Free employee photo sessions set

Faculty and staff members are encouraged to have their official University photos taken between 9:30 a.m. and 4 p.m. today in Walwood Hall’s Heinig Emeriti Lounge. No appointment is required. The next free photo session will be from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday, July 12, in 2302 Friedmann Hall.

Employees may have electronic copies for personal use and request cropped photos for use in directory listings on wmich.edu.

Photo files are not automatically sent. For more information and additional session dates, visit wmich.edu/universityrelations/photography. Direct questions to Sue Beougher at sue.beougher@wmich.edu or (269) 387-8402.

Invisible Need 2016 T-shirts available

The 2016 Invisible Need T-shirt became available June 1. It may be purchased online and by visiting Residence Life in 3510 Faunce Student Services Building. Shirts cost $10, and all proceeds go to the Student Emergency Relief Fund. Buying a shirt supports WMU students in need, and wearing one on game days supports WMU athletic teams. For more information, visit mywmu.com/invisibleneed.

Commencement ceremonies slated

WMU will hold two commencement ceremonies Saturday, June 25, in Miller Auditorium. The 9 a.m. ceremony is tailored for the colleges of Education and Human Development, Engineering and Applied Sciences, and Health and Human Services. The 12:30 p.m. ceremony is tailored for the Haworth College of Business and the colleges of Arts and Sciences, Aviation and Fine Arts.

Wi-Fi changes taking place on campus

Tsunami, WMU’s Wi-Fi SSID, changed to WMU Open effective June 6. Devices set to automatically connect to Tsunami need to be reconnected to the new SSID. But whenever possible, the campus community is encouraged to connect to WMU Secure.

WMU Secure is the University’s secure Wi-Fi network, but it is not available in all buildings. For a listing of buildings with WMU Secure and instructions for using it, visit wmich.edu/helpdesk/wmusecure. Direct questions to the Help Desk at (269) 387-4357, option 1.

Western News to go on hiatus

The next issue of Western News will be published Thursday, June 23. This will be the final issue before the publication goes on hiatus. Publication will resume Thursday, Sept. 8.

Researcher advances educational registry

An education researcher has spent the 2015-16 academic year in a fellowship post focused on putting together a registry that could vastly improve the structure and transparency of impact studies in education. Jessica Spybrook, a professor of educational leadership, research and technology, is completing a fellowship with the Society for Research on Educational Effectiveness. She led the registry project.

The registry, which will be pilot tested this summer, would not only inform those undertaking studies to help improve study design, but also make study details accessible to funders, policy-makers and others.

The Society for Research on Educational Effectiveness approached the Institute of Education Sciences, a division of the U.S. Department of Education, and obtained just under $1 million in funding. Part of the funding is dedicated to creating a registry that will improve impact studies and make their findings more transparent.

The society granted Spybrook a fellowship to put the registry together, working closely with Rebecca Maynard at the University of Pennsylvania and Larry Hedges at Northwestern University, the project’s principal investigators.

Calls for improving transparency across the social sciences are increasing, Spybrook says. Too often, studies that produced null or negative findings go unreported, while studies showing positive results get more publicity.

Those not showing positive results are stuffed in the “file drawer” and go unpublished. The null findings from well-designed studies, however, are as valuable as affirmative findings for arriving at conclusions about the effectiveness, or lack thereof, of particular programs, policies or practices.

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Wellness effort taking fitness, well-being to new heights

Be well. That’s the spirit behind an effort to breathe new life into the Western Wellness program and improve the well-being of employees.

To broaden its appeal and extend well-being to all WMU employees, Western Wellness offers a wide variety of programs and services throughout campus to empower employees to lead a healthy and active lifestyle. The Western Wellness website has been revamped, and several new initiatives have been mounted this summer.

One, Work-It-In Walking, encourages everyone, from non-exercisers and busy parents to marathoners, to walk at various locations around campus and record their minutes. The program began May 1 and continues through the year. To step into the action today, those interested should access their Holtyn account (or first create a Holtyn account) then log their activity.

Similarly, Western Walks is a new walking program designed to foster a culture of walking, wellness and health on campus. The program, for all ability levels, features four groups led by wellness champions that meet at different locations on campus for camaraderie and support while walking. Western Walks starting locations are 4:30 p.m. Mondays at Ellsworth Hall; 2 p.m. Tuesdays at the College of Health and Human Services; noon Wednesdays at the VI.

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Faculty Senate elects board members for 2016-18

The Faculty Senate elected its 2016-18 Executive Board during a May 12 meeting.

At that evening meeting, the new board members took office. Except for the immediate past president, members of the board have been elected to serve two-year terms.

Executive Board officers are: president, Suzan F. Ayers, human performance and health education; vice president, William G. Rantz, aviation and chemical and paper engineering; and past president, C. Dennis Simpson, physician assistant.

Directors on the Executive Board are: Sharon L. Carlson, University Libraries; Carla A. Chase, occupational therapy; Richard A. Gershon, communication; Janet S. Hahn, interdisciplinary health programs; Marilyn S. Kritzman, communication; John A. Jellies, biological sciences; and Bret Wagner, management.

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Around campus and beyond

OF grad students to display posters

The campus community is invited to attend an event featuring poster presentations displaying Critical Appraised Topics by occupational therapy graduate students from 4 to 6 p.m. Tuesday, June 21, in the atrium of the College of Health and Human Services building. RSVP to ot-fieldwork@wmich.edu.

Theapperaisalssubmitted are based on clinical questions generated from local clinicians and highlight the latest evidence in the field. Parking is free in Lot 104, and attendees are asked not to use metered spaces. For directions, visit wmich.edu/info/directions.

WMU Cooley slates open houses

Experience what the WMU-Cooley Law School has to offer by attending open houses next month at the institution’s four campuses. Attend an admissions presentation, talk with students as well as faculty and staff members, and explore the campus of your choice.

Service-June

The following faculty and staff members are recognized for 45, 35, 30, 20, 15, 10 and five years of service during June:

45 Years—David H. McKee, University Libraries, and Joseph P. Stoltman, geography.

35 Years—Mary A. Warren, building custodial and support services.

30 Years—Randolph Bortolussi, power plant.

20 Years—Gordon Frederick Evans, WMUK-FM; Joan F. Herrington, theatre; Melissa A. Logan, psychology.

15 Years—Susan Longjohn, Center For Disability Services; Lillian D. Manning, diversity and inclusion; David R. Morn, intercollegiate athletics; and Lester W. Wright Jr., psychology.

10 Years—Randolph Bortolussi, power plant.

5 Years—Wayne Lee Bond, Haenicke Institute For Global Education; Elyse M. Connors, blindness and low vision studies; Thomas J. Egan, development and alumni relations; Lawrence Clinton Fong Jr., intercollegiate athletics; Tiffany Lee-Parker, physician assistant; Deborah A. O’Keefe, music; and Paul J. Terzino, Bernhard Center.

public safety; Ten Schrumpf, institutional research; and Edmund Tsang, College of Engineering and Applied Sciences.

10 Years—Chris L. Coryn, Evaluation Center; Donald Desmett, art; Gene Freudenburg, mathematics; Jason M. Glatz, University Libraries; Aghar Kayani, physics; Benjamin Olori-Amoah, mathematics; and Christine Renae Scheller, grants and contracts.

5 Years—Wayne Lee Bond, Haenicke Institute For Global Education; Elyse M. Connors, blindness and low vision studies; Thomas J. Egan, development and alumni relations; Lawrence Clinton Fong Jr., intercollegiate athletics; Tiffany Lee-Parker, physician assistant; Deborah A. O’Keefe, music; and Paul J. Terzino, Bernhard Center.

Many employees migrating to new email this month

Numerous faculty and staff members are in the process of being migrated to the University’s new email system, W-Exchange. A revised schedule of those being migrated from Webmail to the new system was posted online May 27, with scores of employees being migrated this month.

Next-day support services for employees will be available the morning after units are migrated.

For more information, including before and after migration checklists, visit wmich.edu/email/migration.

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.

WMU is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer consistent with applicable state and federal laws.

Professor named outstanding mentor

Ahya M. Dickinson, psychology, received the Outstanding Mentor Award from the Student Committee of the Association for Behavior Analysis International during ABAI’s 42nd annual convention May 27 to 31 in Chicago.

The award recognizes those who go above and beyond the call of duty in mentoring graduate students in behavior analysis. This is the third consecutive year a member of the psychology faculty has won the award. Stephanie M. Peterson won in 2015, and Jessica E. Frieder won in 2014.

Dickinson’s nominations noted that her teaching is legendary in WMU’s behavior analysis and industrial/organizational psychology community. They consistently praised her for focusing on student success, giving generously of other time, and providing exceptional support and guidance.

Educators present national webinar

Wanda Hadley and Robert Lenewy, educational leadership, research and technology, were invited to present a national webinar April 19 that now is available on CD. ADA Compliance & Learning Disabilities: Transition, Access and Persistence may be purchased at paperclip.com.

The program focuses on technological approaches to make campus environments accessible to students with learning disabilities.

Hadley researches the academic adjustment issues first-year students with learning disabilities experience in their transition to college and Lenewy researches school leadership and educational technology, and advanced instructional technologies especially related to the use of online career education for students with disabilities.

Emeritus honored for prominent book

Peter G. Northouse, emeritus in communication, has received a 2016 William Holmes McGuffey Longevity Award from the Textbook & Academic Authors Association for his book “Leadership: Theory and Practice.”

Northouse, a consultant and lecturer on trends in leadership research, development and education, will be feted at an awards event during TAA’s annual conference Friday, June 24, in San Antonio, Texas.

The McGuffey Award goes to in-demand textbooks and educational materials that have been in print for at least 15 years and demonstrate excellence in areas of pedagogy, content, writing, appearance and design. “Leadership” has been a SAGE Publishing title since 1997, is in its seventh edition, has been translated into 12 languages and is used in more than 89 nations. The 42nd edition features two new chapters and includes expanded content on important topics.
Research team wins grant to study impact of speed on crashes

A team of three WMU researchers has been awarded a $161,802 grant from the Michigan Department of Transportation to study whether changing speed limits on Michigan interstate freeways has had an impact on crash types and severity.

The grant was awarded to Valerian Kwigizile and Jun-Seok Oh, civil and construction engineering, and Hyunkeum Cho, statistics. The team will study how changes in speed limits have impacted the frequency and severity of crashes.

In 1996, Michigan increased the speed limit along certain segments of interstate highways from 65 to 70 mph, Kwigizile says. A study by Michigan State University shortly after that found the marginal increase in speed did result in an increase in accidents.

Help break record for most vow renewals in one place

Registration is strongly encouraged for couples who want to help WMU break the Guinness World Record for most vow renewals in one place, at one time.

The attempt will take place on the Grand Lawn of Heritage Hall during Homecoming 2016 in a brief outdoor symbolic ceremony. It will include commemorative photo stations, live bands performing romantic hits, interactive couple activities, wedding cake and desserts, and a sparkling champagne toast.

The ceremony will begin three hours prior to the homecoming game kickoff to provide adequate time for participants to take part in other Homecoming activities.

An information packet will be mailed to each preregistered couple one month prior to the event. Stories shared on the registration page will be posted at mywmu.com.

The event is open to any couple with a legally recognized marriage license. In addition to the homecoming game kickoff, the event will include an overnight stay in Hall’s residence halls as well as breakout sessions and a tour with presentations around campus. Activities for parents include a mixer with faculty members and academic college breakout sessions, such as this one that took place last June 6. Most large-group activities will be held in the Bernhard Center and Sangren Hall.

Several staff retirements approved this fall, winter

Editor’s note: October and December 2015 faculty retirements and additional employee retirements approved in 2016 will be reported in Western News as space becomes available.

The WMU Board of Trustees approved numerous retirements of faculty and staff members during regular meetings held in October and December 2015 and February 2016. The retirements for October meeting

Joanne Barretta, held placement, College of Education and Human Development, 10 years, effective Aug. 1, 2015; Celia Davis, building custodial and support services, 17 years, effective Aug. 28, 2015; Deborah Frost, student financial aid and scholarships, 18 years, effective June 26, 2015; Lori Groh, Logistical Services, 36 years, effective Sept. 1, 2015; Beverly Houseman, landscape services, 23 years, effective July 31, 2015; Laverne Jones, building custodial and support services, 30 years, effective Oct. 31, 2015; Harold Landen, maintenance services, 16 years, effective Aug 28, 2015; Tracie Shearbum, accounting, 35 years, effective Nov. 30, 2015; Sandra Williams, student affairs, 10 years, effective Aug. 31, 2015; and Cindy Zimmerman, accounting, 32 years, effective Dec. 31, 2015.

December meeting

Gail Allen, Dining Services, 15 years, effective Jan. 11, 2016; Paula Armstrong, speech pathology and audiology, 30 years, effective Oct. 31, 2015; Anita Dean, aviation sciences, 16 years, effective Jan. 3, 2016; Donald Desmett, art, 10 years, effective June 30, 2016; Denise Gardiner, landscape services, 24 years, effective Oct. 15, 2015; Timothy Holye, landscape services, 29 years, effective April 30, 2016; Paul Howell, University Libraries, 16 years, effective Oct. 31, 2015; Stephen Jones, College of Aviation, 12 years, effective Dec. 4, 2015; Brenda

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Full-day workshop scheduled for Behind the W program

A special full-day workshop Friday, June 10, will allow faculty and staff members to complete all three workshops in the Behind the W brand ambassador program.

The event is set for 8:15 a.m. to 4:45 p.m. Friday, June 10, in 1310 Sangren Hall. Lunch will be provided.

Behind the W is a three-part series of workshops that strengthens the University’s internal brand-building efforts and gives employees the knowledge and tools needed to communicate and build the WMU brand.

For details and to register visit wmich.edu/behindthew. Seating is limited.
On Campus with Michiko Yoshimoto

Thousands of area students and community members have a better understanding of Japan thanks to Michiko Yoshimoto, program manager for the Soga Japan Center. Yoshimoto handles outreach for the Soga Center, a Haenicke Institute for Global Education unit that advances knowledge of Japan. She works on campus and throughout the state, often with volunteer help provided by WMU students from the U.S. and Japan.

During a typical work week during the academic year, Yoshimoto was putting on an after-school program for elementary students, meeting with a lunchtime Japanese club, making presentations to various classes and community groups, and teaching Japanese to employees of area businesses who will be moving to Japan. Right now, some of her time is spent preparing to stage a summer camp June 27 through July 1 for the Lee Honors College’s Academically Talented Youth Program.

“Through these outreach activities, I meet lots of people and have lots of friends. I like my position because I not only meet college students from WMU, but also young children, K-12 students, families and mature adults,” Yoshimoto says. “I love Kalamazoo and the Haenicke Institute. The city is very diverse, very liberal. Here, people accept difference. The institute is special because its staff members are very friendly and understand different cultures.”

Yoshimoto received WMU’s annual Make a Difference Award in 2014-15 for her many service contributions. But her busy schedule means she’s out of the office most of the time, so those wishing to meet with her need to contact her by email to set up an appointment.

A native of Japan, Yoshimoto was seven years into a career as a local-government employee in her home country when she decided to broaden her cultural experiences and come to WMU through a Japanese outreach program that sends volunteers to U.S. sites like the Soga Center. She coordinated the center’s outreach activities from 2009 to 2011, but returned to campus in 2012 as a graduate student and worked in the center as a graduate assistant.

Yoshimoto earned a master’s degree in socio-cultural studies of education in 2014, then was named the Soga Center’s lone full-time staff member. She met her husband, Ross, in 2010 when he was a student here. The Kalamazoo couple now have a 1½-year-old son, and Yoshimoto’s free time is occupied by family activities.

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Researcher advances educational registry

Also, researchers report outcomes that produce estimates of impacts that are statistically significant. The reported findings often appear more favorable than they would have had all the findings been reported.

Creating a registry of studies would help ensure all findings of all studies are reported and would also improve the rigor of studies as they are being conducted, Spybrook says.

“We’re not using this to rate your study. We’re not using this to judge the quality of the proposal,” she says. “In essence, it’s going to be a service to the field to increase the capacity of people to do these studies, build accountability and transparency, and reduce some of that publication bias.”

Ultimately, the registry could improve the structure and transparency of impact studies and make sure findings, both negative and positive, are reported.

Spybrook and her colleagues presented the project in March during the spring conference of the Society for Research on Educational Effectiveness in Washington, D.C. Rollout of the registry is planned for late fall.

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Several staff retirements approved

Kuilema, building custodial and support services, 12 years, effective Jan. 2, 2016; Norma Lockway, Valley I Dining Services, 35 years, effective Dec. 31, 2015; Patricia Putman, building custodial and support services, 30 years, effective Jan. 31, 2016; Baiba Stepe, Auxiliary Enterprises, 39 years, effective Jan. 31, 2016; Debbie Ul-drkis, Haenicke Institute, 18 years, effective Oct. 9, 2015; and Denise Williams, building custodial and support services, 27 years, effective Dec. 31, 2015.

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Wellness effort taking fitness, well-being to new heights

Maintenance Shop; and 1 p.m. Thursdays at the Fountain Plaza.

Table Talks also are being offered from 12:05 to 12:55 p.m. the first Friday of each month in the Faculty Dining Room off the Bernhard Center lunchroom. Led by facilitators from Holtyn & Associates and HelpNet, discussions will center on a variety of topics impacting health and well-being today, including caregiving for aging adults, communicating with children and putting more laughter in your life.

More programs and activities will be announced at the start of the fall semester.

A big focus of Western Wellness is to urge employees to sign up for the $240 per year wellness incentive, which is deducted from health plan contributions each pay period. Signing up to take advantage of the incentive is quick and easy by following three steps: Complete the online health risk assessment, attend a biometric screening and participate in a health coaching session.

The biometric screening can be done by scheduling an appointment with Holtyn & Associates online at Holtynpc.com; calling the Sindecuse Health Center at (269) 387-1382; or contacting individual primary care providers and having them fill out and mail in a Primary Care Provider form.

All WMU benefits-eligible faculty and staff are eligible to participate. If both spouses work at WMU, the individual paying for their benefits will receive the benefit reduction. Those who are eligible to participate but do not take their health insurance through WMU may still participate and complete a biometric assessment. But they will not receive the benefit reduction.

“We believe your future health depends on the choices you make today,” says Jen Bailey, University Recreation. “Western Wellness is designed to help you take charge of your health by providing resources that you can use to assess your current health, identify risk factors and make positive lifestyle changes.”

For more information, visit the Western Wellness website at wmich.edu/wellness.