, visit wmich.edu/lgbt or call (269) 387-2133.

Departments urged to apply for grants

Applications for the 2016-17 Visiting Scholars and Artists Program are due by 5 p.m. Wednesday, April 20. Departments that have not recently been awarded a grant are encouraged to apply. Applications and instructions are available at wmich.edu/facultydevelopment/awards.

Volunteers sought for Color Run

WMU hopes to fill 200 volunteer spots for Kalamazoo’s Color Run 5K race Saturday, April 23. As a nonprofit sponsor for the event, the Student Recreation Center receives additional dollars for facility improvements annually for volunteer participation. To volunteer, visit bit.ly/kzoolcolorrun16.
Garrison Keillor coming to Miller Auditorium

WMUK will welcome Garrison Keillor to Miller Auditorium in a live solo event at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 27.

A limited number of specially priced “WMUK Ticket Packages” and “WMUK Meet and Greet Ticket Packages” are now available by calling (269) 387-2300 or visiting the Miller Auditorium Box Office.

Keillor is the entertaining writer, humorist and speaker who is probably best known for his popular radio show “A Prairie Home Companion.” The show attracts some 17 million listeners on more than 900 public radio stations weekly. Keillor also is a best-selling author of many books.

Guided tour of Spain canceled
Due to a lack of preregistrations, development and alumni relations has canceled its planned summer trip to Spain.

Cool tools program rescheduled
The Cool Tools workshop, titled “Information Literacy,” has been rescheduled to 2 to 4 p.m. Thursday, April 7, in 2033 University Computing Center.

For more information, visit wmich.edu/faculty-development/programs.

Political scientist giving two talks
David Samuels from the University of Minnesota, co-editor of Comparative Political Studies, will speak about “Inequality and Democratic Survival” at 3:30 p.m. Tuesday, April 5, in 330 Friedheim Hall.

Samuels will also speak on “Changing Brazil — A Glass Half Full?” at 7 p.m. the same day in the Fetzer Center’s Putney Auditorium.

International students host festival
The music, dance, food and fashions of 19 cultures, including for the first time Brazil—A Glass Half Full? on the second floor of the Bernhard Center. Admission is free, and for a nominal fee, attendees may sample traditional foods. Full details are available at wmich.edu/news/2016/03/30854.

Event makes shredding materials easy
Students and faculty and staff members are encouraged to participate in a free campuswide shredding event Tuesday, April 12, to ensure all personal and personal documents are properly destroyed and recycled.

The campus Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act Committee is hosting the event with Data Guardian from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in Lot 41 near Sangren Hall. New this year, CDs, DVDs and floppy disks will be accepted. More information is provided at wmich.edu/news/2016/03/1212.

APA schedules awards luncheon
Register by Thursday, April 14, at bit.ly/2iTaux4 for the Administrative Professional Association’s 2016 spring luncheon and awards ceremony. The event is set for noon to 1:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 20, in the Fetzer Center. It will celebrate the winners of the group’s annual awards: Jenna Gehl Jones, Outstanding New Professional Award; Erika Carr, Outstanding Professional Award; and Michelle Lordeman, Tony Griffin Service Award. Admission is free for active, dues-paying APA members and $10 for others.
Fourteen staff members to be feted at reception

The 14 recipients of WMU Make a Difference awards for spring 2016 will be recognized during a reception at 2 p.m. Tuesday, April 12, in 157 Bernhard Center. They are:

- Katherine Bates, Student Activities and Leadership Program
- Andrea Bau, College of Education and Human Development
- Lauren Carney, College of Arts and Sciences
- Earl Conner, building custodial and support services
- Judy Custer, Haworth College of Business
- Adam Limban, Bronco Express services
- Nicole Lockwood-Womack, teacher and administrator certification
- Buffy Nespodzany, Career and Student Employment Services
- Kennethn Schoelter, admissions
- Barcey Stevens, family and consumer sciences
- Kim Tembreull, psychology
- Stacy Thennes, intercollegiate athletics
- Cindy Town, institutional equity
- Travis Wendt, information technology

The Make a Difference awards program is a campuswide peer-to-peer program that recognizes staff members for their outstanding accomplishments and daily investment of energy and creativity.

Up to 15 staffers may be selected in each of two semiannual award periods. Semiannual winners are eligible for one of four annual awards that carry a prize of $1,200, before taxes.

One-day blood drive set for CMI-WMU challenge

Students have set Thursday, April 7, for the Bronco Blood Bash, a blood drive to establish a new state record for donations during a single, university drive and the only local drive planned for this year’s CMU-WMU single, university drive and the only local drive planned for this year’s CMU-WMU single. By collecting that many units, the club will result in faster processing.

To encourage those who try to donate blood April 7 will receive a free hero T-shirt. Walk-ins are welcome; however, making an appointment will result in faster processing.

Tigers night tickets on sale

WMU Night at Comerica Park is set for 7:08 p.m. Wednesday, June 22, when the Detroit Tigers take on the Seattle Mariners.

The first 2,500 people who purchase a ticket to the game through mywmu.com/tigers will receive a limited edition WMU-Tigers baseball hat in the University's brown and gold colors. In addition, $5 of the cost of each ticket sold on the site will go to the WMU Legacy Scholarship Fund. Also, WMU will host a pre-game Bronco Stampede at 5:30 p.m. in Party Plaza. The stampede package includes Upper Box Infield seats and a picnic buffet, but is limited to the first 300 purchasers.

A variety of Tigers night ticket prices and pregame event packages are available. Those who purchase game tickets or the stampede package through mywmu.com by Sunday, May 1, will be automatically entered into a raffle in which they have a chance to win prizes such as a baseball autographed by Miguel Cabrera.

Speech path slates open house

The Department of Speech Pathology and Audiology will hold an open house for prospective graduate students from noon to 4 p.m. Friday, April 1. It will take place in 4010 of the College of Health and Human Services building.

The open house will include informational sessions, tours and a reception with faculty members. For complete schedule of events, visit bit.ly/1VfXqS.

Institute kicks off forums with Michael Moore

Michael Moore will visit Kalamazoo next month to discuss the Flint, Michigan, water crisis; disinvestment in low-income communities; and how we get to a future that works better for everyone. He also will reflect on his career as a citizen filmmaker.

Moore will present “It Only Hurts when I Laugh” at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 6, in Miller Auditorium. The event is free and open to the public, with seating on a first-come, first-served basis. It is being sponsored by WMU’s Walker Institute for the Study of Race and Ethnic Relations, in collaboration with the Lee Honors College, School of Communication and other entities at the University.

Tim Ready, director of the Walker Institute, says Moore’s appearance is the kick-off event for a series of upcoming community forums and scholarly discussions being sponsored by the Walker Institute.

The series, “Growing Together or Pulling Apart? Making Public Policies that Work for Everyone,” will begin later in April with a presentation on “Building a Sustainable Michigan: Social and Environmental Aspects of the Challenge.” It will continue through April 2017 and cover topics including immigration, criminal justice reform, housing segregation by race and class, equality of opportunity, and poverty and education.

For more information, visit wmich.edu/walkerinstitute or contact Ready at (269) 387-2141.

PRO Services advances endowed professor effort

A local business executive and his company have donated $25,000 toward an industrywide effort to raise money to fund an endowed professorship in chemical and paper engineering.

Mike VandaeMaale, chief executive officer and founder of PRO Services and a board member of the WMU Paper Technology Foundation, recently executed a $25,000 gift agreement to help fund the Dr. Raymond L. Jones Endowed Professorship. Jones, who died in 2009, was a longtime faculty member and chair of the former Department of Paper and Printing Science and Engineering.

So far, about two-thirds of the $1.5 million needed to establish the professorship has been raised. To contribute to the professorship, scholarships and other activities supported by the WMU Paper Technology Foundation, contact the foundation by calling (269) 276-3964 or visiting its office at 4651 Campus Drive in Kalamazoo.

Students headed to Kennedy Center—A work performed by 13 dance students has been selected in regional competition to be showcased at the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington, D.C., during the American College Dance Association national festival there in June. Carolyn Pavlik, dance, choreographed the work. Titled “The illusion has been just a dream,” it was one of only three works out of 48 selected to go on to the national festival when the ACDA held its East-Central Regional Conference at WMU March 5-8. Pavlik’s winning dance was inspired by Charles Manson and his followers and explores ideas of manipulation and control, retribution and regret. This is the fourth time WMU has been invited to the national festival. (Photo courtesy of the dance department)

Malcolm Robertson, emeritus in psychology, died Feb. 28. He was 90. Robertson joined the staff in 1961 and retired in 1998 after 37 years of service.
Office warns that spring is season for student employment scams

After spring break, most college students get serious about making work plans for the summer months. But not all summer job offerings come from reputable employers, warns Lynn Kelly-Albertson, WMU executive director of professional and career development.

“Most opportunities are legitimate and can give you experience and money, and build your skills. However, this is the season for scams,” Kelly-Albertson says. “A good rule to keep in mind is: ‘If a job opportunity sounds too good to be true, it probably is.’”

She adds that although WMU’s Career and Student Employment Services screens employers before listing them in BroncoObs, the University’s comprehensive database of jobs, even CSES may occasionally miss a scammer.

“We’ve compiled a list of ‘red flags’ to look for to help students identify fictitious or disreputable employers,” Kelly-Albertson says. “We urge students to review them before accepting any job offer.”

State Geographic Bee is April 1

For the ninth straight year, WMU is hosting the Michigan State Geographic Bee. This year’s event is being coordinated by Lisa DeChano-Cook, geography, and will be held Friday, April 1, in the Fetter Center’s Kirsch Auditorium.

Students will be vying for a trip to Washington, D.C. to compete in the National Geographic Bee championship. For more information, visit wmich.edu/news/2016/03/31165.

ocrates related to its role at the University.”

Development of the updated strategic plan benefited from the feedback of nearly 1,500 faculty and student community members. Once the document’s basic elements were drafted, an additional 31 groups made up of 400 people from across the campus met to review and respond to the draft. Those groups ranged from a variety of offices and departments as well as faculty and staff members from individual units to WMU’s senior leadership team.