



# Western News

MARCH 17, 2016  
Volume 42, Number 12

For and about WMU faculty and staff

## Board of Trustees meeting scheduled

The next meeting of the WMU Board of Trustees is Wednesday, March 23. The time and agenda will be announced closer to the meeting date.

## Email system migration delayed

Because of technical issues, students, faculty members and retirees will not be migrated to the new W-Exchange email system this semester. However, staff members will be migrated. A new migration schedule will be set once testing of the data migration methodology is completed. Visit [wmich.edu/email](http://wmich.edu/email) for migration updates.

## Next faculty, staff mixers scheduled

All employees are invited to a casual Fridays with Friends mixer from 4 to 6 p.m. Friday, March 18, in 4110 College of Health and Human Services Building. Complimentary light hors d'oeuvres will be available. The next mixer is set for April 15.

## Volunteers needed at marathon events

Volunteers are needed to help with the water/aid station and excitement zones on main campus for the Kalamazoo Marathon starting from 7:30 to about 9:30 a.m. Sunday, May 8. Volunteers will get a WMU T-shirt and be joined by Buster Bronco and the Cheer and Dance teams. To sign up, contact Donna Marks by Thursday, March 31, at [donna.marks@wmich.edu](mailto:donna.marks@wmich.edu) or (269) 387-2072.

## Benefits seminar slated for retirees

Human Resources and WMU's Association of Retired Faculty will host a seminar for all retirees on services and benefits offered by the Sindecuse Health Center, Unified Clinics and West Hills Athletic Club. The presentation will be held from 10 to 11:30 a.m. Friday, April 8, in 1010 College of Health and Human Services Building. Retirees with a valid R permit may park in a nearby R parking lot. Others may park in metered visitor spaces (\$1.50 per hour; U.S. quarters only). Direct questions to Richard Cooper at [richard.cooper@wmich.edu](mailto:richard.cooper@wmich.edu).

## Join or help out Relay for Life team

Employees are invited to join Shari's Crew, a Relay for Life faculty and staff member team. Relay for Life will take place Friday and Saturday, April 15-16, at the Student Recreation Center. For more information, visit [bit.ly/1Mm2w9I](http://bit.ly/1Mm2w9I) or contact Shannon Landis at [shannon.landis@wmich.edu](mailto:shannon.landis@wmich.edu) or (269) 387-5414.

## Giving campaign halfway to goal

This year's Broncos4Broncos employee giving campaign is more than halfway to its goal of achieving a 35 percent participation rate. The campaign is at 19 percent and runs through Thursday, June 30—the end of the fiscal year. For more information or to give, visit [mywmu.com/broncos4broncos](http://mywmu.com/broncos4broncos).

## Ethics Center marks 30 years, honors founder

The Center for the Study of Ethics in Society is celebrating three decades of existence by staging a new bioethics conference and a salute to one of its founders.



Pritchard

A tribute to Michael Pritchard, philosophy, will be held as part of the two-day conference Thursday and Friday, March 17-18, in the Fetzer Center.

The conference is free and open to the public, although there is a cost for meals. The theme for the event, "Bioethics: Preparing for the Unknown," highlights the uncertainty and intention factors in bioethics.

Festivities paying homage to Pritchard start with a reception at 5:30 p.m. Thursday in the Atrium Lobby of the Fetzer Center with a dinner following at 6:30 p.m. in 1045 Fetzer. The program will include a talk by Pritchard, titled "The Course of a Career,"

reflecting on his tenure as a philosopher at WMU and in particular, his role as founding director of the center. WMU faculty and administrators who played a crucial role in the center's early years also will give brief remarks before the premiere of a video looking at the center's history and accomplishments over its first 30 years.

Pritchard, who is retiring after some five decades of service to the University, has been instrumental in carrying out the center's mission of encouraging and supporting research, teaching and service to the University and community in areas of applied and professional ethics.

"Mike has won friends for ethics all over the world by being a gifted philosopher who happens to think that ethics is not just for philosophers," says Sandra Borden, communication and center co-director.

The conference also packs the punch of esteemed keynote speakers, including for-

Continued on page 4

## Medieval Institute director garners NEH grant

Jana K. Schulman, professor of English and director of the Medieval Institute, has received a \$180,000 award from the National Endowment for the Humanities.



Schulman

National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Institutes are two- to five-week projects that U.S. college and university faculty may apply to participate in. Schulman's institute project, "Teaching 'Beowulf' in the Context of Old Norse-Icelandic Literature," will take place in Kalamazoo this summer.

It is the first NEH Summer Institute to be held in Kalamazoo since Paul Szarmach, a former Medieval Institute director, headed one in 1999 on Anglo-Saxon England.

In her four-week institute, Schulman will work with guest lecturers in the fields of medieval archaeology, folklore and oral tradition, "Beowulf," Old Norse-Icelandic literature, and Scandinavian and Anglo-Saxon religions.

She and the guest lecturers will engage 25 summer scholars with more detailed background information about the culture, religions and history of Anglo-Saxon England and medieval Iceland. They also will provide participants with a greater and synergetic awareness of and appreciation for the literature of Anglo-Saxon England and medieval Iceland.

## Dunn honored with national 'Giving Back' diversity award

WMU President John M. Dunn is one of 27 college and university presidents and chancellors around the nation being honored with the first Giving Back Award from INSIGHT into Diversity, the oldest and best-known publication devoted to diversity in higher education.

According to the publication's editors, "the Giving Back Award honors presidents and chancellors of colleges and universities who go above and beyond their everyday leadership duties and 'give back' to their campuses and communities."

Dunn is featured with other recipients in the Leadership Support and Giving Back issue of the magazine, which may be accessed by visiting [insightintodiversity.com](http://insightintodiversity.com) and clicking on the April 2016 issue. Additional recipients of the inaugural round of awards include the presidents of Columbia, Penn State, Purdue and Wayne State universities.

Other accolades through the magazine include the notable Higher Education Excellence in Diversity Award. Now in its fifth year, the HEED Award is the only U.S. prize that honors colleges and universities that exhibit an outstanding commitment to diversity and inclusion throughout their campuses. WMU has won HEED awards for the past three consecutive years.



Dunn (Photo by Johnny Q Photography)

# Around campus and beyond

## Trauma center offers workshops

Registration has begun for two workshops by the Southwest Michigan Children's Trauma Assessment Center and WMU's Unified Clinics for parents of children who have experienced trauma. For details, visit [wmich.edu/news/2016/03/30928](http://wmich.edu/news/2016/03/30928).

## Students plan gaming convention

The Western Michigan Gamers Guild is sponsoring its 21st gaming convention Friday through Sunday, March 18-20. For details, visit [marmaladedog.org](http://marmaladedog.org).

## World Languages Film Festival set

Ten feature films will be screened this month as part of the second annual Kalamazoo World Languages Film Festival. The event takes place Friday through Sunday, March 18-20 and March 25-27, at the Alamo Drafthouse Cinema. For details, visit [wmich.edu/worldfilmfestival](http://wmich.edu/worldfilmfestival).

## Doctoral candidate to speak

Cecelia Parnter will present "Student Leadership in Academic Integrity" at 4 p.m. Tuesday, March 22, in the Bernhard Center's Brown and Gold Room. Her presentation is part of the ethics center's spring lecture series.

## Future U.S. leaders is topic of talk

Decker B. Hains, military science and leadership, will present "Leadership in Action: WMU Army ROTC—Build-

ing Our Nation's Future Leaders" when he speaks Friday, March 25, in 2150 Schneider Hall. The free event, part of the Mercantile Bank of Michigan Breakfast Speaker Series, begins with breakfast at 7:30 a.m. Registration is required at [wmich.edu/business/mercantile-rsvp](http://wmich.edu/business/mercantile-rsvp) or (269) 387-6059.

## Run, walk benefits LGBT students

Rainbow Run, a 5K run or walk, is set for 10 a.m. to noon Saturday, March 26, at the Student Recreation Center to benefit support services for LGBT students. To register, visit [mywmu.com](http://mywmu.com) and click Full Calendar of WMU Events.

## Public prom night scheduled

The 28th annual Senior Prom is set for Thursday, March 31, in the Bernhard Center's East Ballroom. The annual event brings together senior citizens with WMU students and employees for a night of ballroom dancing. Pre-entertainment begins at 5 p.m., and the dance will run from 7 to 10 p.m. Refreshments and hors d'oeuvres will be served. Free parking is available in Parking Structure No. 1.

## Golf clinic slated for employees

The golf team is offering a golf clinic for employees from 1 to 2 p.m. or 2 to 3 p.m. Saturday, April 9, in the Seelye indoor facility. The fee is \$20 per person; bring golf clubs. To register, write to [stacy.olson@wmich.edu](mailto:stacy.olson@wmich.edu) or call (616) 901-6880.

## Prof brings tax help to remote villages

For the second year, Fritz Allhoff, philosophy, has led a tax-assistance delegation to remote villages in western Alaska. The



Allhoff

program is supported by the Internal Revenue Service, an Anchorage-based nonprofit and various tribal associations, as well as a partnership with WMU's Haworth College of Business.

Allhoff and a group of four accounting students recently visited four villages over eight days—Goodnews Bay, Kongiganak, Kwigillingok and Platinum—filing about 400 tax returns.

They rode around on snow machines, ate whale and walrus, and took steam baths with tribal elders. The collaboration will continue in future years. Anyone interested in participating is invited to contact Allhoff for more details at [fritz.allhoff@wmich.edu](mailto:fritz.allhoff@wmich.edu) or (269) 387-4503.

## Staffer named to presidential group

Russell Kavalhuna, College of Aviation, has been tapped to take part in a six-month national leadership development effort called the Presidential Leadership Scholars Program. Kavalhuna is one of 61 leaders from across the country who traveled to Thomas Jefferson's home, Monticello, recently to start a series of monthly development activities.



Kavalhuna

The scholars program is an executive-style development initiative that draws upon the resources of the presidential centers of Lyndon B. Johnson, George H.W. Bush, William J. Clinton, and George W. Bush.

Over the coming months, the group is scheduled to travel to each of the presidential centers to meet with and learn from former presidents, key administration officials and leading academics. They will study and put into practice varying approaches to leadership, develop a network of peers, and exchange ideas with mentors and others who can help them make an impact in their communities.

## Administrator earns scouting award

Peter J. Strazdas, facilities management, is the first person to receive the North Star Award from the Southern Shores Field Service Council of the Boy Scouts of America.



Strazdas

The Southern Shores Field Service Council serves more than 15,000 youth and adults in Southwest Michigan.

Strazdas, who earned the rank of Eagle Scout as a youth in Boston, accepted the award at the "On My Honor" Benefit Dinner in February at Heritage Hall. The event was designed to honor new and former recipients of the Eagle Scout Award, the highest award that can be earned by a Boy Scout.

Strazdas, who also is the six-term mayor of Portage, Michigan, received the award because, according to the presenter, he embodies the Scout Oath and Law in his daily life and acts as a role model for the community.

## Tenth annual Chávez Dinner, awards program slated

Southwest Michigan will celebrate the life and work of civil rights leader César E. Chávez Saturday, April 2, during an annual scholarship fundraising dinner that includes the presentation of three regional awards and seven regional scholarships for 2016.

Called "Celebrating the Legacy of César E. Chávez," the event will be held in



Reynoso

the Fetzer Center. It begins with a reception at 5 p.m. followed by the dinner at 5:45 p.m. Reservations for the dinner, which cost \$25 for students and \$40 for others, may be made by calling (269) 387-4420. Attendees also may pay at the door.

The event will feature a keynote address by Cruz Reynoso, professor of law emeritus at the University of California, Davis School of Law and the first Hispanic to sit on the California Supreme Court.

For his efforts in extending legal equality, President Clinton awarded him the Presidential Medal of Freedom. In addition, he is the subject of an hour-long documentary by Abby Ginzberg in the film "Cruz Reynoso: Sowing the Seeds of Justice."

Other local events planned this year in honor of Chávez include the annual social justice march and program starting at WMU Thursday, March 31, and ending in downtown Kalamazoo. The event annually draws some 700 area high school and college students, community members and others.

## Jobs

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

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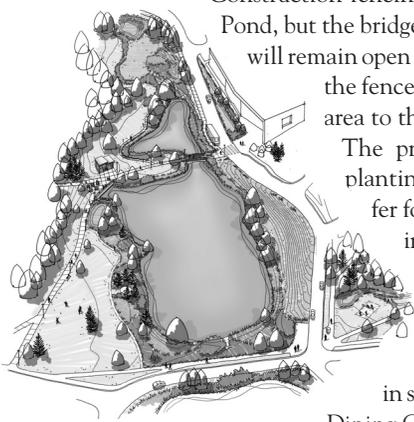
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# Goldsworth Valley upgrades underway

Site construction for the Goldsworth Valley Enhancements project began March 10 and will result in some changes to pedestrian paths around the campus.



Construction fencing has gone up around all of Goldsworth Valley Pond, but the bridge and the sidewalk leading up to and away from it will remain open until Friday, April 1. After that, sidewalks outside the fence perimeter will be the primary pathways from the area to the central part of campus.

The project includes native and wetland landscape plantings at the perimeter of the pond to provide a buffer for wildlife and filtering of storm water discharged into the pond. New gathering spaces and walking paths along the water's edge will allow, when completed, additional opportunities for the campus community to enjoy the entire pond area. Construction is expected to be completed in summer 2016, in conjunction with the new Valley Dining Center.

The work being done is guided by a plan developed by the Kalamazoo landscape architecture firm O'Boyle, Cowell, Blalock & Associates. The plan was presented to the campus community last fall, and feedback on the plan was received from numerous individuals.

# New projects are, will be affecting traffic flow

In addition to the ongoing work for the Valley Dining Center and Goldsworth Valley Pond area, motorists and pedestrians should take note of two other projects.

As part of a Lawson Arena improvement project, Roell Avenue was closed March 14, from south of Worner to Recreation Drive. In addition, Recreation Drive will be closed from Roell Avenue to the Lawson Arena player entrance.

Access to parking lots 70 as well as 74 will be maintained throughout the duration of the project, which is estimated to be complete Thursday, Sept. 1.

Also, closure of the westbound lane of Valley Drive at the intersection of Howard Street has been postponed, probably until the end of the semester. Closure will allow for repairs to the nearby cell tower and flagpole.

## Input surveys being conducted

The University is conducting two surveys this month that are associated with national data collections and will end in early April.

All students and employees are encouraged to participate in the online LibQUAL+ survey already underway by University Libraries and available through Sunday, April 10.

Conducted every three years, LibQUAL+ is an electronic survey presented by academic libraries nationwide. Comparative national data allow libraries to improve services to faculty and students whom they serve.

Those who complete the survey, which takes about 10 minutes, have the option of entering a random drawing for one of four Visa gift cards. Questions or comments can be sent to [lib\\_qual@wmich.edu](mailto:lib_qual@wmich.edu). For more information and to take the survey, visit [wmich.edu/library/libqual](http://wmich.edu/library/libqual).

For the second survey, WMU will join campuses around the nation to undertake a detailed assessment of the climate around sexual violence, inviting students to weigh in on their views and experiences in an online survey that begins Monday, March 21, and ends Friday, April 8.

The WMU Title IX Sexual Misconduct and Safety Survey will allow WMU officials to pinpoint areas of concern that students have. The results from participating campuses will be released in the fall.

All undergraduate and graduate students will be invited to participate in the confidential survey. The survey will assess students' perceptions a year after the University implemented its comprehensive new sexual misconduct policy.

## Top student employee, supervisor announced

WMU announced this year's top student employee and top staff supervisor of students during Student Employee Appreciation Week, held Feb. 22-26.

Bryan Birchmeier of Ada, formerly of Saline, is the 2016 Belleville Student Employee of the Year while Carolyn Smith of Kalamazoo is the 2016 Supervisor of the Year. The two were honored during a Feb. 29 recognition reception.

Birchmeier, who expects to graduate in spring 2017, is a senior majoring in computer engineering and minoring in computer information systems. He has worked in the Office of Development and Alumni Relations for the past two years as a computer support specialist.

Smith, assistant director of admissions, recruits students by developing and implementing marketing strategies and programs. A WMU staff member for more than eight years, she hires, trains and supervises about 100 student employees who help implement Office of Admissions programs.



Birchmeier



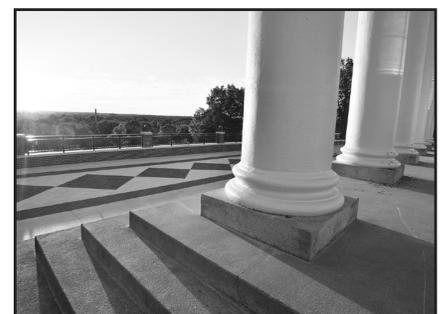
Smith

## Heritage Hall touted; still time to purchase pavers

A video produced to celebrate the rebirth of WMU's birthplace has won a bronze "Addy" award from an organization that represents advertising professionals from across West Michigan.

"Memories of East Campus," a two-minute video produced by Kalamazoo's Rhino Media for development and alumni relations, was honored at the American Advertising Federation of West Michigan's annual awards ceremony. It won a third-place (bronze) award in the Branded Content and Entertainment—Nonbroadcast category.

The video, which may be viewed on YouTube, marks the renovation and reopening in October of Heritage Hall and focuses on Heritage Hall's classic exterior and its position atop Prospect Hill. The footage



Donors have until Thursday, March 31, to purchase pavers for the Heritage Hall portico. (Photo by Mike Lanka)

depicts various individuals and groups of students engaged in traditional Prospect Hill activities.

Members of the campus community still have time to build their name or that of a loved one into Heritage Hall. Thursday, March 31, is the deadline to purchase inscribed bricks that will be added to the more than 1,600 pavers that have been part of the Portico Plaza since the hall reopened.

An additional interactive storyboard inside the building also is available for personalized remembrances. The University's goal for this spring is to have every brick in the array named by a donor. There are 265 of the 12" x 12" brick pavers and 1,200 of the 4" x 8" brick pavers remaining.

Pavers may be purchased online at [mywmu.com/acbricks](http://mywmu.com/acbricks) or by calling (269) 387-8700.

## Obituaries—[wmich.edu/news/obituaries](http://wmich.edu/news/obituaries)

**Idella L. Anderson**, formerly with Dining Services, died Nov. 8, 2015. She was 92. Anderson joined the staff in 1964 and retired in 1985 after 21 years of service.

**Anthony A. Gioia**, emeritus in mathematics, died Jan. 4. He was 81. Gioia joined the faculty in 1966 and retired in 1996 after 30 years of service. Memorial gifts may be made to the Department of Mathematics.

**Flor De Lys Houston**, a former library assistant at Waldo Library, died Feb. 16. She was 95. Houston joined the staff in 1969

and retired in 1985 after 16 years of service.

**Dan G. Malley**, a former custodian, died March 2. He was 68. Malley joined the staff in 2000 and retired in 2012 after 12 years of service. Memorial gifts may be made to the Department of Theatre.

**Daniel Tinkler**, a former a power plant operating engineer, died Aug. 31, 2015. He was 67. Tinkler joined the staff in 1986 and retired in 2008 after 22 years of service. Memorial gifts may be made to Almena United Methodist Church Helping Hands Fund.

## On Campus with Nicole Allbee



MAKING SUCCESSFUL LESSON PLANS  
(Photo by Deanne Puca)

Responses from students after being summoned to meet with her range from nervous to “pretty terrified,” says Nicole Allbee, director of student conduct.

That’s because Allbee’s job is to determine the fate of students who are alleged to have violated the University’s code of conduct, be it an academic infraction or inappropriate behavior on or off campus.

“My office is about learning, like the rest of the offices on campus. Students need to learn a lesson, and [being summoned] might be the last opportunity they have to learn that lesson,” she says. “I care about their success as a student. Sending a student here is not the end of the world.”

First and foremost, Allbee considers the offense and determines if students can work back to a plan for success. The most important part of this process is listening to students and being proactive in solving problems.

“Students are much more willing to talk about a plan if we show we are willing to listen to them,” she adds. “Our sanctions range from a warning to expulsion, and there are a lot of opportunities in between. The goal is to design something that helps them accomplish the learning outcomes that I feel are appropriate. We come up with solutions that will make them the most successful here.”

Much of her time is spent meeting with students and coaching faculty and staff on how to work with students on their behavior. Although there are certainly busy times, Allbee says it’s a tribute to the University community that the “numbers are not outrageous.”

“It is slower at the beginning of the year; everyone is getting along and feeling out their classes,” she says. “Between mid-terms and finals week, you see an increase in academic cases. People’s stress levels go up.”

Allbee came to WMU in 2009 and worked in various roles for student activities and leadership programs, most recently as assistant director. She started her current job in November 2013, serving as interim director until being named director this past July. Previously, she worked in higher education student affairs for a national sorority.

She and her wife, Heather Allbee, live in Augusta, Michigan, with their two dogs. Besides working on her doctoral degree in educational leadership at WMU, she enjoys spending time with her family and attending concerts and music festivals. Allbee already has earned a bachelor’s degree in psychology from Grand Valley State University and a master’s degree from WMU in higher education and student affairs leadership.

## Campus community members facilitating local book reads

WMU students and faculty members are helping to facilitate two book reads for the local community.

They will play central roles in the coming weeks as the Reading Together 2016 initiative in Kalamazoo focuses on the book “Orphan Train” by Christina Baker Kline. In addition, they will facilitate a community discussion in late March of George Marshall’s book, “Don’t Even Think About It: Why Our Brains Are Wired to Ignore Climate Change.”

For Reading Together, discussions organized by the Kalamazoo Public Library and the Reading Together 2016 Steering Committee will examine the nature and meaning of families and focus on celebrating the

diversity of family structures and writing about those families.

- At 7 p.m. tonight, Andrea B. Smith, teaching, learning and educational studies and family and consumer sciences, will lead a discussion about “The History of Families” in the Van Deusen Room of the Kalamazoo Public Library’s central library.

- At 7 p.m. Wednesday, March 30, in the Kiva Room at Kalamazoo’s Friendship Village, The Resilience Project will be the focus. WMU students from the Kalamazoo Promise and Seita Scholars Program join with the village’s resident senior citizens to

reflect upon the lessons they have learned by coming together on a regular basis to collaborate and share life experiences.

For more about Reading Together events, visit [kpl.gov/reading-together/2016](http://kpl.gov/reading-together/2016).

The climate change discussion for Marshall’s book is being organized by Denise Keele, political science.

- The discussion will run from 6 to 8:30 p.m. Thursday, March 31, also in the Van Deusen Room. Local climate change leaders will be participating.

For more information, contact Keele at [denise.keele@wmich.edu](mailto:denise.keele@wmich.edu) or (269) 387-5686.

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### Ethics Center marks 30 years, honors founder

mer WMU faculty member Insoo Hyun, now an associate professor of bioethics and philosophy at Case Western Reserve University, and WMU alumnus Richard Sharp, director of the Biomedical Ethics Program at the Mayo Clinic.

Bioethics has been a major focus of the Ethics Center since it was founded in August 1985 by Pritchard and other WMU faculty across the curriculum, who gathered to share their common interest in ethics research and instruction.

The center’s efforts in bioethics have been led by Shirley Bach, center associate

director and emerita in philosophy. Bach has worked closely with the local medical community for many years, developing ethics programming and providing expert consultation. She also established the Bach Quasi Endowment for the center.

More recently, the center has helped sponsor the interdisciplinary WMU Medical Humanities Workgroup, co-founded by advisory board member Fritz Allhoff, philosophy, and former staff member David Charlton, a philosophy instructor.

For conference details, visit [wmich.edu/ethics](http://wmich.edu/ethics).

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