



Western News

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For and about WMU faculty and staff

Keep abreast of funding opportunities

This month's highlighted funding opportunities for researchers included Brady Education Foundation Grants, Mental Health Awareness Training Grants and a Peer Reviewed Medical Research Program. View additional highlights and sign up to receive monthly funding alerts by visiting wmich.edu/research/funding/faculty.

Financial reps visiting campus

Personal consultations with Fidelity investment advisors are available in 215 Bernhard Center Thursday, June 14. To schedule an appointment, call (800) 642-7131 from 8 a.m. to midnight Monday through Friday, or visit Fidelity online at fidelity.com/atwork/reservations.

TIAA representatives will be on campus Tuesday and Wednesday, June 5-6; Tuesday through Thursday, June 19-21; Tuesday, June 26; and Friday, June 29. Appointments fill up quickly. To schedule a private consultation for investment or retirement planning, visit tiaa.org and click Consultations and Seminars under Support. If you are unable to register online, call the scheduling group at (800) 732-8353.

Free employee photo session slated

Faculty and staff may have their official University photos taken between 9:30 a.m. and 4 p.m. Monday, June 18, in Walwood Hall's Heinig Emeriti Lounge. No appointment is required.

Employees may request electronic copies for personal use and for use in directory listings on wmich.edu. Direct questions to Sue Beougher at sue.beougher@wmich.edu or (269) 387-8402. More information about university relations photography services is available at wmich.edu/universityrelations/photography.

Cool Tools workshops scheduled

Faculty members and instructors can identify their top-five areas of talent and learn more about Gallup's CliftonStrengths during Cool Tools: Discover Your Strengths from 1 to 3 p.m. Friday, June 8, in 2033 University Computing Center. Register and read important preparatory information online at wmich.edu/facultydevelopment/programs/cooltools.

'Fostering' coach training offered

WMU offers varying levels of Fostering Success Coach Training for those who work with students who have experienced foster care or multiple adverse childhood experiences. The program starts at \$700 and provides the skills, practical tools and professional network needed to help students succeed. Learn new skills and earn professional continuing education credits by registering for training at wmich.edu/fosteringSUCCESS/outreach/training.

Ball State business dean named provost

After conducting a nationwide search, WMU has named Jennifer P. Bott, business dean at Ball State University, as its new provost and vice president for academic affairs.



Bott

Bott is the Bryan Dean of the Miller College of Business and professor of management at Ball State, a position she has held for three years.

Her appointment to become WMU's chief academic officer, effective July 1, was announced by WMU President Edward Montgomery.

"Dr. Bott brings to the position a strong background in teaching, research and community engagement," says Montgomery. "She has held senior leadership positions in which she demonstrated her acumen in strategic planning, program development, budgeting and shared governance. She also brings to her new role a track record of suc-

cess in fundraising, building enrollment and working across institutional silos."

In her new role at WMU, Bott will replace Timothy J. Greene, who returned to the engineering faculty last summer after serving for nine years as provost. Susan Stapleton, Graduate College dean, has been serving as interim provost since his departure.

Part of the Ball State community since 2004, Bott began her career there as assistant professor of management. Prior to becoming business dean, she spent five years as assistant and then associate provost for learning initiatives.

Her responsibilities included student success efforts as well as administrative, student, faculty and research services for Ball State's online and blended education enterprise.

She was selected as a 2013-14 American Council on Education Fellow, spending time at host institution West Virginia University, where she was mentored by then-WVU

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Seita foster youth effort garners national acclaim

WMU has earned the 2018 Excellence in Innovation Award from the Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi—the nation's oldest and most selective collegiate honor society for all academic disciplines.

The \$100,000 award, given biennially, recognizes WMU for achievement in finding a powerful solution to expanding higher education opportunities through its Seita Scholars Program.

"Phi Kappa Phi is proud to recognize Western Michigan University for its innovative Seita Scholars Program," said Mary Todd, executive director of the honor society. "By lifting up an underrepresented population—young people who have aged out of foster care—the University has transformed lives and offered hope to individuals who may never have dreamed a college degree was within reach."

Established in 2008 as a signature initiative of WMU, the Seita Scholars Program is a comprehensive support system that aims to increase successful outcomes among young adults who have aged out of the foster care system in the state of Michigan. Scholars of the program receive a scholarship, year-round on-campus housing and one-on-one campus coaching for academic and personal support throughout their collegiate career.



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Leadership openings result in appointment, ongoing searches



Davis

Former reporter and longtime *W Magazine* editor Paula M. Davis has been appointed interim executive director of the Office of University Relations, effective June 1.

Davis will oversee WMU's central office that is charged with internal and external communications, marketing, brand management, graphic design, photography and web development. She replaces Cheryl P. Roland, who will retire May 31.

Her interim appointment comes as the office transitions to a reporting structure that includes the newly created position of vice president for marketing and strategic communication. Meanwhile, the search

continues to find a new leader to serve as vice president for diversity and inclusion.

Ongoing searches

More information about WMU's ongoing searches for senior leaders is available online.

- The search website for the vice president for marketing and strategic communication is at wmich.edu/vpmarketing. At *Western News* press time, announcement of the person selected for the position was imminent.

- The search website for the vice president for diversity and inclusion is at wmich.edu/vpdiversity. The deadline for submitting nomination and application materials for the post is Wednesday, May 30. The successful candidate will replace Martha Warfield, who will retire at the end of July.

- The search website for associate provost

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Around campus and beyond

Bronco Motorcycle Rally to be held

Alumni are encouraged to rev up their bikes and ride to the inaugural Bronco Motorcycle Rally taking place on WMU's historic East Campus from 5 to 7:30 p.m. Friday, June 8. Participants will meet just outside Heritage Hall, WMU's Alumni Center. The street address is 625 Oakland Drive (look for the sign for parking Lot 1).

Graduates are invited to show off their rides, enjoy a BroncosLive! Concert and grab some exclusive Bronco biker giveaways. The concert will feature The Out of Favor Boys, a soulful rock band comprised of WMU alumni. There also will be an outdoor BBQ spread with smoked meats and fresh summertime sides as well as an on-site Bronco Beer Garden stocked with alumni-produced craft beer and wine. Register at mywmu.com/events.

Blahnik golf outing scheduled

The third annual WMU Men's Basketball Lary Blahnik Golf Outing is set for Friday, June 22, at the Angels Crossing Golf Club in Vicksburg, Michigan. All money raised will benefit the men's basketball program. Registration begins at 9 a.m. and the shotgun start at 10 a.m. For more information, visit mbbgolfouting.wmuevents.com.

Alumni gatherings set for June

The Office of Development and Alumni Relations has organized four meet-and-greet gatherings next month for WMU alumni, friends and fans in selected parts of the country so they can connect with one another. Broncos & Brews gatherings have been set for Wednesday, June 13, in Indianapolis; Thursday, June 14, in Columbus, Ohio; and Monday, June 18, in Minnesota's Twin Cities.

In addition, the 2018 Grand Rapids Alumni & Friends Golf Outing will take place Monday, June 18. The event began as a way for WMU alumni living in that West Michigan city to help promote and spread Bronco Pride beyond Kalamazoo, and it has grown continually over the years. For more about the golf outing as well as the Broncos & Brews gatherings, visit mywmu.com/events.

Some camps still have spots open

Not all of the University's summer camps for children are full. Parents looking for interesting and educational activities for their school-age kids should check out the camps website at wmich.edu/admissions/camps. But the few openings left are closing fast.

Instructor named state's top teacher

Laura Chang, special education and literacy studies, was named the 2018-19 Michigan Teacher of the Year by the state Department of Education May 18. Chang



Chang

teaches second grade in Vicksburg and teachers part time at WMU.

She is described as "a model teacher who serves from the heart" and is the first person from Kalamazoo County to earn the top-teacher award.

Chang learned of her selection during a surprise visit to Sunset Elementary School from Interim State Superintendent Sheila Alles while Alles was in Vicksburg to highlight the school's academic success.

Chang was chosen following a multi-level process that began with more than 430 teachers being nominated. A panel of statewide education stakeholders interviewed the nominees in April to determine the statewide Michigan Teacher of the Year.

Staffer receives multiple awards

Molly Goaley and the marketing and communication staff in the College of Arts and Sciences were recognized by the regional chapter of the Michigan Public Relations



Goaley

Society of America during its annual PR Roof Awards ceremony May 1.

The awards highlight the best public relations work of the year and the highest standards of performance in West Michigan. This year, they

recognized practitioners who successfully used skill, creativity and resourcefulness to address a communication challenge in 2017.

Goaley earned a gold award for a story about capital interns titled "Political Ambition," while the WMU *College of Arts and Sciences Magazine* earned a silver award. Projects picking up honorable mentions were Goaley's story on alumnus Jim Olson, titled "Lighting Up Cancer"; a sustainable brewing booklet; and the college's primary promotional brochure.

Engineer elected to national group

Jun Oh, civil and construction engineering, has been elected president-elect of KSEA—the Korean-American Scientists and Engineers Association.



Oh

The organization represents all Korean-American scientists and engineers. It has more than 6,000 registered members in 70 local chapters and branches and 13 technical groups across the United States.

In his new role, Oh will serve as executive director of the 2019 U.S.-Korea Conference on Science, Technology and Entrepreneurship hosted by KSEA, the Korean Federation of Science and Technology Societies, and the Korea-US Science Cooperation Center to be held Aug. 1-4 in Queens, New York.

Oh is director of WMU's Transportation Research Center for Livable Communities. At present, he is researching problems related to network demand analysis, traffic safety and advanced traffic control.

Early registration extended for livable communities event

Early registration has been extended through Friday, June 1, for the fifth annual Summer Conference on Livable Communities at WMU.

The focus of the conference is to explore improving the quality of life by advancing more balanced, affordable and environmentally sustainable transportation systems. The annual event draws transportation researchers, educators, students, advocates, community members, policymakers and transportation practitioners.

Held at Floyd Hall on the Parkview Campus, the conference runs Thursday and Friday, June 21-22, with on-site registration beginning at 9:30 a.m. Thursday.

It is hosted by the Transportation Research Center for Livable Communities, a Tier 1

University Transportation Center funded by the U.S. Department of Transportation.

Sessions cover such topics as innovations on active transportation, safe mobility for the elderly and people with disabilities, public transportation and shared use mobility, pedestrian and bicycle transportation, and technology for people with limited transportation options.

Both keynote speakers will discuss "Assessing and Valuing the Barrier Effect of Busy Roads."

Fees are \$30 for students and \$100 for all other attendees before June 1 and \$45 for students and \$150 for attendees after June 1. Seating is limited.

To register, visit wmich.edu/transportationcenter and click Programs.

Receptions

Cheryl Roland, university relations, will be honored during a retirement reception from 5 to 7 p.m. Thursday, May 24, in Heritage Hall. Due to street blockages for the Girls on the Run race, attendees will need to access Heritage Hall from the south. Officers will be stopping traffic at the intersection of Oakland Drive and Oliver Lane; however, those who identify themselves as Heritage Hall reception attendees will be allowed through to Lot 1.

Juan Tavares, International Admissions and Services, will be honored for his 12 years of service during a retirement reception from 4 to 6 p.m. Thursday, May 31, in the Bronco Global Lounge in the Bernhard Center.

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.

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DEADLINE: Items to be considered for publication should be submitted to the Office of University Relations by 5 p.m. Friday the week preceding publication. Publication dates for the summer are **May 10 and 24 and June 7 and 21**. No issues are printed during summer II. Items may be submitted to Jeanne Baron via: email, jeanne.baron@wmich.edu; mail, Campus Mail Stop 5433; phone, (269) 387-8433; or fax, (269) 387-8422.

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WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY

Multiple events slated for annual bike race

Online registration closes at 11:59 p.m. Tuesday, June 5, for WMU's annual Cycling-Lawyer.com Criterium, set for Saturday, June 9, at on the Parkview Campus.

The day of competition, which attracts 250 to 300 cyclists from the Midwest and awards \$5,000 in cash prizes, is the Saturday event of the SW Michigan Cycling Weekend.

That weekend is planned in collaboration with Race for Wishes, which will host a road race on Sunday, June 10, in Lawton. Cycling skills and racing clinics for kids and juniors will kick off the weekend on Friday, June 8.

The CyclingLawyer.com Criterium begins at 8 a.m. and features a 1.1-mile circuit around the College of Engineering and Applied Sciences' Floyd Hall. The circuit has three 90-degree turns and multiple sweeping turns that excite spectators as well as racers.

This is the 13th year WMU and its Business Technology and Research Park will host a



criterium—a series of timed races lasting 45 to 90 minutes across several categories for men, women and juniors.

A free kids' bike race for youth 12 years of age and under will occur around noon with no registration required.

For more information or to register for an event, visit the criterium website at wmich.edu/btrrace. Clicking the Register link takes riders to the USA Cycling website, where they should type "BTR Park Criterium" in the event search box.

Sindecuse Health Center achieves reaccreditation

After going through an extensive assessment and evaluation process, the Sindecuse Health Center has had its accreditation renewed by the Accreditation Association for Ambulatory Health Care.

Being accredited means the center has met nationally recognized standards for the provision of quality health care. Accreditation is recognized as a marker of excellence by medical organizations, insurance companies, and state and federal agencies as well as the public.

The health center was surveyed in March by an AAAHC expert in quality care standards. Accreditation is granted for a three-year period and must be renewed regularly.

The Accreditation Association for Ambulatory Health Care, founded in 1979, is the leader in ambulatory health care accreditation.

New policy on proposal submissions to benefit researchers across campus

A policy has been established to help ensure that WMU's principal investigators have sufficient time to obtain the support needed to guarantee that all required documents are compliant with sponsor requirements.

The Proposal Submission Policy for External Funding and its procedures lay out a specific timeline for when major elements of a proposal must be completed and provided to the Office of the Vice President for Research. The process aims to limit potential problems that could be encountered if principal investigators leave too little time for themselves or the research office to complete their respective responsibilities.

The proposal submission policy will go into effect July 1, but implementation will be enforced in two stages. During the initial phase—the July 1 to Aug. 31 transition period—the research office will be expecting principal investigators to learn about the new standards and follow them as closely as possible. Full enforcement will begin Sept. 1.

"We want to make sure researchers across campus have time to adjust to the new timeline required by OVPR. Therefore, there will be a transition period before the policy goes into full effect starting Sept. 1," says Sherine Obare, associate vice president

for research. "We expect that this process will minimize delays often encountered during the submission process and allow researchers time to prepare the best proposals for the sponsor, while giving OVPR sufficient time to assist researchers with the necessary documents, including budgets, access to agency electronic systems, letters of support and approval for required cost share."

Obare reports that many other universities have well-established proposal submission policies. To create WMU's, she adds that her office worked with the Research Policies Council of the WMU Faculty Senate, which approved the new policy's process at its Feb. 8 meeting.

Proposal preparation and submissions can be delayed for a variety of reasons, so it is important that faculty and staff have sufficient time for themselves as well as the research office. When sufficient time is available for proposal preparation, the process allows the researchers to have all the required documents submitted accurately.

"These new deadlines are not only best practice," says Terri Goss Kinzy, vice presi-



dent for research. "They'll allow faculty to focus on conveying their ideas, while our team focuses on making sure proposals get the chance to be awarded."

For more proposal submission policy details, visit wmich.edu/research/proposal-submission-announcement. Direct questions to the appropriate program research officer found online at wmich.edu/research/directory/proposals-contracts.

Paperless billing to be enacted

Beginning with the summer II session, WMU will go paperless and utilize electronic billing for all student semester invoices.

With this change, students will no longer receive tuition bills in the mail. They will, instead, receive email or text notifications to view their invoices online.

It is important for students to check their wmich.edu email account for invoice and statement notifications. Summer II invoices are expected to be available around June 1; tuition is due Thursday, June 28.

"In addition to reducing waste," says Meily Lightcap, associate director of Accounts Receivable, "electronic billing will eliminate mail delays and provide students with earlier account notification and more planning time."

Students can view their monthly statements via the Payment and Account Information channel in GoWMU using their Bronco NetID and password. Before family members can view or pay on an account, students must make them authorized users.

For details, visit wmich.edu/accounts-receivable or call (269) 387-4141.

Start saving dates for important back-to-school, fall 2018 events

Several important dates can now be added to faculty and staff calendars.

The 2018-19 schedules for some sports have already been announced and can be found at bronzos.com, while the University's official holiday schedule is posted at wmich.edu/hr/resources/holidays. In addition:

- Deans, faculty and administrators are asked to save the morning of Tuesday, Aug. 28, for the annual Fall Matriculation Ceremony. It begins at 10:30 a.m. in Miller Auditorium. Registration information will be sent in June.

- Bronco Bash 2018 has been set for 3 to 7 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 28, the day before classes start. Stay tuned for booth sign-up information.

Send questions to salp-cabga@wmich.edu.

- Fall Convocation has been set for Friday, Sept. 14, in the Bernhard Center. Events that day will include a Teaching and Learning Bash, President Edward Montgomery's State of the University address, a ceremony honoring winners of campuswide awards, and kickoff events for



peer mentoring and faculty learning communities. Details will be posted at wmich.edu/news closer to the fall start of school.

- Homecoming day will be Saturday, Oct. 6, with Family Weekend running from Friday through Sunday, Oct 5-7. More information and activity updates are being posted at wmich.edu/families/weekend.

On Campus with Justine Foster



ONE OF WMU'S 'FIXERS'
(Photo by Leah Hose)

A love of hands-on work and a willingness to get as grimy as any mechanic led Justine Foster into a career with the College of Aviation maintenance shop.

Although based at the W.K. Kellogg Airport in Battle Creek, Michigan, the college is considered part of WMU's main campus. Foster is one its six inspectors who work there with a chief inspector and six technicians to ensure that the 38 aircraft in the University's training fleet are operating properly.

"The biggest part of my job is keeping students safe. There's no cheating on maintenance. But because of the regulations and costs involved, you have to know what to fix and when," Foster says. "We're not only one of the nation's top aviation schools, we're also one of the safest, which is a testament to the great people we have working here."

Her role involves inspecting and repairing planes, and taking care of related paperwork that shows WMU is complying with governmental rules. These duties keep her plenty busy because each plane in the training fleet must undergo a safety inspection every 50 flight hours and be fitted with a new engine every 2,000 flight hours.

Foster earned a bachelor's degree in 2004 from WMU in what is now the aviation technical operations program. She quickly joined the College of Aviation's temporary staff, and became a certified A&P mechanic and her position was made full time the following year. She then went on to hold an Inspection Authorization (IA), a feat she accomplished in 2015.

"I love working here. I know it sounds cliché, but we're like a family. We all work together to be the best we can be," Foster says. "We also hire students as maintenance interns, so we get to show them the ropes. They're in demand because of the bachelor's degree that our graduates receive. It makes them valuable. They can become leaders in the field because we give them business knowledge as well teach them how to take planes apart."

Foster lives in Portage with her husband and three children, ages 7, 11 and 12. Her free time is taken up by family activities and caring for one child who's autistic. She doesn't fly, but Foster says she'd like to get a pilot's license once her children are older.

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Ball State business dean named provost

President E. Gordon Gee and Jim Clements, who is now president of Clemson University.

Bott says Montgomery's focus on transformational initiatives from the start of his WMU presidency and the opportunity to be part of a leadership team that is focused on big ideas and committed to student success led her to pursue the WMU role.

"I was stunned at how much innovation is occurring in every part of the campus," she says of her recent visit to WMU. "I was deeply impressed by the creativity I saw among the faculty, staff and students. And

the opportunity to be part of a leadership team that embraces big, transformational ideas was very appealing."

She points to the University's Signature Program, which allows students to tailor and document the breadth of their University experience, as an idea that has the potential to differentiate WMU. She also sees the campuswide commitment to student success as one that will be critical to WMU's future.

"Student success will be a key defining feature for colleges moving forward for

years to come," she says.

Bott earned a bachelor's degree from DePauw University and master's and doctoral degrees from the University of Akron. She also has earned certification as a university planner and a senior professional in human resources and. For more background details, visit wmich.edu/news/2018/05/47087.

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Leadership openings

for budget and personnel is at wmich.edu/provost/administrative-searches. Presentation dates have been set for the three internal candidates seeking the post: Tuesday, May 29, Devrim Yaman, business; Thursday, May 31, Christopher Cheatham, education and human development; and Monday, June 4, Edwin Martini, Extended University Programs. The successful candidate will replace James Gilchrist, who will retire July 31.

Paula Davis

A longtime Kalamazoo resident, Davis has worked at WMU since 2012, serving as editor of WMU's quarterly magazine and working on a numerous other initiatives.

Previously, she was employed for 13 years as a reporter for the *Kalamazoo Gazette*, which is part of the MLive publication group, and she spent seven years covering higher education. The West Michigan native also has reported for the *Austin (Texas) American-Statesman* and *Crain's Detroit Business* and worked in the Detroit Public Schools media relations office.

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Seita foster youth effort garners national acclaim

Expanding on the success of the Seita Scholars Program, WMU established the Center for Fostering Success in 2012. The center conducts research on foster care and higher education and has trained campus coaches for foster youth in nine states.

It also is the home base for Fostering Success Michigan, a statewide network that focuses on disseminating best practices and supporting other colleges and universities as they provide opportunities to former foster care youth.

WMU, on behalf of its efforts through the Seita Scholars Program and Center for Fostering Success, was selected as the 2018 recipient of the Excellence in Innovation Award by a jury of emeritus college and university presidents during a two-part screening process.

The University was first chosen as one of

six semifinalists before advancing as one of three finalists. The pool of entries represented inventive, multifaceted projects at institutions across the country.

"We are enormously pleased that Phi Kappa Phi has recognized both the innovative nature and the impact of our Seita Scholars Program," said WMU President Edward Montgomery.

"Our Seita Scholars Program has made a real difference in the lives of an amazingly resilient group of young people here on our campus. Through this program, we've learned to rethink student support systems in a way that can be adapted by college and university communities around the nation. We are indebted to our staff and faculty who work alongside these students to make a real difference."

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