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Lee Honors College

Fall 2015

LHC Lines- Fall 2015

Lee Honors College

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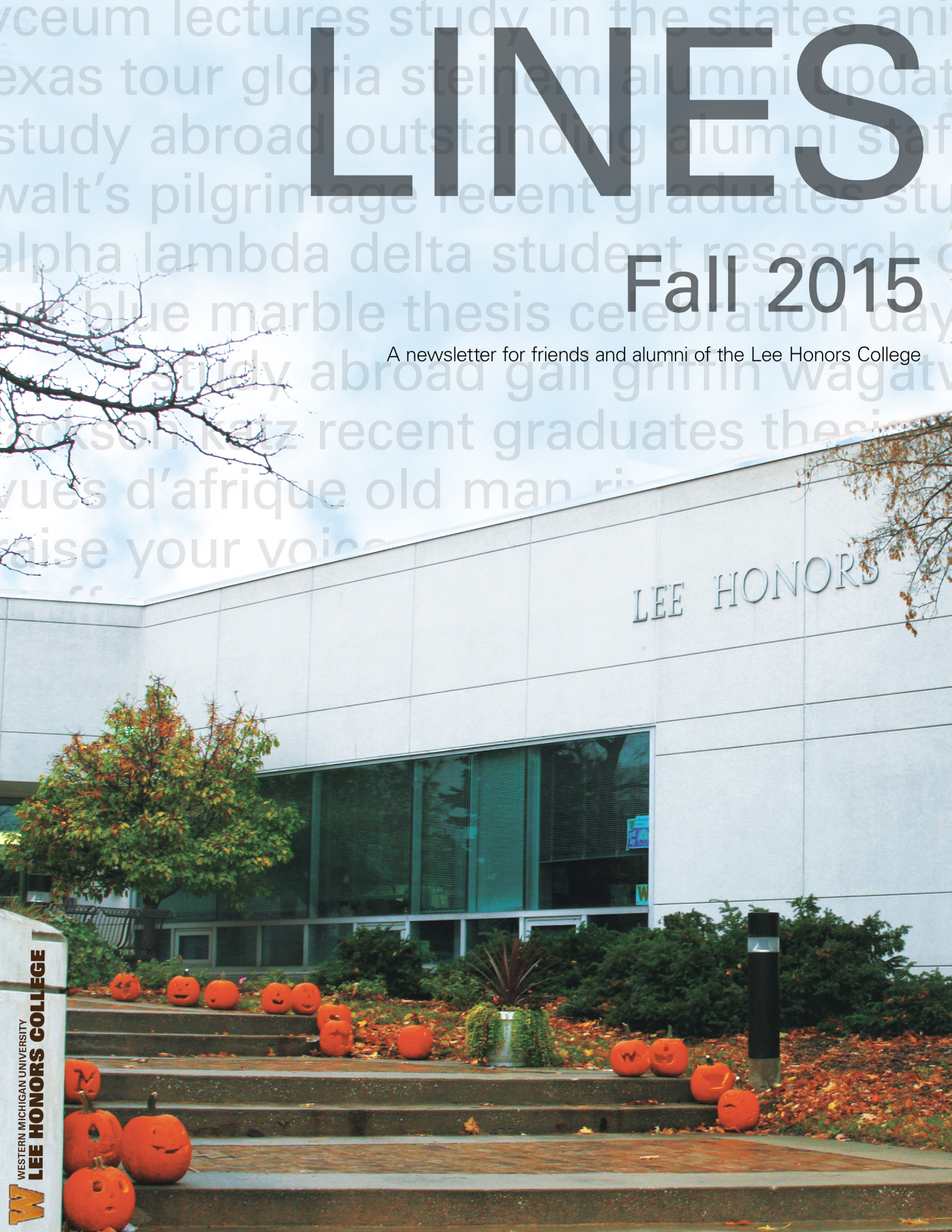
LINES

Fall 2015

A newsletter for friends and alumni of the Lee Honors College

LEE HONORS

WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY
LEE HONORS COLLEGE



Greetings Friends and Alumni!



THIS PAST YEAR has been a whirlwind of activity in the honors college! The Raise Your Voice series concluded in November with two outstanding events. "An Evening with Gloria Steinem" was attended by more than 3,000 members of WMU and the local community. The very next week, Michigan's First Lady Sue Snyder brought her "Let's End Campus Sexual Assault" campaign to WMU. I am so grateful to the Lee Honors College staff, the Raise Your Voice organizing committee, and the many donors and sponsors who made

this series a reality. These events reached many thousands of students and community members, and I hope that our work will be one small step towards the eradication of gender-based violence.

This semester, I am looking forward to "Our Blue Marble: Water, Home and Humanity," a Lyceum series that will focus on water, one of our most precious natural resources. This interdisciplinary series of lectures will begin by examining local water issues and next fall will move to a global view. We are also looking forward to the Medallion Scholarship competition in January. I am delighted that WMU has recently received gifts for three new Medallion Scholarships. The H. Nicholas Hamner Medallion Scholarship was established by Dr. Hamner, a professor emeritus of history whose career at WMU spanned 36 years. The Arthur E. and Martha S. Hearron Endowed Medallion Scholarship was established by Marti Hearron, a longtime supporter of WMU students, and will be given to a student in the College of Fine Arts. The new Paper Technology Foundation Medallion Scholarship will support a student majoring in Paper Engineering.

Our students continue to win national and international accolades. Last year, sophomore Jake Tholen received an honorable mention for the highly competitive Goldwater Scholarship. Alumni Joseph Barnett and Stephen John continue to receive awards for their NeoVent, an invention intended to provide a rugged, inexpensive respiratory device to help neonates, especially in the developing world. Most recently, they bested competitors from Harvard and Columbia University, winning the 2015 Collegiate Inventors Competition sponsored by the U.S. Patents and Trademark Office. We are so proud of these students, who have used their talent, imagination and dedicated work to create a device that will likely, quite literally, save many thousands of lives.

Finally, I would like to wish all of our December graduates the very best. We will miss you! To all of our friends and alumni, please keep in touch! We love hearing from you.

All the best,
Carla Koretsky
Dean, Lee Honors College



NEVER IN MY WILDEST DREAMS could I have imagined having the privilege to meet and have one-on-one conversations with Anita Hill and Gloria Steinem, but that's exactly what happened when I met their planes and provided transportation for their visits to campus in April and November 2015! The thrill of hearing these two women, who have been in the vanguard of changing how women are perceived and treated, still seems like a dream. Their inspirational lectures were part of our year-long Raise Your Voice

series and had an enormous impact on drawing attention to the problems of street and workplace sexual harassment, rape on college campuses and bullying and marginalization. Many of our students had a chance to meet and speak with the remarkable slate of scholars and artists who visited during the past year. For more details, please see the accompanying article or visit the website where you can listen to some of the lectures if you missed them: tinyurl.com/eventraiseyourvoice.

Enrollment continues to be strong in the Lee Honors College with a record-setting incoming class of more than 400 first-year students. It is such a pleasure to work with honors students from across all seven of WMU's academic colleges, witness their tremendous successes and hear from our alumni about the amazing impact they are having on our world. If your travels bring you to our area in April, plan to stop by the honors college during Thesis Celebration Days, April 19-22, to see for yourself the remarkable work these stellar students are doing! You can also browse recent honors theses in the ScholarWorks database by visiting: tinyurl.com/lhchonorstheses.

Thank you for the wonderful updates so many of you provided following our request in the spring newsletter. As you can see from the much expanded alumni news article, honors alums are making a difference in the world. Please be sure to share your news with us by submitting an alumni update form today: tinyurl.com/lhcalumniupdate.

I hope to meet or hear from you in the coming year and wish you the best for 2016!

Jane Baas
Associate Dean, Lee Honors College

Outstanding Alumni

THE HONORS COLLEGE has recently established the tradition of presenting its Outstanding Alumni awards at our graduation ceremony each semester, which allows the winners to share their wisdom and experiences with our graduates. The award is intended to recognize exceptional contributions to their profession as well as community leadership and service. Our most recent winners are Judy Neason and Robert Borsos. Please let us know if you are aware of an honors college graduate who should be considered for this prestigious award.

In April 2015, Judy Neason, (Environmental Studies and Political Science, 1978), was selected in recognition of her leadership in environmental protection and energy issues. Judy is the Director of Government Affairs for The Williams Companies, Inc. She is responsible for leading the company's federal regulatory and legislative advocacy in Washington D.C. Judy began her career in Washington in 1980 as a legal assistant working on issues affecting industrial consumers of natural gas at the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission and on Capitol Hill, and later went on to work for natural gas pipeline companies, which she continues to do today. Judy is a Michigander born and raised, and graduated Magna Cum Laude from the honors college.

Robert Borsos, (Political Science, 1973), received the award at the December 2015 ceremony in recognition of his leadership in jurisprudence and generous service to community organizations. Robert earned his Juris Doctor degree from Notre Dame. He is president of the Kalamazoo office of the law firm Kreis, Enderle, Hudgins & Borsos, P.C. He is one of the firm's most senior shareholders and is an "AV" rated attorney, which is the highest rating given by Martindale-Hubbell. He is also an active citizen of Kalamazoo, involving himself in numerous community organizations. He served a three-year term on the Kalamazoo County Bar Association board of directors, is past president of the Portage Rotary Club, past chairman of the Kalamazoo County Chamber of Commerce, and has been a board member for Kalamazoo Communities in Schools, Education for Employment, and the Portage Community Center. Additionally, Robert helped to develop Portage City on the Grow, the local chapter of Susan G. Komen, and Friends of the Portage Senior Center. The United Way, Kalamazoo Regional Educational Service Agency and other local charities have called upon his expertise to assist with fund-raising and tax initiatives.



Photos from top to bottom:

The outstanding alumni plaque; (Left) Robert Borsos, Outstanding Alumni Fall 2015; (Right) Judy Neason, Outstanding Alumni April 2015

Alumni Updates

THE UPDATES BELOW were taken from information provided via our online alumni update form. Please let us know your latest news for the next newsletter!

1960s **Kali Lightfoot nee Patricia Gary (BA, 1967)** is retired. In July 2015 she graduated from Vermont College of Fine Arts with an MFA in Writing (Poetry). Her poems have been published in *Illuminations 29* and *Quest*, and her poem "News of the World" was awarded Honorable Mention in the 2014 Science Fiction Poetry Association contest.

Julia Watson (BA, 1967) is a professor emerita of comparative studies at Ohio State University. In August 2015, she retired after seventeen years in the Department of Comparative Studies at Ohio State University, where she was also associate dean of The College of Arts and Sciences for four years. During her career, she published six books and several essays on aspects of autobiography with co-author Sidonie Smith. In 2015, they held the first Autobiography in the Americas conference.

1970s **Brian R. Shaw (BS, 1973)** is the dean of Oettinger School of Science and Technology Intelligence at National Intelligence University. He was awarded the Geoscience Distinguished Alumni Award by the College of Arts and Science from WMU.

Barbara Craft (BA, 1974) is the department chair for Legal Studies and Human Resource Management at Davenport University. She is also the program director of Davenport University's American Bar Association approved paralegal program and leads the Legal London Study Abroad Program.

Janice Lynn (Peterson) Hanson (BA, 1974) is a professor of pediatrics and family medicine at the University of Colorado School of Medicine. She married Stephen Hanson, now a retired U.S. Marine Corps Colonel, with whom she has two children, Heather and Lindsey. She has worked as a special educator and earned both a Master's and a Ph.D. She was recently awarded tenure at the University of Colorado, and is one of a few in the history of the School of Medicine to be awarded tenure on the basis of work in education.

Monte L. Brown (BA, 1975) is a judge for DeKalb Superior Court II and is a graduate of the Indiana Judicial College Graduate Program.

Thomas Dale Zabel (BA, 1976) is a senior engineer of software and an adjunct instructor in Noblesville, Indiana.

Mary J. Swanson (BA, 1979) is a realtor in Portage, Michigan. In 2014, she was the 4th Year Berkshire Hathaway Chairman's Circle Recipient for residential sales volume.

1980s **Helen Diann (McCall Moore) Pratt (BA, 1980)** is a retired professor of pediatric and adolescent medicine at Western Michigan University Homer Styker MD School of Medicine as of July 2015 after twenty-four years of employment.

Maureen Knapp (BA, 1981) is a director of asset management in New York, New York.

Dennis Scott Moore (BS, 1981) is a ministry coach and director of communications in Haslett, Michigan. In May 2010, he earned a Master of Divinity degree from Michigan Theological Seminary. This July he celebrated 33 years of marriage with a fellow WMU graduate and together they have three grandchildren.

Alex Wirth-Cauchon (BA, 1982) is the chief information officer and executive director of Library, Information, and Technology Services at Mount Holyoke College.

James A. Swaim (BA, 1988) is a shareholder at Garan Lucow Miller, P.C. in Rochester Hills, Michigan.

Robert (Robb) R Thibault (BS, 1988) is director of the student union at SUNY Oneonta.

1990s **David Allen Bates (MPA, 1991)** is a process specialist at Severn Trent Services in Coldwater, Michigan.

William E. Semrau (BS, 1992) is an integrated science and math teacher in Career and Technical Education in Mattawan, Michigan. He is also the co-director of Region 13 Science Olympiad and returned to Western for a year as a teacher in residence for the Physics Department.

Linda Louise (Hansen) Eroh (BS, 1993) is a mathematics professor in Omro, Wisconsin.

Kimberly (Ingersol) Burean (BS, 1994) is the head of Youth Services at Oxford Public Library in Oxford, Michigan.

Jennifer (Wenzlaff) Zimmer (BA, 1994) is a reference librarian at the Fred L. Mathews Library at Southwestern Michigan College.

Nick (Walter Nickell) Sousanis (BS, 1995) is a postdoctoral fellow in comics studies at the University of Calgary. In 2014, he completed the first doctoral dissertation written and drawn in Comics form at Columbia University. Harvard University Press has published the book version, titled *Unflattening*.

Stephan M. Moore (BM, 1996) is a lecturer at Northwestern University. He completed a Ph.D. in Computer Music and Multimedia Composition at Brown University in May 2015 and joined Northwestern University's Department of Radio, Television and Film in September.

Jessica Lynn (Rieger) Sturm (BA, 1999) was recently promoted with tenure to associate professor of French and applied linguistics at Purdue University. She has received the Purdue University College of Liberal Arts Award for Outstanding Undergraduate Teacher and the Western Michigan University Department of World Languages and Literatures Alumni Achievement Award.

2000s **Thomas Goodwin (BS, 2000)** is a sports medicine physician in Kalamazoo, MI. He was recently named to the Michigan State Osteopathic Medical Board.

Kelley Long (BBA, 2000) is a resident financial planner for Financial Finesse. In 2014-2015 she served as the president of the Professional Women's Club of Chicago.

Joseph R. Sanok (BA, 2000) is a private practice consultant and owner of Mental Wellness Counseling. He has the number one podcast for counselors in private practice, and his website is one of the leading websites to train therapists on the business and marketing side of private practice. Joe is the co-founder of The Most Awesome Conference in La Jolla, California and is a regular speaker, radio contributor and blogger. **Katharine M. Hoogerheide (BM, 2001)** has been promoted to dean of students at the Graduate Institute of Applied Linguistics in Dallas, Texas after working for six months as the associate dean of students. In 2013, she completed an MA in World Art at the Graduate Institute of Applied Linguistics.

Kara Aubin (BA, 2002) is currently seeking her Ayurvedic Practitioner certificate at the Ayurvedic Institute with Dr. Vasant Lad in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

Courtney (Lang) Carpenter (BA, 2002) is a litigation paralegal in Plainwell, Michigan.

Erin Niemi (BS, 2002) is a research analyst in Gaithersburg, Maryland.

Amber Kathryn (Law) Gray (BBA, 2003) is an assistant professor of accounting at Adrian College.

Lindsay St. Germain (BS, 2003) is a project manager in Roeland Park, Kansas. She started the Kansas City chapter of 100+ Women Who Care, which is interested in supporting the local community by contributing to local charities together as a unit to increase the impact. To date, they have given more than \$35,000 to local charities in just over two years.

Lindsey (Terbrack) Garrett (BA, 2004) is an electronic marketing manager at Kalsec in Portage, Michigan. She recently wrote a white paper on the vitality of social media in business-to-business operations and is working to get it published.

Michael William Hall (BBA, 2004) is a senior portfolio manager at Stryker.

David Paul Hoogerheide (BS, 2004) is a physicist at the National Institute of Standards and Technology. He was a postdoctoral fellow at Harvard University from 2010-2013 and a joint research associate at the National Institute of Standards and Technology and the National Institutes of Health from 2013-2015.

Kristin Kenning (BM, 2004) is the director of opera and assistant professor of music at Samford University.

Christina Maley (BA, 2004) is a union stagehand and dresser. She was on tour this fall as the assistant wardrobe supervisor on the Little Mermaid, which traveled to New Orleans, Houston, San Antonio, Austin and Minneapolis.

Nathan Maus (BA, 2004) is a teacher in Clay, Michigan. He earned his Master's in Teaching in 2012 from Marygrove College in Detroit. In 2011 he was voted Assistant Coach of the Year for US Lacrosse for Michigan. In Fall 2015 he celebrated ten years of marriage with his wife, April, with whom he has three boys, Connor, Jordan and Kaeden. In 2014 he traveled to El Salvador on a mission trip to serve the marginalized residents.

Lauren (Sheill) Reed (BS, 2004) is a pediatrician at the University of Michigan.

Erin Dudley (BA, 2005) is a dance team coach in Highlands Ranch, Colorado. She and her husband recently welcomed a third child, a little boy named Ryan Scott. Her varsity dance team was a finalist in 2015 at a national competition in Florida.

Keri Elizabeth (Anderson) Dziuban (BS, 2005) is a homemaker in Decatur, Georgia. She married fellow WMU honors college graduate Eric Dziuban in 2006. She completed her Master's degree in Autism Spectrum Disorders at Eastern Michigan University in 2010. While living in Swaziland, Africa in 2010-2012, she worked with the Ministry of Education to implement Inclusive Education in government schools.

Jamie Zaniewski (BA, 2005) is a policy advisor for the Michigan Senate Republican Policy Office.

Andrea (Kryger) Bierema (BS, 2006) is a postdoctoral research associate for CREATE for STEM Institute and Center for Engineering Education Research at Michigan State University. In 2014 she graduated from Western Michigan University with a Ph.D. in Science Education: Biological Sciences. During her last year of schooling, she received the All-University Graduate Teaching Effectiveness Award. She has presented at several national conferences and been published in peer-reviewed journals in both science education and biological sciences.

Kristi (Carlson) Martin (BA, 2006) is a math teacher in Cary, North Carolina. She is currently working on a Master's in Math Education at North Carolina State University.

Gerry Mattei (BA, 2006) is a television post-production specialist in Burbank, California.

Jeremy Christopher Kelley (BS, 2007) is a urology resident in Adkins, Texas.

Jen (Heuft) McConnell (BA, 2007) is a writer in Durham, North Carolina. In June 2015 Bloomsbury Spark, an imprint of Bloomsbury Kids and Teens, released her New Adult contemporary series, Adventures Abroad. This series of novellas marks her 10th title to be published since 2012. Her own study abroad experiences while at WMU inspired the novellas.

Patrick E. Shea (BS, 2007) is a pastor of community life in Big Rapids, Michigan. He graduated from Grand Rapids Theological Seminary, Cornerstone University, with a Master of Divinity degree. He and his wife are looking forward to the birth of their fourth child.

Nicole Grashik (BS, 2009) is a teacher in Chesterfield, Michigan.

Andrea Sell (BA, 2009) is a University Housing Area Coordinator at Appalachian State University.

Caleb Williams (BM, 2009) is the director of music at Portage Chapel Hill United Methodist Church. Having completed Master's degrees in Divinity and Sacred Music from Boston University, he was commissioned a deacon in the United Methodist Church in June.

2010s **Thomas Bradley Kent (BA, 2010)** is a Ph.D. student at UC Berkeley.
Abigail Anderson (BS, 2011) is a contract pilot and sales associate in Waterford, Michigan.

Chera Burwell (BBA, 2011) is a financial analyst in Farmington Hills and was recently accepted to the University of the Michigan-Dearborn's fall 2015 MBA program.

Sarah Nott (BA, 2011) is an art teacher and Visual Arts Department head at Portage Northern High School. She was a Medallion Scholar and recently had the wonderful experience of having one of her recent high school advanced art students, Aisha Thaj, selected to receive the Medallion Scholarship.

Jessica Nelson (BBA, 2012) is a steel industry product specialist in Wheaton, Illinois.

Kathryn Giroux (BS, 2013) is a story teacher and lead researcher for Stillmotion in Portland, Oregon. She spent five months in 2015 backpacking and volunteering around Southeast Asia.

Zachary P. Putnam (BBA, 2013) is a business strategy and new business development analyst for C&S Wholesale Grocers in Keene, New Hampshire. He lived abroad in Australia for a year and is in an eighteen-month leadership development rotational program at C&S Wholesale Grocery. He graduated from WMU with a 4.0 overall GPA and was ranked first in the 2013 graduating class.

Sarah Ruth Mikulski (BM, 2014) is attending graduate school at Manhattan School of Music in pursuit of a Master's of Music in Classical Voice.

Raise Your Voice

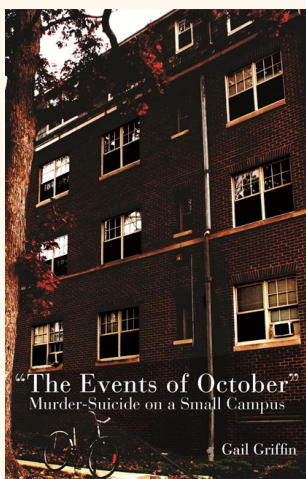


THE LEE HONORS COLLEGE Raise Your Voice lecture series was conceived to respond to the groundswell of voices currently advocating for a safe and supportive environment in which to study, work, live and love. It arose from discussions at the WMU Lee Honors College about issues of gendered violence and particularly hostility toward women that had surfaced in previous months and addressed issues of street and workplace sexual harassment, rape on college campuses and ineffectual responses to marginalization, bullying and abuse. All presentations were free and open to the public, with seating offered on a first-come, first-served basis. Support for the series came from many organizations, departments, businesses and individuals. Go to tinyurl.com/eventraiseyourvoice for additional information.

Beginning in March 2015, our campus and community listened to and learned from a remarkable group of artists, writers and scholars who have devoted their lives and livelihoods to ending gender-based hostility and violence. We began by meeting Soraya Chemaly, a journalist and social activist who successfully challenged Facebook, convincing them to strengthen and enforce their policies prohibiting images depicting the rape and assault of women and girls. A few weeks later, artist Tatyana Fazlalizadeh brought her "Stop Telling Women to Smile" campaign against street harassment to the Kalamazoo community. She created images of young women from WMU who spoke out regarding their own experiences with street harassment. These images were wheat-pasted around the WMU campus and Fazlalizadeh's art was also featured at the Black Arts and Cultural Center during the month of April.

Our spring semester slate of series presentations concluded with a powerful lecture by Anita Hill. In the fall of 1991, Dr. Hill found herself at the center of a media storm of almost unprecedented proportions. Burdened with information that could determine the future of a Supreme Court nomination, Anita Hill's experience changed the way we view sexual harassment, gender and the judicial confirmation process. More than 1,000 individuals from our campus and community attended her lecture at Chenery Auditorium in April 2015.

As part of the Raise Your Voice series, the honors college chose Gail Griffin's beautifully written, *"The Events of October" Murder-Suicide on a Small Campus*, as the common read book for all of our first year students. This book details the story of a young man who chose the ultimate expression of violence against women – femicide – and explores the difficult question of why such acts remain all too common in our society. All first year honors college students (more than 400 students) received a free copy of the book during summer orientation. Author Gail Griffin, Professor Emeritus at Kalamazoo College, along with Rick and Martha Omilian, the parents of Maggie Omilian, the young woman who was murdered, facilitated a discussion of the book with our first year honors students on August 31. Griffin also gave a public lecture, "Hearing Voices: Re/collecting a Femicide," in October.



Photos from top to bottom:

Tatyana Fazlalizadeh; Honors students and Dr. Koretsky with Dr. Anita Hill; Author Gail Griffin

The fall portion of the series began with a presentation by Wagatwe Wanjuki, who shared her experiences as an undergraduate survivor of campus sexual assault and how they led her to become an activist and an organizer. A former Tufts University student featured in the documentary “The Hunting Ground,” Wanjuki uses social media to campaign for reform of college sexual assault policies. She is founding co-organizer of the Know Your IX ED ACT NOW campaign, which educates all students regarding their Title IX civil rights. On September 23, Wanjuki presented a public lecture titled “Safer Campuses for All: Using Title IX to Provide an Education Free of Sexual Violence.” Wanjuki also spoke in the Honors College as part of our Lyceum Lecture Series and conducted a workshop for WMU students focused on using social media to facilitate social change.

We also commissioned the creation of an original Theatre of the Oppressed performance, “(un)welcome: an exploration of sexual violence and self-empowerment” which was performed for more than five hundred Direct Encounter with the Arts undergraduate students and community members in October. This was followed by a standing room only lecture by filmmaker and feminist Jackson Katz, co-founder of the gender violence prevention and education program Mentors In Violence Prevention. Katz’s riveting presentation, “Violence and Silence: Why Some Men Hurt Women and How All Men Can Help” reminded us that violence against women is a men’s issue and one that requires men to find the courage to stand with women to confront and prevent gender-based violence.

The highlight of the fall Raise Your Voice series was a November appearance at Miller Auditorium by Gloria Steinem, which was attended by an enthusiastic audience of more than 3,000 students and community members. Steinem, a seminal figure in the women’s liberation movement, and journalist, co-founded *Ms. Magazine*, where she continues to serve as a consulting editor. She also helped to found the Women’s Action Alliance, the National Women’s Political Caucus and Choice USA. Additionally, she was the founding president of the Ms. Foundation for Women and helped create Take Our Daughters to Work Day. Steinem wowed the near-capacity crowd with a wide-ranging and thought-provoking talk followed by a delightful and lengthy question and answer period.

Michigan First Lady Sue Snyder was joined by Dr. Rebecca Campbell, neurobiological trauma response expert and professor of psychology at Michigan State University, for the final series presentation. First Lady Snyder described her “Inform. Empower. Prevent. Let’s End Campus Sexual Assault” initiative and grant program which is actively promoting sexual assault prevention at Michigan’s universities, colleges and community colleges. Dr. Campbell gave a compelling presentation describing the influence of trauma on the neurobiology of assault survivors and the importance of trauma-informed responses to campus sexual assault.

The lecture series was made possible by a dedicated organizing committee and many co-sponsors and donors from across the Western Michigan University and greater Kalamazoo community. Videos of many of the lectures may be accessed at: tinyurl.com/raiseyourvoicevideos



Photos from top to bottom:

Wagatwe Wanjuki; Honors students with Michigan First Lady Sue Snyder; President Dunn with Gloria Steinem.

Study in the States

OUR SIGNATURE STUDY IN THE STATES program completed its fourth year with four place-based honors courses: The Texas Tour, Entrepreneurship: Understanding Startup Communities, Garbage in Gotham and the Disney Pilgrimage. Students enrolled in the Texas Tour, taught by Management professor Derrick McIver, traveled to Houston, San Antonio and Austin to study economic development, business issues, history and social life in Texas. Visit the course blog tinyurl.com/sistexastour to learn more about this experience. Students enrolled in Garbage in Gotham traveled with Environmental and Sustainability Studies professor Sarah Hill to New York City to study history, ecology, public policy, and the most basic elements of urban life itself: what do to with our waste. Both of these popular courses were offered for the third consecutive summer.

We offered two new courses in 2015: our first ever spring semester course, Entrepreneurship: Understanding Startup Communities, which included a trip to Boulder, Colorado and Austin, Texas during the university's spring break. The course was designed to provide students with exposure to communities that have allowed high technology startup companies to thrive in recent decades. As part of this innovative course, students engaged with many individuals in various organizations who have fostered a culture that promotes entrepreneurial and innovative activities. These communities include entrepreneurs, startup investors and employees, and administrators of accelerators, incubators and government agencies. Day trips to Chicago, Detroit and Grand Rapids were completed throughout the semester. The course received one of seven 2015 Innovation in Business Education Awards

from the MidAmerican Business Deans Association. Visit the course blog to learn more: brncostartup.com/usc/

Without a doubt, the course that received the most press was The Disney Pilgrimage. A unique biographical journey took students from the birth to the death of the famous Walt Disney, exploring the 60-year life of the individual who left his mark on America in so many ways. Students traveled from Chicago, Illinois to Missouri to California, and their final destination: Disneyland. Visit the Facebook group to see photos and details: tinyurl.com/sisdisney

For 2016, both The Texas Tour and the Disney Pilgrimage, now renamed Walt's Pilgrimage: A Journey in the Life of Walt Disney, will be offered again. Vues d'Afrique, first offered two years ago, will be taught again this year, as well as three new courses: Old Man River, Learning with Video Games! Really?, and Military Technology and Strategy.

Vues d'Afrique will travel to Montreal with World Languages and Literatures professor Vincent Desroches to the largest African film festival in North America. The students will meet artists and leaders of the main francophone immigrant communities in Montreal (Haitian, West and Central African and Maghrebi) to discuss the African diaspora and related issues both in their countries of origin and in Canada.

Old Man River will take students on a journey along the Mississippi River from Chicago, Illinois to New Orleans, Louisiana with Environmental and Sustainability Studies professors Denise Keele and Sarah Hill to explore the history of the river from political, cultural and environmental perspectives.

In **Learning with Video Games! Really?**, Jim Bosco, Education Professor Emeritus, will take students to Santa Cruz, Silicon Valley, and San Francisco, California, as well as Lansing, Michigan and Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania to explore the best video game companies in the United States focused on creating games that engage students in active learning.

In **Military Technology and Strategy**, Joyce Busch, WMU's Military Advocate, will guide students in an examination of how technology has impacted military operations throughout American history – and vice versa. Students will visit locations including the United States Military Academy (West Point), Gettysburg, the Pentagon, Arlington National Cemetery, Marine Barracks (8th and I), the United States Naval Academy, Quantico and Ft. Bragg. Visit our website for more information about any of these courses at www.wmich.edu/honors/advising/states.

We love to arrange meetings between our honors students and friends and alumni of the honors college while they are traveling on Study in the States trips. If you would like to participate in a meeting, please contact us.



Photos from top right to bottom:

Entrepreneurship: Understanding Startup Communities;
The Disney Pilgrimage; The Texas Tour

What's New

THE LEE HONORS COLLEGE invited runners, walkers and families from Western Michigan University and the greater Kalamazoo community to join in a fun Halloween-themed 5K/1K event on Thursday, October 29. Over sixty runners participated and prizes were given away in multiple age categories for chip-timed winners in addition to four overall winners for top male, top female, top male masters and top female masters. Six sets of prizes were also given away to various costume winners. This was the fourth year the honors college has organized a run to help generate funds for scholarships for its student enrichment programs: Study in the States and Study Abroad. These unique programs provide students with opportunities for networking, service and cultural engagement, helping them gain a broader view of the world and possibilities for their futures.

The Lee Honors College greatly appreciates the support of the following sponsors who helped make the event a success: Bob & Kay's Auto Wash, Seelye Ford, Boris Realtors, Alamo Drafthouse, Insomnia Cookies, Meijer Inc. and Qdoba. The 2016 race is set for Thursday, October 27 at the Lee Honors College. If you would like to become a sponsor or receive event information please email Monica at monica.delossantos@wmich.edu.

OUR LYCEUM LECTURES will continue in spring 2016 with part I of a series titled, "Our Blue Marble: Water, Home and Humanity." All lectures will be held in the honors college lounge at noon on Wednesdays and are open to the public. The "Blue Marble" series will explore issues related to water, one of our most precious and most vulnerable global natural resources, from multiple perspectives. Part I will examine water issues in the Great Lakes region, with a special focus on Kalamazoo and Lake Michigan. Part II (fall 2016) will broaden the perspective to consider global issues related to water. The spring series lectures will be given by ten WMU faculty and three community experts whose expertise spans areas ranging from poetry to chemistry to political science. We are also looking forward to a semester-long exhibition of art related to the "Blue Marble" theme. Several prominent Michigan artists have contributed to this exhibition. We had an exhibition opening celebration on Thursday, January 21 in the honors college lounge highlighted by remarks from our featured artists. (wmich.edu/honors/events/lectures)



Photos from top to bottom:

Community members dressed up for the Scholar Scare run; Student employee Luke Swoboda and Graduate Assistant Tre Thomas; Ninja Turtles at the run

Graduation

EACH SEMESTER, HONORS STUDENTS may elect to compete for the Outstanding Thesis Presentation Awards by defending their theses during Thesis Celebration Days. Presentations are judged by faculty and staff teams on elements such as significance, innovation/originality, clarity, clear objectives/hypotheses, interpretation of finding and presentation quality. The awards are presented at each honors college graduation ceremony in December and April.



Outstanding Thesis Presentation Winners (April 2015)

Regan Crowel Managing the Credibility of a Nonprofit Organization in the Face of Unexpected Publicity
Sarah Ellison The Historical Evolution of Endoscopy
Stephen John Design of Novel Respiratory Equipment
Connor Makowski Western Client: A Business Plan

Outstanding Thesis Presentation Winners (December 2015)

Aaron Dean Design and Fabrication of an Instrumented Cane for the Blind
Alexis Hickey Living in the Shadow of ISIS
Josie Marshall For the Fund\$ of it: Product Development
Alicia Sarco-Villagomez Undocumented Students and the Journey of Finding Hope

EACH YEAR, FACULTY members from across the University select the most outstanding senior in their various academic schools, departments and programs to represent their units as a WMU Presidential Scholar. This year, 46 scholars were chosen from a senior class of more than 6,000 students. The Presidential Scholar designation is the highest academic honor that WMU can bestow on its undergraduates. Selection is based on the students' general academic excellence, academic and artistic excellence relative to their majors, and intellectual and artistic promise. The honors college students listed below received this honor in 2015.

Rachel Burroughs Psychology
Nicole Carpp Biological Sciences and Human Performance and Health Education
Emma Cooper Speech Pathology and Audiology
Aaron Dean Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering
Mariesa DeSantis Art
Scott Duxbury Anthropology
Matthew Garvin Industrial and Entrepreneurial Engineering and Engineering Management
Eleni Gaves Interdisciplinary Health
Lasse Grunewalde Music
Christopher Hickey History
James Lind Electrical and Computer Engineering
Brian McClure Engineering Design, Manufacturing and Management Systems
Alexa Morrison Family and Consumer Sciences
Ali Russo Marketing
Scott Shank Communication
Jagjit Sing Sidhu Physics
Alicia Wayne Social Work



Photos from top to bottom:

(Left) Lee Honors College Faculty Fellow David Paul;
 (Right) Thesis Winner Alicia Sarco-Villagomez;
 Thesis Presentation Winner Alexis Hickey;
 Students lining up to enter the ceremony

Recent Graduates



THE KALAMAZOO PROMISE is a four-year scholarship that covers college tuition and mandatory fees for every student who attends and graduates from Kalamazoo Public Schools. Lee Honors College alum Maurice Washington was a recipient of the Kalamazoo Promise after he graduated in June 2011 from Kalamazoo Central High School. The Promise guaranteed Maurice a chance at college, and he knew it was an opportunity he needed to seize.

After Maurice succeeded in his first year at WMU, he received an invitation to join the honors college. The decision to join was not made lightly by Maurice who said, "It was a really big deal to essentially proclaim I could maintain a 3.5 cumulative GPA for the rest of my tenure after doing it for only a year with no expectations." Ultimately, Maurice, a first generation college student, decided to join because he felt that the only person he could let down was himself. Maurice's confidence grew after consistently meeting, and exceeding, the Lee Honors College requirements, and this confidence carried over into all areas of his college experience. In fact, Maurice believes his honors thesis, "Shared Prosperity Initiative as a Solution for the City of Kalamazoo's Impoverished," is the culmination of the growth in his self-confidence throughout his time at Western.

Maurice was always very conscious of the personal and professional growth he could experience at college, and involved himself on campus with this growth in mind. He was a resident assistant, Fall Welcome Ambassador, a campus tour guide, a member of the Western Student Association Allocations Commission, a student instructor of the inaugural African American male section of First Year Experience and even interned for the Mayor and City Commissioner of Kalamazoo. Somehow, Maurice even found time to study abroad in Guatemala. These experiences molded Maurice into the special person he is today.

After graduating in August 2015, Maurice moved to Tucson, Arizona where he is currently participating in a year of service as a member of AmeriCorps VISTA, with a special focus on domestic anti-poverty efforts. He is working for Arizona Serve, a non-profit organization where he acts as a School Coordinator for a struggling Tucson high school that has a large population of impoverished and refugee students. His goal within his year of service in Arizona is to not just meet, but exceed the requirements necessary for obtaining his Certificate in Civic Leadership. Maurice says his major successes at WMU have contributed to his current work, "Combining my life wisdom, my gained experiences, and my academic knowledge has paid

dividends to my confidence as a leader and in everything I have done, am doing, and will do."

In the future, Maurice hopes to work for two years in Guatemala as a Youth Development Specialist with the Peace Corps Program or to work another year in an AmeriCorps VISTA position in the northwestern United States. Ultimately, Maurice plans to attend graduate school to pursue a Masters in Public Policy or Public Administration, or perhaps both, to begin a local, state or even national political career. If pursuing politics does not pan out, Maurice intends to work in a leadership role at a non-profit organization.

Maurice's advice for current students is to not be satiated by immediate rewards, but to pursue delayed gratification. "The Dean's List ceremonies are great, the LHC and University-wide events are even greater and empowering, but, honestly, nothing feels greater than finishing what you started. It may take a while to accomplish, but the feeling never leaves, unlike gratification that occurs immediately."

Above all, Maurice says, "It's always a great day to be a Bronco!"



Photos from top left to bottom:

Maurice Washington; Washington in his freshman year at WMU;
Washington addressing a crowd later in his college career

Student Research and Study Abroad

ALL LEE HONORS COLLEGE students engage in original research and creative activities, and many participate in study abroad. We believe that these are transformational experiences for many students, and thus we provide scholarships to fund these opportunities. Last year, we received requests for more than \$350,000 to support study abroad experiences and nearly \$40,000 to support research and creative activities; we were able to provide



\$21,000 and \$30,000 respectively in support of these requests.

Lee Honors College research awards provide up to \$3,000, typically divided into a \$2,500 stipend and \$500 for supplies. For example, last summer, senior Monique Pipkin was awarded \$1,000 to study the influence of urban noise on chipping sparrows, in particular, how it impedes acoustic communication among urban birds. Junior Salma Mumuni was awarded \$3,000 to study the effects of increased atmospheric nitrogen deposition on Pitcher Plants. This fall, mathematics major James Hallas worked on sum-defined colorings of graphs with an award of \$3,000 and next spring, biomedical sciences major Jacob Morten will use a \$3,000 award to study the effects of weak magnetic field manipulation on reactive oxygen species levels during regeneration of cells in planarian species.

Between summer 2015 and spring 2016, Lee Honors College students have been accepted into study abroad programs in 15 different countries including: Peru, Italy, Germany, Ireland, France, England, China, the Netherlands, Senegal, Spain, the United Arab Emirates, South Africa, Japan, Argentina and New Zealand. Students are encouraged to apply for many on-campus scholarships from specific departments, the study abroad office and the Lee Honors College. While we strive to support students who wish to study abroad, unfortunately, some students are simply unable to raise sufficient funds to participate in their desired study abroad experiences. We continue to prioritize fund-raising to provide more support for students interested in studying abroad.



IN NOVEMBER 2015 recent honors college graduates Stephen John and Joseph Barnett captured the top spot in the Collegiate Inventors Competition, a program of the National Inventors Hall of Fame sponsored by the U.S Patent and Trademark Office and the AbbVie Foundation, for their lifesaving medical tool, NeoVent, designed for use in developing nations. They competed against undergraduate finalists from Columbia, Harvard, Johns Hopkins, and Penn State universities and were awarded a cash prize of \$12,500.

Stephen and Joseph's NeoVent has earned four other national innovation prizes: Lemelson-MIT National Collegiate Student Prize Competition, Brian Patrick Thomas Entrepreneurial Spirit Award at WMU, the 2015 James Dyson Award-U.S division and the 2015 Biomedical Engineering Society competition for undergraduate biomedical and bioengineering students. NeoVent is a dual-level pressure system that helps the respiratory system of extremely ill premature babies in developing countries and builds off of the existing technology of a bubble CPAP machine.

In October, Joseph traveled to Beijing to attend the Grand Challenges Global Health Summit, which was intended for leaders in global health to collaborate on healthcare solutions for the underserved. This summit was an international meeting co-hosted by the Gates Foundation, USAID, and China's Ministry of Science and Technology. We are proud of the attention the extraordinary work of these two alumni is receiving and look forward to following their careers.



Photos from top to bottom:

Junior Salma Mumuni (right) during her research; Honors students Emily Scannel (left) and Emma Stuba (third from the left) in Germany for Study Abroad; Honors student Marine Bolliet in South Africa for Study Abroad

Alpha Lambda Delta

WMU's CHAPTER OF Alpha Lambda Delta National Honor Society (ALD) has continued to succeed in 2015. In November ALD was one of nine chapters in the country to receive the prestigious Order of the Torch award. This is the third consecutive time Western's ALD chapter has won the award and is one of just three schools to win in consecutive increments since 2003, rating WMU's chapter in the top one percent in this category.

In October 2015, ALD chapter president Cole Villalobos was part of a panel presentation at the National Leadership Workshop in Orlando, Florida. ALD volunteer coordinator

Nicole Thompson and administrative advisor Anthony Helms conducted two presentations on raising chapter visibility. Additionally, students Madelyn Aittama, Julia Sant and Nicole Thompson received Jo Anne J. Trow Scholarships from the national ALD organization. Aittama and Sant were two of 20 awarded \$1,000, and Thompson was one of five awarded \$3,000. The national organization awards 36 Trow scholarships to outstanding students from across the country each year. Students are selected based on maintaining a 3.5 grade point average, academic records, participation in Alpha Lambda Delta activities, campus and community service activities and the applicant's personal statement.

Bronco Spotlight once again recognized Anthony Helms, ALD administrative advisor and honors college Director of Advising, as Registered Student Organization Advisor of the Month in November. Even with all the accolades, ALD president Cole Villalobos is still dedicated to giving back to and recognizing ALD members. ALD began Member of the Month awards to acknowledge members' commitments and contributions to ALD and WMU's community.



Photos from top left to bottom:

Student Nicole Thompson; Alpha Lambda Delta members; President Cole Villalobos and two members; Jo Anne J. Trow scholarship winners Madelyn Aittama, Julia Sant and Nicole Thompson

WE WOULD LOVE to know where you are and what you have been doing since graduation. Please take moment to provide the following information and return it to us by mail – or complete a short survey online at tinyurl.com/lhcalumniupdate

NAME		YEAR GRADUATED
ADDRESS		
CITY	STATE	ZIP CODE
E-MAIL		PHONE
WMU DEGREES		
TITLE OF HONORS THESIS		
WERE YOU A MEDALLION SCHOLAR?		IF YES, WHAT CLASS?
<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO		

Recent accomplishments/professional activities/personal milestones

CURRENT JOB			
WOULD YOU LIKE TO RECEIVE THE ALUMNI NEWSLETTER?			
<input type="checkbox"/>	YES, VIA E-MAIL	<input type="checkbox"/>	YES, VIA REGULAR POST
<input type="checkbox"/>	NO		
I AM WILLING TO BE A LEE HONORS COLLEGE ALUMNI MENTOR			
<input type="checkbox"/>	YES	<input type="checkbox"/>	NO

If yes, please list the disciplines(s) and career(s) about which you would be willing to e-mail or speak with a current honors college student.

IN SEPTEMBER 2015, the Public University Honors blog published an article detailing the unique benefits the Lee Honors College has to offer. The post describes Study in the States, the Peer Student Success Team program and scholarship opportunities, along with so much more. The Public University Honors Blog is dedicated to reporting on the unique features of public university honors programs such as small class sizes, personal advising, honors residence halls and other benefits. To read the article about the Lee Honors College, follow this link: tinyurl.com/publicuniversity

Please share this fantastic article with students you know who may be considering WMU and the Lee Honors College!

In Memory of Carl Lee



ON SATURDAY, MARCH 14, 2015, campus and community members gathered in the Lee Honors College lounge to remember Carl Lee. Dean Emeritus Nicholas Andreadis and President John Dunn were among those who spoke about the enormous impact the Lees have had on Western Michigan University and the honors college. Mr. Lee, aged 96, passed away on Sunday morning, February 22, 2015 at Bronson Commons in Mattawan, MI. Carl and his wife, Winifred "Winnie" Lee are Honorary Alumni of Western Michigan University and the benefactors of the Carl and Winifred Lee Honors College at Western Michigan University.

Carl Lee was born Thursday, November 7, 1918 in Reading, MI, son of the late Berten "Bert" Henry and Mary (Nash) Lee. He attended the Michigan Academy of Radio Service and spent 60 years in the radio and broadcasting industry. In the late 1930s Carl met E. Winifred "Winnie" Fulton and on October 12, 1940 they were married. In addition to being President and CEO of Fetzer Broadcasting Company, Carl headed up six other CBS affiliates across the country and served on the board of directors for CBS Affiliates, First National Bank Corporation, Michigan Association of Broadcasters, the WMU Foundation, Bronson Hospital Foundation, Broadcast Pioneers and the Detroit Tigers. Carl and Winnie enjoyed travelling in association with Carl's businesses, and for many years they enjoyed spending their winters in Naples, FL and summers in Kalamazoo. For more than 50 years Carl also enjoyed leading his business groups on fishing trips. Carl and Winnie were members of the Kalamazoo Country Club, The Park Club and Bear's Paw Country Club in Naples, as well as the Kalamazoo First Presbyterian Church. Carl was a 32nd degree Mason and was also a member of the Lion's Club. Winnie preceded Carl in death on October 23, 2012. Carl is survived by a daughter, Cheri (Jeff) Weedman of Cincinnati, OH; two grandchildren, Carl Lee Weedman of Chicago, IL and Tatiana Eloise Weedman of Cincinnati, OH; a sister-in-law, Doris Lee of Kalamazoo; and many nieces and nephews.

Everyone at the Lee Honors College is tremendously grateful to Carl and Winnie Lee for providing such a beautiful facility in which to learn and gather. Students, faculty, staff and visitors will remember their beneficence for many years to come.



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Many thanks to the staff and students of the Lee Honors College!

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