Department Launches New Program in Dominican Republic

Jan. 22, 2015

The College of Education and Human Development at WMU launched a Ph.D. in educational leadership program in the Dominican Republic (D.R.) on Monday, January 19, 2015. Thirty students are in the first cohort who will go through the program together in four years. It is the first doctoral program offered by WMU in a foreign country.

Being offered through a unique collaboration between WMU and the D.R.’s Ministry of Education, Ministry of Higher Education and the Universidad Iberoamericana (UNIBE), this program was designed to prepare individuals to hold leadership and management roles in K-12 or higher education. It is offered via a hybrid-learning format with teaching support from WMU faculty. The program also includes a study abroad component, in which the students will travel to WMU in June each year for three weeks of intensive study.

The program will help the D.R. build its infrastructure and human resource capacity.

Department Chair to Receive Award

Jan. 7, 2015

Dr. Yuanlong Liu, professor and interim chair of the Department of Human Performance and Health Education, has been selected by the Society of Health and Physical Educators America to receive the R. Tait McKenzie Award at the 2015 National Convention in Seattle, Washington (March 19, 2015). The R. Tait McKenzie Award is bestowed annually in recognition of distinguished service by members who have made significant contributions through work outside of SHAPE America and yet reflects on the association favorably (e.g., government, general education, public health, international affairs, etc.). The award was first bestowed in 1968 and no more than two awards are presented each year.

As a well-known scholar in the field of measurement and evaluation, Liu has played an important role to connect physical activity and health professionals from different cultures around the world. Liu is the past editor-in-chief of Measurement in Physical Education and Exercise Science, associate editor of the Journal of Exercise Science & Fitness, past president of the International Chinese Society for Physical Activities and Health, and co-guest editor of the Routledge 2012 MPEES London Olympic Games Special issue.
Assistant Professor Receives Inaugural Fellowship

January 15, 2015

Dr. Stephanie Burns

Dr. Stephanie Burns, Assistant Professor in the Department of Counselor Education and Counseling Psychology, has been chosen to receive the inaugural Edwin L. Herr Fellowship for Excellence in Counseling Leadership and Scholarship Award. The honor, awarded by Chi Sigma Iota, the International Counseling Academic and Professional Honor Society, will be presented at Chi Sigma Iota's CSI Day at the American Counseling Association’s 2015 Annual Conference and Expo on March 13 in Orlando, Florida.

The Herr Fellowship was created to recognize and honor the career contributions of Dr. Edwin L. Herr to Chi Sigma Iota and to the counseling profession as a whole. Dr. Herr’s career as a counselor and counselor educator spanned more than 50 years. He served as President of the American Counseling Association, the Association for Counselor Education and Supervision, the National Career Development Association, and Chi Sigma Iota. A past editor of several journals, including the Journal of Counseling & Development, Dr. Herr is widely recognized globally as one of if not the preeminent scholar in career counseling. He also is widely acclaimed as our profession’s most eloquent and respected global ambassador for counseling.

The Herr Fellowship is awarded annually to a full-time counselor educator in the early stages of his or her career (3-5 years) whose professional goals include career development or international issues in counseling. Dr. Burns is a Licensed Professional Counselor in Ohio and Michigan. She currently serves as the Chapter Faculty Advisor for the Mu Beta Chapter of Chi Sigma Iota at Western Michigan University. Dr. Burns’ research and scholarship focus on counselor professional identity and career interest assessment and psychometric scoring methodologies. In 2013 Dr. Burns was selected as an Emerging Leader Fellow by the Association of Counselor Education and Supervision (ACES).

Department hosted international visitors from Colleagues International

Dec. 19, 2014

The Department of Teaching, Learning and Educational Studies (TLES) hosted three international visitors from Brazil on Monday, November 17, along with staff members from Colleagues International.

TLES Chair, Dr. Regena Nelson and many faculty members were present. During their time in Sangren Hall, attendees discussed innovative instructional strategies for preparing teachers.
Associate Professor to be on Team that Evaluates National Program

Jan. 21, 2015

Dr. Jessaca Spybrook

Dr. Jessaca Spybrook, associate professor in the Department of Educational Leadership, Research and Technology, will be working with the Abt Associates team as a technical assistant liaison in 2015. The team will work on the ongoing National Evaluation of Investing in Innovation. To date, the Investing in Innovation program has awarded over 1.2 billion dollars to 143 grantees to fund the implementation and evaluation of a wide range of interventions aimed at improving student outcomes. The NEi3, led by Abt Associates, has two broad goals: to provide technical assistance to ensure that independent evaluations funded by i3 grants are well designed and well implemented, and to summarize the evaluations’ individual and collective strength of evidence and findings. Spybrook will be providing technical assistance to evaluators from the 2014 cohort of grantees.

Dietetic Interns Awarded Sustainability Grant Funds

Jan. 21, 2015

The 2014-15 dietetic interns were recently awarded a $1,710.00 sustainability grant to develop a web-based resource for the Western Michigan community entitled the Michigan Mi-Plate 2.0. The interns, who are also completing graduate coursework in the Department of Family and Consumer Sciences, based the proposal on the previously successful Michigan Mi-Plate created by the 2013-14 dietetic interns. The Michigan Mi-Plate 2.0 will contain seasonal recipe ideas, information regarding where to purchase local and seasonally available products, and more; a food demonstration highlighting recipes from the website is scheduled for mid-March. After successfully completing the tool, the interns will present a poster detailing the Michigan Mi-Plate 2.0 at the Michigan Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics spring conference to be held in Ann Arbor, MI, on April 23-24, 2015.

Associate Professors Collaborate on Newsletter Article for Association

Jan. 16, 2015

Dr. Wanda Hadley

Eric Archer and Wanda Hadley, assistant professors in the Department of Educational Leadership, Research and Technology, recently collaborated on an article for the American College Personnel Association electronic newsletter that goes out to members each winter, spring, summer and fall term. Hadley serves on the Standing Committee on Disability for the association and was invited to contribute to the newsletter having done research on college students with learning disabilities. The faculty publication that Archer and Hadley had contributed to the newsletter is titled “College Athletes and Learning Disabilities: An Underexplored, At-Risk Population,” and can be found in the associations winter 2015 newsletter.
Two Alumni Ranked in Most Influential People in Healthcare List

Dec. 12, 2014

Two alumni from the College of Education and Human Development have recently been ranked as one of the Modern Healthcare Magazine’s 100 Most Influential People in Healthcare for 2014. Lloyd Dean (MA ’78, Educational Leadership) and Anthony Tersigni (Ed.D. ’92, Educational Leadership) are ranked in the top 25 among very good company. Other notable’s on the list include Health and Human Services Secretary Sylvia Mathews Burwell, House Speaker John Boehner, Food and Drug Administration Commissioner Dr. Margaret Hamburg, and President Barak Obama.

Anthony Tersigni

Educational leadership alumnus, Anthony Tersigni, is president and CEO of Ascension Health, the nation’s largest Catholic and nonprofit health care system, with more than 113,000 associates serving in some 500 locations throughout the United States. Tersigni became COO of Ascension Health in 2000 and assumed his current position four years later. Based in St. Louis, Mo, Ascension Health is the third largest health system in the country in terms of revenue and prides itself on providing quality care to all, with special attention to the poor and vulnerable. He has been named one of Modern Healthcare’s 100 Most Powerful People in Healthcare since 2006 and serves in leadership positions on several boards, including as chair of the Healthcare Leadership Council in Washington, DC.

Lloyd Dean

Ranked as No. 21 on the list is Lloyd Dean, CEO of San Francisco-based Dignity Health. He’s friendly with the President of the United States—and with the President of the San Francisco Giants. He is responsible for a complete fiscal turnaround of his company, sits on the board of Wells Fargo—and he’s a Bronco. Although he says he has no interest in it—there were rumors of Dean becoming one of Obama’s second term Cabinet members. It wasn’t always like that. He excelled at WMU and became a teacher when he graduated, junior high and an occasional communication course at WMU. It was at a WMU event that Dean mingled with corporate America and met a top executive at Upjohn. His decision to leave teaching was difficult, but he left to become an assistant regional manager at Upjohn and eventually rose to Executive Vice President for the entire company. Eight years later he took an opportunity to turn around a failing health care system—and succeeded with Dignity Health.

Athletic Impact

Posted on Monday, November 24, 2014

Hugh Matson (BS ’57, Physical Education) has embraced the Bronco ideal of service to others throughout his career, and has impacted the lives of countless young people through his work. Because of his noteworthy efforts, Matson was recently inducted to the Saginaw Sports Hall of Fame. Matson has served in a wide variety of athletic capacities for 57 years. For 31 years, he coached football and track at Mattawan High School, Douglas MacArthur High School, and Dwight D. Eisenhower High School. He also served as athletic director at Eisenhower and Heritage high schools.

As a coach and athletic director, he was a member of the Michigan Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association for 27 years and held every level of office, including president in the ’89-’90 school year. In 1988, he was named the Regional Athletic Director of the Year by the MIAAA. Matson was also involved in the National Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association for 17 years, and has been a registered official in the Michigan High School Athletic Association for 43 years. In the MHSAA, he has hosted numerous tournaments in basketball, soccer, tennis, baseball, volleyball, softball, hockey, and track.

Matson has been recognized for his great contributions to youth athletics with the Saginaw Township Distinguished Service Award, the MIAA Jack Johnson Distinguished Service Award, the ATOM Art Jevert/Bruce Jacobs Distinguished Service Award, the Chuck Wheeker SVSU Track and Field Volunteer of the Year Award, and the USATF National Track & Field Officials Committee Outstanding Service Award.
Organizational Learning and Performance Masters
Students Place Second in Competition

Jan. 16, 2015

Team members Kathy Nolen, Katherine Green, and Lauren Davis recently placed second in the Midwest Training and Development University Case Competition. The three organizational learning and performance graduate students are all employed at Development Dimensions International, a nationally recognized talent management, talent acquisition and leadership development consulting firm. Nolen and Green are project managers, while Davis is a consulting associate. They attend OLP courses through WMU’s Royal Oak Regional Center.

The Training and Development University Case Competition is a regional competition between graduate student teams of Midwestern universities and colleges. The main purpose of the Case Competition is to enhance and complement students’ in-class learning. It is designed to challenge student decision-making skills, create a collaborative team environment, provide meaningful feedback from real-world experts and practitioners, and further strengthen the relationship between research and practice.

Teams were presented with a case and created a solution based upon it. The case involved a fictitious organization with a perceived need communicated by the organization. The case was communicated through a document that outlined the situation from the perspective of the organization. Two follow-up phone calls with an “internal organizational training employee” were allowed for each team. Competing teams had five weeks to prepare and submit a formal solution. Additionally, the team delivered a 15-minute presentation of a portion of their solution on the day of the event.

A panel of six judges representing both practitioners and academics objectively evaluated each team’s solution, and trophies were awarded to the best teams’ work. The judges used standardized rubrics for both the proposal and the presentation. The case proposals were reviewed and scored prior to the event. The presentations were judged and scored at the event.

Competitor teams participating in the event are from academic programs that include, but are certainly not limited to: Organizational development, I/O psychology, human resource development, training, instructional technology, instructional design and performance improvement.

The Case Competition is a collaboration between Oakland University and the Detroit Chapter of the Association for Talent Development. The location of the event was Oakland University, in Rochester, Michigan.

Clinical Mental Health Counseling Student Wins Fellowship from National Board

Jan. 26, 2015

Department of Counselor Education and Counseling Psychology clinical mental health counseling student, Princilla Ursery, won the National Board of Certified Counselors (NBCC) Minority Fellowship for Substance Abuse and Addiction. The fellowship provides her with assistance with tuition and training. Ursery has committed to two years post-graduation to working with youth in transition with substance abuse and possible mental illness.
The NBCC Minority Fellowship Program (NBCC MFP) strengthens the infrastructure that engages diverse individuals in the counseling profession and increases the number of professional counselors skilled in providing effective services to underserved populations. The fellows obtain additional training in mental health and substance abuse, with specialty training in culturally competent service delivery. Fellows will provide leadership to the profession through education, research and practice benefiting vulnerable underserved consumers.

The fellowship program will further increase system capacity by providing online and conference-based training to practicing professional counselors. The program is funded by a Minority Fellowship Program (MFP) grant of $1.6 million from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). The federally funded MFP was created 40 years ago to increase access to culturally and clinically appropriate care for underserved minority populations with mental health or substance abuse disorders through fellowships.

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