
Upcoming Events

The Evaluation Center’s March Evaluation Café events will feature Center staff members, interdisciplinary evaluation doctoral students, and others. On March 8, Dr. Lori Wingate, Assistant Director of The Evaluation Center, will present “Communicating about Evaluation: Style and Substance.” The March 15 Evaluation Café is a special two-hour “Safe on Campus” training session, focusing on gender identity and sexual orientation issues in research and evaluation. On March 15, Dr. Daniela Schroeter, Director of Research at The Evaluation Center, will discuss “The Joint Committee on Standards for Educational Evaluation: Insights, Developments, and Opportunities for Involvement.” Jason Burkhardt, interdisciplinary evaluation doctoral student, will lead a workshop-style Evaluation Café session on “Structural Issues in Engaging Evaluation Clients: Lessons from the Counseling World” on March 22. All presentations begin at noon and take place at The Evaluation Center, 4405 Ellsworth Hall. Bring your lunch or enjoy the free pizza. For more information see www.wmich.edu/evalctr/evaluation-cafe.
Office of Institutional Effectiveness

Items of Academic Interest

According to the 2010 NSSE survey, what percentage of first-year students spend 10 or fewer hours per week preparing for class? The answer is located at the end of this article. First-year students and seniors are invited to participate in the 2011 NSSE administration, which began on January 31 and runs through March 15. WMU uses data collected from the surveys to assist in making policy changes more consistent with good practices in undergraduate education. This information is also used by prospective college students and parents when seeking an institution with the “right fit.” Instructors are asked to remind their first-year students and seniors to participate in the 2011 NSSE administration. Select results are used in the VSA College Portrait (http://www.collegeportraits.org/MI/WMU). Results of past NSSE administrations, including a six-year comparison by item, can be viewed at http://www.wmich.edu/poapa/assessment/inst_assess.html. The 2011 Faculty Survey of Student Engagement (FSSE) will be administered between March 29 and April 20. FSSE was designed to complement the National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE). Results of past FSSE administrations, including a 5-year comparison by item, can be viewed at http://www.wmich.edu/poapa/assessment/inst_assess.html. To facilitate easier identification, GoWMU links to the ICES Online evaluation system have been changed to read “Course/Instructor Evaluation System (ICES Online).” This is in time for the spring evaluation period which will run April 11 through the 24. Benefits of ICES Online include a large cost reduction, expedited results to instructors, and 24/7 access to students during the evaluation period. The Course/Instructor Evaluation System (ICES Online) is endorsed by the WSA Sustainability Committee. Answer to NSSE 2010 question 9a: 45% of first-year students spent 10 or fewer hours per week preparing for class. Additional items of interest related to class preparation or how students budget their time may be found at http://www.wmich.edu/poapa/assessment/inst_assess.html.

College of Engineering and Applied Sciences

Items of Academic Interest

Western Michigan University is one of 30 educational organizations across 11 nations selected to participate in HP’s Catalyst Initiative, a global social innovation program designed to develop more effective approaches to education in the STEM disciplines—science, technology, engineering and mathematics. Dr. Pnina Ari-Gur, professor of mechanical and aeronautical engineering, will direct the effort at WMU, with co-PIs Roman Rabiej, Pavel Ikonomov, Daniel Litynski, and Renee’ Schwartz. The award that WMU received is valued at more than $150,000 and includes $20,000 in cash as well as equipment, software and services. She and her team will use the award to create a 3-D virtual laboratory for engineering and applied sciences education. The award and the 3-D virtual lab will allow the University to play a significant role in the HP Catalyst “New Learner” consortium, which HP calls “an elite cohort

Interdisciplinary PhD in Evaluation

Faculty and Staff Accolades

On January 26, 2011, Dr. Chris Coryn gave the opening keynote address titled “Using Research and Evaluation to Inform and Improve Educational Quality” at the 2nd Kasetsart University International Conference on Education, Bangkok, Thailand. The conference was attended by nearly 900 faculty and students from East Asia, including China, India, Malaysia, Taiwan, and Thailand, among others. He also was one of four presenters in the conference’s closing panel discussion and presented his paper titled “The Role of Evaluation in Improving School Quality: Experiences from North America.” While in Bangkok, Dr. Coryn also provided a 3-hour workshop for more than 50 Kasetsart University students and faculty titled “Advanced Evaluation Topics: Evidence-Based Approaches, Theory-Driven Evaluation, Participatory Evaluation, and Empowerment Evaluation.”
that will be exploring what the future of STEM+ learning and teaching can be. “We’re excited about this opportunity to explore some really innovative ways to transform methods of STEM education,” says Ari-Gur. “Perhaps the piece of this project that will be most challenging and rewarding is the opportunity to collaborate in a global network with organizations that bring an incredible array of perspectives to this goal.” The WMU project is part of the “New Learner” Consortium, which will engage formal and informal education institutions as they explore ways to build a network of learning opportunities for students. The goal is to create new, engaging models of student-driven STEM-plus learning that lead to graduation rates and promote “learning how to learn.” The goal is to create international collaborative “sandboxes” of innovation that will explore what the future of STEM education can look like-- students using their technical and creative ingenuity to address urgent social challenges in their communities and around the world.

**Faculty and Staff Accolades**

Civil and Construction Engineering (CCE), first year students enrolled in Engineering 1001, worked on a Federal project named “Safe Routes to School” (SRTS). The Washington Writers Academy was the partner school in fall 2010, for the service-learning design project SRTS, that focused on learning and applying transportation engineering principles. Students completed the first implementation of SRTS project and presented their results on December 8th and 11th, 2010 which were attended by City of Kalamazoo Civil Engineer Fred Nagler, Washington Writers Academy Principal John Klein and 2nd grade teacher Mark Reid. Upon the students’ findings, Mr. Nagler already incorporated some of their recommendations to make it safe for students to walk or bike to school. Safe Routes to School is an international movement, and now a federal program to make it safe, convenient and fun for children to bicycle or walk to school, and to get the regular physical activity children need for good health. This initiative also helped ease traffic jams and air pollution, unite neighborhoods, and contribute to students’ readiness to learn in school. The concept was developed and supported by CCE chair Haluk Aktan and the advisory board (http://www.wmich.edu/cce/boardmembers.php#bell), in partnership with MDOT. The implementation, organization, and logistics of the project were made possible by CEAS Associate Dean Professor Edmund Tsang, WMU Center for Service Learning director Ms. Kathy Purnell and MDOT planner Darrell G. Harden. WMU’s Student Chapter of the American Society of Civil Engineers are also supporting SRTS by mentoring the first-year students on transportation engineering concepts and principles required for successful and implementable design. The SRTS project will be identifying a partner school for each fall semester, preferably within the Kalamazoo and Portage school systems. Lessons learned from the first implementation of SRTS in the Fall Semester of 2010 will guide future work. For information on partnerships and benefits contact Kathy Purnell at (269) 387-2139 or kathy.purnell@wmich.edu.

Dr. Brian Young has spent most of his career in the area of bioprocess engineering during his 24 years in the pharmaceutical, immunodiagnostic and vaccine industries. He plans to build his research program here in chemical engineering on this foundation of experience, with the help of some of our outstanding chemical engineering life science undergraduates and M.S. and Ph.D. graduate students, and with our local industrial partners. As a graduate student in the department of chemical engineering at the University of Wisconsin, Madison, he studied blood-material interactions with polymeric biomaterials for use in medical devices such as the artificial heart. There he also worked with professors from the school of medicine and pharmacy. During his 24 year career in industrial R&D, Dr. Young as a scientist or manager of scientists, has studied mammalian cell culture, bacterial fermentation, and enzymatic biotransformation of both small molecules (chemicals and steroids) and large molecules (proteins, enzymes and vaccines), as well as their isolation and purification strategies and methodologies. Dr. Young is working on acquiring equipment for doing research in many of the bioprocessing areas noted above as well as related areas through developing relationships with local industry. Opportunities to move into biomedical research will also be pursued as the medical school program advances. One program area that Dr. Young is currently focusing on is development of simple biosensors. Biosensor research, development and commercialization in medical diagnostics, food quality control, environmental monitoring and national defense are intense and are continuing to receive significant attention. In contrast to most, if not all of the work on-going in this area, Dr. Young’s aim is to develop a very low cost and simple immunodiagnostic assay platform technology that can be used throughout the world (a >$10 billion industry) with the intent of ultimately transforming the current industry.
In December, Dr. Pnina Ari-Gur, professor of Mechanical & Aeronautical Engineering, on sabbatical at the University of Auckland in New Zealand, welcomed her research collaborators from the Russian Academy of Sciences in Moscow to WMU. The scientists were Professor Vladimir Shavrov and Dr. Victor Koledov, scientists at the Institute of Radioengineering and Electronics, the Russian Academy of Sciences, Moscow. The visitors and Ari-Gur presented a seminar together on Dental Applications of Shape memory Alloys. They also had meetings with Ari-Gur and her colleagues at Auckland, and combined scientific discussions with a taste of the beautiful views of New Zealand.

Student and Alumni Accolades

Jessica Hartl, a mechanical engineering major and a teaching assistant (TA) for IME 1420 Engineering Graphics, has earned the “Best TA for the Fall 2010” Award. This is the second consecutive time Hartl has won the award. She was also voted “Best TA for the spring 2010.” Hartl won the awards in secret ballots of all the TAs who instruct the IME 1420 labs for each semester’s more than 300 students. Slobodan Urdarevik, the lead faculty for first-year engineering graphics courses, presented Hartl with both awards. Hartl has served as an IME 1420 TA for the past three years. After six semesters as a TA, she said that “students are getting more fluent in AutoCAD every semester.” For Hartl, “the most challenging task of a TA is to get students enthusiastic” about the work. “IME 1420 is a beginning course, but I want the students to know how important the material is,” she said. “I want them to understand that AutoCAD and drafting can lead into programs that incorporate so much more.” Hartl, who came to WMU from Wayland, Mich., is a member of the Lee Honors College. As a first-semester freshman enrolled in the course for which she now serves as a TA, Hartl won the fall 2007 AutoCAD competition, which is held every semester for the IME 1420 students. She was the first female winner. At the time, she credited Wayland High School and the Allegan Technical Center for providing the background experience in manual drafting, CAD, and AutoCAD. “The first time I took drafting, I loved it,” she said. She plans to graduate in April 2012 with a BS in Engineering and minors in math and physics. Her ideal career would be in automotive design. “That’s what I love and what I want,” she said.

Last spring the Western Michigan University student chapter of TAGA competed in the 62nd annual TAGA conference held in San Diego, CA. This competition focuses on student publications and every year each school designs and publishes their own book comprised of student papers. During this conference, students were also able to attend seminars as well as network with other schools and potential employers. The WMU team won the award for best technical writing for their book, titled “Evolution: A History of Print.” The 63rd annual conference is coming up and will be held in Pittsburgh, PA from March 6th to the 9th. WMU will once again be competing in this competition and have already started working on this year’s book. More students have shown interest in the competition this year and have already presented some great ideas for the book. The team is currently looking for sponsors as well and any help is greatly appreciated. For more information please visit: http://www.wmich.edu/pci/taga/

Finite Element Basics & Refined Bridge Structure Analysis Hands-on Workshop: March 2nd & 3rd, 2011 8:00AM - 5:00PM EST. This two-day workshop will help participants enhance their bridge modeling and analysis expertise. The hands-on learning environment will help individuals develop structural bridge models, apply loads, perform analysis, troubleshoot problems, and interpret results. For registration, schedule, and agenda, please visit: http://michiganltap.org/workshop/brochures/2011_Finite_Elements_Flyer.pdf

Prospective new students and their parents are invited to join us Saturday, March 12 from 9 a.m.-noon for an in-depth Open House on Paper Engineering as a major. Our 60+ year old program at WMU, career opportunities, and Paper Technology Foundation Scholarships of $26,000+ will be discussed. Also, meet with current WMU PE students and faculty to take a tour of our new $72 million Engineering College. The event is free and to register please visit: http://www.wmich.edu/pci/latest/lastest.html

More than 250 middle and high school students from Southwest Michigan will gather for the Region 10 Science Olympiad competition Saturday, March 19, at Western

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Michigan University. Young scientists will compete in over 40 different events designed to test competitor’s knowledge of physical, applied, and health science areas. The top three middle schools and top three high schools will move onto the state competition in May. The Science Olympiad is a national, nonprofit organization designed to promote scientific literacy among all students, a goal shared by education, business, industry and government. Visit their website for complete background and information: http://www.soinc.org/welcome. The Region 10 tournament director is Scot Conant of WMU’s College of Engineering and Applied Sciences. For more information, contact Scot Conant at scot.conant@wmich.edu or (269) 276-3272.

Assessment of Student Learning

Five Ts’ai Lun/TAPPI officers attended May’s TAPPI PaperCon 2010. President Andrew Loveland, Vice President Phil Slesinski, Secretary Danielle Boyd, Treasurer Liz Bishop and Publicity Director Dan Rickli enjoyed their time meeting with industry insiders and learning about new trends and issues affecting the paper and allied industries. Our student officers also assisted program chairs throughout the weekend, as well as enjoyed a get-together with TAPPI’s Couch Pit members. Connecting with TAPPI executives also added to the full weekend. Both Danielle and Dan now serve as student members of TAPPI’s Student Summit and TAPPI’s Young Professionals Organization respectively. The 2010 TAGA team was comprised of Jeff Bergkamp, Chelsea Wilson, Tim Pietrack, Robert Grotans, George Havlir, Katie Stickels; SCA Tour Guides Scott Storch and Steve Buzalski; Student Recruitment Officers Nikki Perk and Kyle Vincenti.

This fall, 32 paper and chemical students boarded a charter bus to visit the Appleton and Neenah areas of Wisconsin on an industry sponsored field trip. Voith North America sponsored the trip, providing the transportation, hotel accommodations and meals for the WMU students. Students toured the three manufacturing facilities: Voith Fabrics, Voith Paper and Voith Coverings. They were impressed with the supplier-based aspect of the business. Appleton Paper greeted the students for some fun time at their historical training facility before dinner and overview of the company’s research and development work. Current co-op paper engineering student, Sean Clark, presented his current duties and responsibilities. The next day, students toured the Paper Discover Museum to consider the history of paper, before touring SCA Tissue Mill. Current co-op paper engineering student Savanna Manchester coordinated the tours and presentation of this tissue and towel manufacturing facility. The students appreciated the variety of industry related work and are excited about the possibility of working with these three industry friends of WMU.

Haenicke Institute for Global Education

Items of Academic Interest

Western Michigan University and the University of Passau invite applications for a short-term faculty exchange. The Visiting Professor will spend a month at one of the newest of the German universities in the lovely region of Bavaria. The visit affords ample opportunity for research and interaction with Passau faculty. The Visiting Professor is usually invited to give one or two lectures on their area of expertise. The relationship between our two universities is entering its third decade and has provided many opportunities for cross-cultural interchange. This opportunity is open to faculty members from any discipline. The University of Passau will serve as host, provide office space, access to the university facilities and housing in the city. The exchange should take place during a one-month period in May or June. German language skills are not required. Interested applicants should submit a brief letter of interest, including a proposed list of topics they might like to speak on, and a curriculum vitae to michelle.metro-roland@wmich.edu by Wednesday, March 16.

Haworth College of Business

Items of Academic Interest

Food industry leaders will gather on Monday and Tuesday, March 28 and 29, to discuss the consumer and the changing economy during Western Michigan University’s 46th annual Food Marketing Conference. Vicki Escarra, president and CEO of Feeding America, will discuss “Fighting Hunger in America” as part of the conference, which annually draws more than 400 food industry executives to Kalamazoo. The event will be held at the Radisson Plaza Hotel with the theme “Leading in a Time of Consumer and Economic Change.” Additional key speakers include the following:

- James Russo, Vice President, Global Consumer Insights, the Nielsen Company - “The Consumer and The Economy”

Continued on next page
• John Pepper, Chairman of the Board, the Walt Disney Company - “Leading in a Time of Major Change”
• Jack Sinclair, Executive Vice President - Grocery Division, Wal-Mart Stores - “The Consumer Environment 2011”

The Annual Food Marketing Conference is presented by WMU’s Food and Consumer Packaged Goods Marketing Program in the Haworth College of Business. Proceeds from the conference support food and consumer package goods marketing scholarships and related program operations. For further information on additional speakers and the conference, including cost and registration details, call the event hotline at (269) 387-2132 or visit the 2011 Food Marketing Conference online at: www.wmich.edu/foodmarketing/fmc/

Faculty and Staff Accolades

Dr. Roberta Schultz, associate professor of marketing, is now serving as an associate editor for the American Journal of Business.

Presentations:
• Falan, S. and Han, B. (2011). An interdisciplinary approach to the development of health information systems project: A paradigm shift. American Association of Colleges of Nursing Master’s Education Conference, February 25. (In addition to Falan and Han, the research abstract was submitted by Dr. Linda Zoeller, Bronson School of Nursing, College of Health and Human Services, and Dr. Michael Tarn, Department of BIS, Haworth College of Business).
• Palan, K. and Bakir, A. (2011). Children’s ads: Do cross-cultural differences exist in advertising practices. (Accepted for presentation at the 2011 Academy of Marketing Science World Marketing Congress to be held July 19-23, Reims Management School, Reims, Champagne, France.)

Publications:
• Targowski, A. (2010). The cognitive informatics approach towards wisdom. Dialogue and Universalism, 9-10. Dr. Andrew Targowski, professor of business information systems, published the Proceedings on Sustaining the Business of Health Care in America. The conference took place at the Haworth College of Business on September 25, 2010. In addition to Targowski, the published proceedings included three additional professors from the College: Dr. Jim DeMello, Dr. Satish Deshpande, and Dr. Bernard Han.

Upcoming Events

March 23
• Event: Distinguished Speaker Series - Sheldon Stone, BS ’78, MA ’79, partner, Amherst Partners LLC, will speak on the General Motors bankruptcy, subsequent reorganization and sale of assets

March 25
• Event: Keystone Community Bank Breakfast Series - Ron Winter, National Football League official, and professor emeriti, Dept. of Health, Physical Education and Recreation, will speak on “Inside the NFL's Third Team on the Field”
• Time: Continental breakfast is at 7:30 a.m. with presentation to follow at 8 a.m.
• RSVP to Shawna.Cassada@wmich.edu or by calling 269.387.6059

March 28 and 29
• Event: 46th Annual Food Marketing Conference
• Location: Radisson Plaza Hotel in downtown Kalamazoo
• For more information visit: www.wmich.edu/foodmarketing/fmc/

March 25 - 27
• Event: Startup Weekend - From Idea to Launch in 54 Hours Startup Weekend is coming to WMU’s Haworth College of Business. Startup Weekend is a 54-hour startup program that provides the networking, resources, and incentives for individuals and teams to go from idea to launch. The event is open to anyone interested in the local entrepreneurial community, and it puts participants in a setting where anything is possible. In the past two years, 280+ startups have started and 9,000 entrepreneurs have been inspired. Throughout the weekend, teams will have access to business leaders from around the community to help nurture and grow their ideas. Members of the MISBTDC, the Southwest Michigan Innovation Center, and other local companies will all be present for support and guidance.
• Times: (Please come any time)
  Friday: 5:30 p.m. - 10 p.m.
  Saturday: 9 a.m. - 10 p.m.
  Sunday: 9 a.m. - 6:30 p.m
• For further information contact: ryan.c.goins@gmail.com with any questions.

June 10 and 11
• Event: Fifth Facing East Facing West conference - a multidisciplinary conference on North America’s relations with Asian countries
• Location: Fetzer Center
• For more information visit: www.wmich.edu/business/fefwconference/
Lee Honors College

Student and Alumni Accolades

Congratulations to the following honors college students who were recently named Presidential Scholars by the department of their major: Sarah J. Nott (Gwen Frostic School of Art; Medallion Scholar), Anthony G. Shaw (Biological Sciences), Jacqueline K. Luedtke (School of Communication), Brittany N. Tovar (Comparative Religion), Staci L. Stutsman (English; Medallion Scholar), Darin W. Howard (Environmental Studies Program), Debra C. Wade (Family and Consumer Sciences), Jeffrey T. Heyn (Foreign Languages), Michelle K. Kachman (Gender and Women’s Studies Program), Benjamin T. Roush (Geography; Medallion Scholar), El-Hachemi Y. Bouali (Geosciences), Garrett E. Marsh (Mathematics), Hana Beloglavec (School of Music), Julia S. Mitchell (Music Theatre Performance; Medallion Scholar), Heenashee I. Patel (WMU Bronson School of Nursing), Joseph D. Walsh II (Philosophy), Stephanie L. Hodek (Political Science), Erica L. Kasemodel (Psychology), Natalie M. Grandy (Sociology), Shannon N. Hill (Theatre). We are pleased and proud of each of you and your accomplishments!

LHC alumnus Adam Eaton, ’10, may leave quite a trail through the Kalamazoo community via the work he and fellow team members performed for their senior Engineering project, which also served as Adam’s honors thesis. The “Kalamazoo River Valley Trail - Academy Street to Westnedge Avenue” created the draft construction documents necessary for the project, showed modification options to existing walkways, and estimated the cost of the trail segment, potentially saving the City of Kalamazoo significant time and money.

The plan, which maps out how to connect existing trail segments to both WMU and Kalamazoo College campuses, was developed and mentored by WMU’s John S. Polasek (Civil and Construction Engineering) and the City of Kalamazoo’s assistant city engineer Fred Nagler. Details of the project were discussed by Eaton in an interview with the Kalamazoo Gazette published on December 10, 2010.

The Lee Honors College has begun to implement ideas presented by former Medallion Scholar and alumnus Maximilian Clark, ’08, in his honors thesis, “The Medallion Program: Moving Beyond Mere Competition.” Max suggests that the honors college should work to create stronger connections within the Scholar community, and outlines several options for enhancing the experience of Medallion Scholars while at WMU. Our first efforts this year have been to host meetings of Medallions both by class and college.

Welcomed enthusiastically by all able to attend, these meetings have allowed the Scholars to share information on courses, programs, and interests as well as providing the upperclassmen with a mentoring opportunity. Plans by the freshmen and sophomore classes to begin long-term service projects as a group were an additional outcome of the initial meetings. The freshmen class is working with Edison Environmental Science Academy in Kalamazoo to provide mentoring to its students over the next four years. The sophomores are considering a project involving the Stuart Avenue historical district in Kalamazoo. Future Scholars will be encouraged to find and implement their own class projects.

The Lee Honors College was pleased to host professional photographer Ed Wargin this semester for a series of workshops titled “Photographing on Location” which focused on the world of photography and publication. Seven honors college students (Heather Marcus, Michael Bruny-Groth, Jeremy Conley, Conrad Meekhof, Scott Preston, Sean Pickett, and Nathan Edwards) gathered for the four multiple-day sessions, which included shoots on location in Muskegon and Grand Rapids. In addition to learning basic photography skills from a master, the students were given inside information on publishing their work. The sessions culminated in Mr. Wargin submitting selections from the participants’ efforts during the seminar to the state’s “Pure Michigan” campaign for possible use in marketing materials. Photographs from these students will also be featured as part of his “Fresh Coast Blog.” The Lee Honors College began their relationship with Mr. Wargin as a sponsor of “The Fresh Coast Project,” an effort by which the photographer intends to capture on film the coastline of the Great Lakes as we know it today and preserve the images for future generations. More information about the project and Mr. Wargin along with samples of his work may be found at www.thefreshcoastproject.com.
University Libraries

Items of Academic Interest

Education Librarian, Brad Dennis seeks to support the research of faculty and students in the College of Education and Human Development by working in innovative collaborative ways. Prof. Dennis works closely with Dr. Allison Kelaher-Young as an “embedded librarian.” He meets with her classes on multiple occasions throughout the semester. Students are guided in searching for journal articles, book reviews, and educational statistics. At each research session Prof. Dennis tailors specific assignments to explore individual databases. The consistent contact with an information specialist allows students to excel in research methods. In the fall semester Dr. Kelaher-Young added Prof. Dennis to her classes as a co-instructor. Thus he was available to answer questions through the e-learning system. In one class of twenty-seven students he responded to seventeen questions in person at University Libraries or by phone. Prof. Dennis maintains that this type of collaboration is one of the most rewarding experiences he has had with students. “The end results are quite spectacular.” He invites other instructors to take advantage of his expertise and availability (brad.dennis@wmich.edu).

University Libraries is recognized by other libraries for its quality music cataloging. In September 2008, WMU’s library cataloging unit was one of 46 libraries throughout the United States to be accepted into the OCLC Enhance Program for music. Becoming part of this program required that our own music catalog records were reviewed and critiqued by judges who are experts in the field of musical score description, access, and retrieval. Being part of the OCLC Enhance Program allows our music catalogers, Lois Tolhurst and Anne-Marie Adams, to edit and correct cataloging records for musical scores in the OCLC WorldCat catalog. OCLC is a global cataloging utility headquartered in Ohio used by academic, public, and special libraries. Library catalogers have been enhancing and updating our locally produced musical recordings held in the WMU Harper C. Maybee Music and Dance Library as well. These are recordings of WMU musical concerts and performances created since 1974. Augmenting these records with the names of the soloists, including student musicians, provides added access points for retrieving the recordings. Originally cataloging records for these recordings included only basic information. The enriched cataloging has incorporated name and title subject headings so that they are more visible to library users. Now when users search the WMU Libraries catalog they are able to see the diversity of our music programs. Currently recordings made from 1974 through 1995 have enhanced cataloging records. Prof. Greg Fitzgerald, WMU’s Music and Dance Librarian, underscores the importance of our music cataloging program: “The field of music involves specialized formats requiring thorough and accurate description for successful access. Participation in Enhance is national recognition of our catalogers’ expertise. Their contributions to OCLC through this program, as well as the enriched cataloging for our unique materials, will benefit users of music collections at WMU and worldwide.”

Professional development is central to the advancement of library professionals at University Libraries. Ms. Megan E. Brown, night supervisor in Government Documents, completed a Master’s degree in Library and Information Science in December 2010. Her commentary reveals how support systems at University Libraries enabled her to pursue the degree and how her current position will benefit from the advanced learning. “I graduated from Wayne State University’s

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School of Library and Information Science program in December with a concentration in academic libraries. It was a great experience, but what made it better are my experiences at Waldo Library as an evening supervisor. I am lucky enough to have many great resources at my disposal here at Waldo. It isn’t just the access to books and journals, but also the knowledge of my co-workers. They were always willing to share and help when I had questions for them. Having these personal connections was an essential resource to my success in graduate school. Seeing the lessons learned in classes come to life in the library gave me a greater and deeper understanding of the material being taught. Additionally, Waldo offers the LeFevre scholarship to its employees who are pursuing their MLIS degree. I was fortunate to have been selected for this scholarship last year and was able to pay for two classes with the money I was awarded. The current trend in libraries is towards digital information—including books, periodicals and reference help. To fit the needs of their users, libraries have to work hard to be aware of and provide their patrons with what they want. Waldo Library is doing a wonderful job keeping up on this trend and working to offer more to students, faculty, and other users digitally,” said Brown.


Student and Alumni Accolades

On December 8, 2010, University Libraries and the Friends of the University Libraries awarded Library Student Employee scholarships to Jessica Beach (Science Reference) and David McNish (Stacks). McNish and Beach both received a $500 scholarship for the spring 2011 semester. The scholarship is awarded biannually to help recognize and award outstanding student employees. Since its inception in January 2010, four library student employees have received the scholarship. The scholarship focuses on student performance as an employee rather than academic achievement, though student employees must be in good academic standing (2.0 GPA minimum) to apply. Scholarship applications are evaluated by a committee comprised of staff, faculty, and a representative from the Friends of the University Libraries. The goal of the scholarship is to offset the rising costs of education, support student employees in their academic endeavors, and recognize exceptional service to the University Libraries. The scholarship is funded through a generous continuing contribution from the Friends of the University Libraries and individual donations from the WMU community. The next scholarship(s) will be awarded in April 2011.

College of Health and Human Services

Items of Academic Interest

Starting January 18, 2011, the weekly Mesa Espanol (Spanish Table) at CHHS will be held each Tuesday in room 3267, CHHS from 12-1 p.m. These sessions are led by WMU graduate student, Carolina Gonzalo Llera, who is from Argentina and teaches in the WMU Spanish Department. Faculty, staff and students at all levels of fluency in the Spanish language are invited to these lively and fun sessions, which are free and provide an informal way to develop language skills that will be useful for health care professionals. For more information, contact Dr. Maureen Mickus at maureen.mickus@wmich.edu

Faculty and Staff Accolades

On February 24-26, at the National Hearing Conservation Association Annual Meeting in Mesa, Arizona, Department of Speech Pathology and Audiology Associate Professor Dr. Greg Flamme will collaborate in several podium sessions and poster presentations. He and fourth year audiology doctoral (AuD) student Nathan Williams will present on...
the hearing problems of sports officials in Michigan and the acoustic characteristics of whistles used by sports officials. He and fourth year AuD student Kristy Deiters—along with his research team, AuD student colleagues, and Taft Laboratories (CDC/NIOSH) representatives—will present on the typical noise exposure profiles of adults, by occupation. Also, Dr. Flamme and colleagues from Michigan, Ohio, Colorado, and Illinois will present on: 1) the effectiveness of hearing protectors for hunters and shooters; 2) auditory risk from starter pistols like those used at sporting events; and 3) noise exposure for hunters using enclosures like hunting blinds.

Dr. Maureen Mickus, associate professor in the WMU Department of Occupational Therapy, has been appointed to the Board of Directors for the Program of All Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE). PACE is a capitated health care organization featuring a comprehensive service delivery system and integrated Medicare and Medicaid financing for older frail adults. The program is designed to provide services to elders to assist them in living at home. Dr. Mickus was also recently the invited speaker for Kalamazoo Professionals in Aging. Culture and Aging was the title of her talk, and it centered on findings from her FRACAA-funded study related to linking non-English speaking elders in local nursing homes with WMU international students.

WMU Bronson School of Nursing (BSON) Assistant Professor Dr. Sharie Falan and Haworth College of Business (HCoB) Professor Dr. Bernard Han will give a podium presentation entitled “An Interdisciplinary Approach to the Development of Health Information Systems Project: A Paradigm Shift” at the American Association of Colleges of Nursing Master’s Education Conference on February 25, 2011. The research abstract was submitted by Dr. Falan, Dr. Han, BSON Director Dr. Linda Zoeller, and Dr. Michael Tarn, chair of the Business Information Systems Department at HCoB. Dr. Falan will also present “Driving Care Forward: The Influence of Technology on Research and Practice” at the Bronson Nursing Research Conference entitled: Linking the Evidence to Practice on February 24, 2011. Dr. Falan’s recent publications include: Falan, S. (2010). Concept analysis of similarity applied to nursing diagnoses: Implications for educators. International Journal of Nursing Terminologies and Classifications, 21(4), 144-155; Falan, S. (2010). Identifying nursing concepts: Are we similar. International Journal of Nursing Terminologies and classifications, 21(3), 108-115; and Han, B., & Falan, S. (2010). Developing Effective Health Information Technology Systems: One Step Beyond the EMR/EHR. In Health Care Crisis and Hope: Sustaining the Business of Health Care in America, edited by Dr. Gary Ruoff and Dr. Andrew Targowski, 99-106.

Scot Pott, adjunct assistant professor in the Department of Speech Pathology and Audiology and President of the Michigan Deaf Association, has been asked to participate in a referent group as part of State Board of Education’s Low Incidence Disabilities Teacher Preparation Initiative (LID - TPI). This initiative is in response to a charge from the State Board of Education to recommend 21st Century solutions for the preparation of teachers for students with low incidence disabilities. The initiative is being led by Dr. Jacquelyn Thompson, the former State Director of Special Education. Mr. Pott is also a committee member of Deaf/Hard of Hearing/Deaf-Blind Awareness 2011 Day at the Michigan State Capitol.

Upcoming Events

On March 12 and 13, 2011 at the WMU College of Health and Human Services, the WMU Holistic Health Care Program and Sangha Yoga of Kalamazoo will hold Awakening the True Power of Yoga, SUN, MOON & FIRE, workshop sessions presented by Rod Stryker, the founder of ParaYoga® and widely considered one of the country’s leading yoga and meditation teachers. Registration costs are $200 for the whole weekend ($170 with WMU student ID) and $60 per individual class ($50 with WMU student ID). Each class includes both theory and practice and all levels are welcome. For further information and registration, visit sanghayoga.com.

CHHS faculty, staff and graduate assistants are invited to attend two Lunch & Learn sessions that are part of Dean Earlie Washington’s Take a Break stress reduction/self-care series, sponsored by the Holistic Health Care Program (HOL). The sessions are both on Wednesdays from 12-1 p.m. in CHHS room 3021. A $5.00 fee includes a healthy lunch. Session facilitators will be Christina Minger, EdD, LPC, HOL instructor and former director of the Metabolic Clinic at the Heart Center for Excellence, and Thom Britton, Heritage Community of Kalamazoo Chef and cooking teacher. The March 16 program, Understanding Inflammation, will explain how the inflammatory process and how to reduce it by eating the appropriate foods. The March 30 program, Why Can’t I Lose Weight - understanding the metabolic puzzle, will discuss some of the problematic issues regarding weight loss and metabolic syndrome. For more information, contact Gay Walker at gay.walker@wmich.edu
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College of Fine Arts

Faculty and Staff Accolades

**Cat Crotchett**, Frostic School of Art professor of art, has been named the Artist of the Month by R&F Handmade Paints of New York (www.rfpaints.com).

**Jane Baas**, professor and academic advisor in the WMU Department of Dance, has been appointed by the Council for International Exchange of Scholars (CIES), to serve on the 2010-11 U.S. Studies - Theater and Dance Peer Review Committee for the Fulbright Specialist Program. Baas will represent a range of specializations and institutions, who will review applications during this review term. Baas has been on the dance faculty at WMU since 1981 and served as department chair from 1996 - 2001. She received her BS and MA degrees in dance from WMU and her MFA in dance from Case Western Reserve University. She is currently Media Committee chair for the International Association for Dance Medicine and Science and frequently presents at IADMS Annual Meetings. Baas’ research focuses on dancer wellness and she currently teaches kinesiology, conditioning, modern dance, dance history and choreography.

Student and Alumni Accolades

**Aubrey Johnson** (BM, 2007) is a vocal music instructor at the Berklee College of Music in Boston.

**Derek Lyp**, School of Music, has been named one of three finalists in the International Trombone Association’s bass trombone solo competition for students 18 and under. Lyp, a freshman, studies with WMU professor of music **Steven Wolfenberger**. Dr. Wolfenberger said, “As a high school senior this past year, Derek was highly recruited by and admitted into schools like The Oberlin Conservatory, so there were major music schools wanting him to attend. He’s a great kid and a talented performer, so it will be a pleasure having him in my trombone studio over the next four years.” This isn’t the first time Wolfenberger’s students have been selected to compete at the International Trombone Festival. In recent years, **Hana Beloglavec** won two ITA competitions, while **Eric Bowman** won one and was a finalist in another. Bass trombonist **Evan Conroy** also was a finalist.

**Kathleen Rose Perkins** (BFA, 1995) stars in “Episodes” which airs Sundays at 9:30 p.m. on Showtime. It is also airing on the BBC 2 channel in England. The show features Matt Leblanc, Tamsin Greig, and Stephen Mangan, and is written and produced by David Crane, co-creator of “Friends,” and Jeffrey Klarik, writer of “Mad About You.” Perkins credits include “Without a Trace”, “How I Met Your Mother”, “Suzanne’s Diary for Nicholas”, a recurring role on HBO’s “Tell Me You Love Me” and Michael Bay’s “The Island.”

Upcoming Events


March 19
- Event: 31st Annual Gold Company Invitational Vocal Jazz Festival
  - Time: 8 p.m.
  - Location: Dalton Center Recital Hall

March 20
- Event: University Symphony Orchestra, **Bruce Uchimura**, Conductor
  - Time: 3 p.m.
  - Location: Miller Auditorium

March 26 and 27
- Event: Opera, Benjamin Britten’s “Albert Herring”
  - Time: Saturday: 8 p.m. and Sunday: 2 p.m.
  - Location: Dalton Center Recital Hall

College of Education and Human Development

Faculty and Staff Accolades

Special Education and Literacy Studies assistant professor, **Dr. Allison Baer**, co-wrote an article with colleague **Dr. Jackie Glasgow**, Ohio University, titled “Negotiating Understanding through the Young Adult Literature of Muslim Cultures.” The article was recently selected as the recipient of the 2011 Virginia Hamilton Essay Award. Established in 1991, the Virginia Hamilton Essay Award recognizes a journal article published in a given year which makes a significant contribution to professional literature concerning multicultural literary experiences for youth. The award is given annually at the Virginia Hamilton Conference on Multicultural Literature. The conference is held at Kent State University each spring.

Along with 2 other experts from Columbia University and University of New Brunswick (Canada), **Dr. Gary Miron** from the College of Education and Human Development has

Continued on next page
been invited by the Dutch government to provide advice on reforms involving expansion of school choice and teacher evaluation systems. The team of international experts will work with officials from the Dutch government and Ministry of Education in the Hague during the first week of March. Dr. Miron also recently published a review of a policy report from the Brookings Institute entitled “Rethinking the Federal Role in Education.” This was published by the National Education Policy Center, where Dr. Miron serves as a national education policy fellow.

Two College of Education and Human Development professors will continue to assist the Benton Harbor Area Schools with its K-12 literacy initiative, with a special emphasis on middle school children, from fifth through eighth grades. Those efforts will be overseen by WMU literacy studies professors Lauren Freedman and Karen Thomas who are advisers to the Southwest Regional Center in Benton Township.

**Drs. Paul Farber and Dini Metro-Roland** from the Department of Teaching, Learning and Educational Studies recently published an article in the Philosophy of Education Society Yearbook (2010) called, “Lost Causes: Online Instruction and the Integrity of Presence.” In this article they examine the emergence and character of online instruction in higher education. In particular, they focus on two different forms of presence, virtual and embodied, and the modes of possibility and educational ideals to which they gravitate. While online instruction tends to focus on the ideal of utility of presence, the redeeming quality of traditional instruction emerges, in their view, from what they call the integrity of presence. Examining such presence, they contend that there are vital forms of educational experience that are more characteristic to, and may even require, the embodied presence of face-to-face instruction.

**Dr. Jiabei Zhang** and **Yuanlong Liu**, professors in the Department of Health, Physical Education and Recreation, were invited as keynote speakers to the 2010 Hunan Physical Educator Symposium. This symposium was held at Hunan Normal University, Changsha, Hunan, People’s Republic of China, from November 25-27, 2010. They presented a series of lectures primarily focusing on A Three-Demission-Model of Physical Education Instruction and A Multiple-Component-System of Physical Education Practice at American Schools. There were about 400 attendees participating in this symposium. Zhang and Liu also gave two invited keynote addresses to about 150 attendees at the 2010 National Leadership Forum of Sport and Physical Education Colleges and Universities in the People’s Republic of China. This forum was held at East China Normal University, Shanghai, People’s Republic of China, November 23, 2010. Dr. Zhang’s presentation addressed Primary Philosophies of American School Physical Education Reform and Unique Characteristics of American Physical Education Teacher Training Programs, while Dr. Liu’s speaking placed the emphasis on Practical Analysis of Tenure-Track System and Evaluation Procedure for Physical Education Professors at American Colleges and Universities. Their presentations were sponsored by Hunan Continuing Education Guidance Center for School Teachers and East China Normal University.

**Student and Alumni Accolades**

Several Textile and Apparel Studies students showcased their work in the design exhibit in January in Kohrman Hall. Family and Consumer Sciences graduate assistant **Nicole Eckerson** hosted the event and welcomed the public for viewing of outstanding student designs.
The ExSci Club traveled to Gaylord, MI to attend the annual Michigan American College of Sports Medicine (MIACSM) Conference on Thursday February 3rd and 4th. Attendees of the conference were Amy Gyorkos, the faculty advisor for the student group, Kelly Frame, Lauren Jansen, Brian Stogsdill, Brittany Gentile, and Kevin Marchelletta. The student group is actively pursuing an initiative called “Exercise is Medicine” and is excited to promote these ideas on the campus and the nearby community of Western Michigan University. “Exercise is Medicine” is an initiative that will promote exercise on campus in a variety of creative ways to improve the health and well-being of those involved.

Two WMU members of the Student Michigan Education Association (SMEA) volunteered at the 2011 Scholastic Book Fair. Pictured are SMEA e-board members Sara Coleman (left) and SMEA member Kyla Marshall (right). SMEA will also host a read-a-thon at Northeastern Elementary School on March 2nd. Please visit www.rso.wmich.edu/sea/events for more info.

In partnership with Special Olympics Michigan, Area 16 - Kalamazoo County, WMU Health, Physical Education and Recreation students participated in Unified Floor Hockey, Golf, Basketball and Bowling programs.

In honoring one of their coordinators, the Office of Field Placements has established the Terry Kuseske Intern Award. Terry Kuseske lost his battle with pancreatic cancer in September 2010. He had been very involved in community service, serving as a Kalamazoo City Commissioner. Mentor teachers and coordinators were asked to nominate outstanding students who were interning during the fall semester. The screening committee received a total of seven nominations. The committee had stressed the importance of community involvement in honor of Terry's commitment to his community. After reviewing the nomination packets, the committee selected Chad Kuhlmann and Kaiti Linton as winners for the fall semester. Both received a certificate and a $100 award. Chad Kuhlmann was an intern in a seventh grade social studies class at Paw Paw Middle School. He was recognized for his creative ways of making learning fun. One example was how he secured a 4,000 pound block of concrete and logs from a local business to demonstrate how the Egyptians built the pyramids. His mentor teacher felt that Chad’s military background helped him gain control in the classroom. He demonstrated a fair, but firm, classroom management style. Kaiti Linton interned for third grade at Sunset Lake Elementary School in Vicksburg. She was recognized for writing a Curiosity Grant that allowed the students to participate in a field trip to the Henry Ford Museum. She also volunteered to coach Battle of the Books, which extended through February 2001, two months beyond her internship. She is also planning to coach Girls on the Run this spring. The Office of Field Placements hopes to secure funding in order to present this award to a deserving intern every semester. Terry Kuseske would have been proud to know that Western Michigan University interns are dedicated to serving others in the community.

A popular chemistry fundraiser has reached its halfway mark, garnering $65,000 for graduate-student assistance in the five years since it was launched. The Elemental Chemistry Fund has sold sponsorships for 52 of the 118 elements displayed on a large mural of the periodic table in the first-floor lobby of the Chemistry Building. Alumni, faculty, staff, friends of the department and local industries have purchased sponsorship rights for tiles of the elements included in the table—from $500 for regular elements to $10,000 for precious metals. About $11,000 of what has been raised has been used to help chemistry graduate students, dealing with personal and financial emergencies, continue their education. One student was helped after her apartment was destroyed by fire and two others received aid to return to their home countries in Africa so they could attend the funerals of close relatives.
Dr. Lisa Minnick, associate professor of Linguistics in the Department of English, is scheduled to be one of the two plenary speakers at the International Conference on Dialect and Literature at the University of Sheffield, UK, in July 2011.

Dr. Heather Petcovc (Mallinson Institute for Science Education) has been invited to become a National Association of Geoscience Teachers (NAGT) Distinguished Lecturer for 2010-11.

Dr. Don Kane (Biological Sciences) has been awarded a grant of $399,999 from the National Science Foundation to support the project “The Lineage and Clonal Relationships of the Primitive Blood.” Kane received his Ph.D. at the University of Oregon in 1991. He recently joined the faculty at Western Michigan University as an assistant professor in biological sciences. His research interests are with Vertebrate developmental genetics and Morphogenesis.

Dr. Maarten Vonhof, WMU associate professor of biological sciences, and a team of researchers from the University of Georgia, the University of Tennessee-Knoxville and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control studied samples from 23 species of North American bats for a paper published in early August in the journal Science. Their study on the transmission of rabies between similar species of bats can ultimately provide insight into other emerging viral diseases that may affect humans, such as the flu or SARS, and disease migration strategies that may target future viral cross-species transmission—CST. Their research provides some of the first estimates for any infectious disease of how often CST occurs in complex hosts and the likelihood of disease to become established in a new host species. Vonhof has studied bats for 17 years, including six years at WMU. He earned his doctoral degree from York University in Canada and then obtained post-doctoral experience at the University of Tennessee and Princeton University.

Dr. Jeffrey Angles, from the Department of Foreign Languages, was a visiting foreign researcher at the International Research Center for Japanese in Kyoto, located in western Japan. While there, he conducted a major research project, involving 15 researchers from around Japan and from several other countries. Dr. Angles is currently editing for publication the papers produced by the research group on the history of translation practices in Japanese era of modernization and nationalization. While in Japan, numerous different universities, facilities, and research institutions invited Dr. Angles to give invited talks and workshops at their universities. The sites of his talks ranged from the extreme north of Japan to the very far south. All of these talks, except for one were in Japanese.

Tom Krol, (Medieval Institute) was recognized as the WMU Administrative Professional Association’s Outstanding New Professional of 2009-10.

Dr. Arthur R McGurn (Physics) organized and chaired three sessions of invited papers at the Progress in Electromagnetics Research Symposium (PIERS), July 5-8, 2010, in Cambridge, Massachusetts. The PIERS is held biannually and is one of the functions of the Electromagnetics Academy of which he is a Fellow. McGurn also is a Fellow of the Optical Society of America, the American Physical Society, and the Institute of Physics.) The sessions were composed of talks involving contributors from: USA, Turkey, France, Spain, Australia, Russia, Singapore, India, the Netherlands, the United Kingdom, and China. McGurn gave two talks in these sessions: “Transmission through Kerr Media Waveguide Barriers: Dispersive Properties” and “Analysis of Linear and Non-linear Modes in Lithium Niobate Ferroelectrics.”

Student and Alumni Accolades

Steven Kettner, Media Services and Communication) is the producer/videographer/editor for a series of documentaries of the Fort St. Joseph Archaeology Project produced since the Fort’s discovery. The videos differ in their focus, including methodology, public archaeology, regional historical significance and students’ experiences. Two of the documentaries were selected by the Films for Arts & Humanities for exclusive international distribution; a third was selected for showing on The Archaeology Channel. The videos have been available for purchase, and have been shown in

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local public schools as well. In addition, Kettner was a featured speaker on the video documentation of the field study at the 2009 Kalamazoo Living History Show; guest speaker to a Fort St. Joseph field school classes, and served on the project’s steering committee. Kettner received both his B.A. in History, and M.A. in Communication from WMU, and is celebrating his 20th anniversary of employment with Media Services, and his 18th year as an adjunct professor with the School of Communication.

Mikala Hansen, Department of English playwright (M.F.A.), won a major national award through the Kennedy Center: The National Association of Partners of the American Theatre Annual Playwriting Excellence Award for her full-length play VIKING-AMERICAN. Mikala will spend a week at the Kennedy Center, as well as a week in Vegas at UNLV as part of this intensive program in writing for stage and screen.

Alumnus Penny Smeltzer, an Advanced Placement (AP) statistics teacher at Westwood High School in Round Rock, Texas, has been named the recipient of the third annual O’Donnell Texas AP Teacher Award for her outstanding record in helping high school students master college-level work through rigorous AP courses. She earned a B.S. in Mathematics, History and English from Western Michigan University. Smeltzer received a $30,000 cash prize at a luncheon held in Austin on Jan. 7, at The Academy of Medicine, Engineering and Science of Texas’ (TAMEST) annual membership conference.

**Upcoming Events**

**March 7**
- Event: Department of Physics Colloquium Title: “Ghosts of Evolution Past: Resurrecting an Extinct Ancestral Enzyme to Understand the Origins of Modern-Day Biochemical Activities,” presented by Dr. Todd Barkman
  - Location: 1110 Rood Hall, Refreshments at 3:30 p.m.
  - Time: 4 p.m.

**March 9**
- Event: Lecture Series Title: “Communication and the Pragmatic Tradition,” presented by Gregory Shepherd, Ohio University, Co-sponsored by WMU School of Communication
  - Location: 1028 Brown Hall
  - Time: Noon

**March 15**
- Event: The Gwen Frostic Reading Series Title: “Poet,” presented by Nancy Eimers
  - Location: Bernhard Center 107-108
  - Time: 8 p.m.

**March 16**
- Event: Economics Lecture Title: “China’s Economy: Historical Legacies and Modern Growth,” presented by Dr. Thomas G. Rawski
  - Location: 2028 Brown Hall
  - Time: 3 p.m.

- Event: Lecture Series Title: “Teaching Ethics Workshop Panel,” panelists include Wayne Fuqua, Psychology, Barbara Liggett, Public Affairs and Administration, Katie Reno, Communication
  - Location: 212 Bernhard Center
  - Time: 3:30 p.m.

**Graduate College**

**Items of Academic Interest**

Jan Anderson, owner and president of Beyond Words, Inc., a Midwest Consulting Group Affiliate, will give a writer’s workshop on “How to Get Published in Peer-Reviewed Journals” on Thursday, February 10 in Fetzer Center’s Putney Auditorium. The presentation is designed to help participants meet several objectives. They will gain a better understanding of the peer-reviewed journal publishing process as well as learn the intricacies of the journal selection process. They will recognize writers’ most valuable resources and acquire an understanding of what journals want and expect from authors who submit manuscripts for publication. They will also learn to use a step-by-step process for taking a potential article through a successful publication cycle, as well as develop a successful publication plan.

In preparation for two upcoming grant deadlines, the Graduate College on February 3 sponsored a “Quality Circle Review” for preliminary proposal submissions for the new Graduate Student Assessment Grant and also for the Graduate Student Research and Travel Grants. Graduate College reviewers were available to provide critical feedback to students regarding ways to strengthen their applications and make them more competitive. The deadline for proposal submissions for the new Graduate Student Assessment Grant is March 7, while the deadline for this cycle of Research and Travel Grants is March 15. The Quality Circle Review took place from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. in the Emeriti Lounge at Walwood Hall under the supervision of Dr. Julie Nemire, Director of Awards and Special Projects. The afternoon session took place in the Emeriti Lounge from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. under the direction of Dr. Marianne Di Pierro, Director of the Graduate Center for Research and Retention.

**Upcoming Events**

Graduate Students of Color (GSOC) is hosting a reception for students, faculty and staff on Friday, February 18 from

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4 to 6 p.m. in the Richmond Center in the Frostic School of Art. The event is one of three that GSOC puts on yearly: the other two being an Undergraduate Workshop and the other Mentors-on-the-Move. Graduate Students of Color has the primary function of serving as a support network united underrepresented graduate students at Western Michigan University. They initiate and participate in university and community events for the advancement of underrepresented students. GSOC also collaborates with other organizations in an effort to set an example, guide, and mentor these students. More specifically, GSOC reaches out to undergraduate and high school students to encourage and facilitate entrance into higher education and graduate studies. Their mission is to unite, support, and mentor underrepresented students. They have monthly meetings, generally on the third Sunday of every month. Membership is limited to graduate students and alumni of Western Michigan University who show exemplary behavior and demonstrate dedication, loyalty and self-discipline by attending GSOC events and contributing to the GSOC mission. For more information please contact Cheyla Milo, President, Graduate Students of Color at (269) 387-8209 or at grad-gsoc@wmich.edu.

Dr. Dan Rabinovich, Program Director, Division of Chemistry at the National Science Foundation, will present a lecture on The Life Cycle of an NSF Proposal. The lecture will be held on Monday, February 21 from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in the Putney Lecture Hall at Fetzer Center on WMU’s campus. Faculty, staff and students are invited; no reservations are necessary. Dr. Rabinovich will present an overview of the programs and funding opportunities available at NSF to support the education and research of both students and faculty. Following this overview, he will describe the life cycle of a proposal, starting with proposal preparation and submission. The presentation will focus on the peer-reviewing process, including a summary of the NSF review criteria and the recommendations of awards and declinations. In addition, a number of strategies aimed at improving the writing and organization of a proposal will be discussed. Students, postdoctoral fellows and faculty, at various stages of their career, will benefit from this discussion. The visit is being sponsored by the Graduate College, the Alliance for Graduate Education and the Professoriate (AGEP) and the Department of Chemistry. For more information please contact the Graduate College at (269) 387-8212.

Jennifer Wendling Holm, Coordinator of Theses and Dissertations in the Graduate College, will hold three formatting workshops for the preparation of doctoral dissertations, specialist projects, and master’s theses. These workshops are open to students, faculty and word processors who may be hired by students to process their manuscripts through the formatting cycle. Participants will learn how to interpret the University’s formatting requirements. Helpful information on paperwork requirements, fees, microfilming and copyrighting is also provided. Participants must bring their own copy of “Guidelines for the Preparation of Theses, Projects, and Dissertations” which is available online in pdf.

February 15
• Time: 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.
• Location: Emeriti Lounge, 211 W. Walwood Hall

February 16
• Time: 2p.m. to 3:30 p.m.
• Location: Emeriti Lounge at 211 W. Walwood Hall

February 24
• Time: 4 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.
• Location: Emeriti Lounge, 211 W. Walwood Hall

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