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BIG DATA AND THE INTERNET OF THINGS CONFERENCE

Keynote presentations from industry leaders and researchers as well as a workshop on project management and a demo of SAS data analytics highlight this year's IT Forum on Nov. 4 at WMU's Fetzer Center.

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STUDENTS RECEIVE PRESTIGIOUS SCHOLARSHIPS

Coveted Transportation Club of Detroit scholarships totaling $6,000 will be presented to Aaron McClendon and Emma Stuba at an awards ceremony in October.

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2016 Western Michigan IT Forum

KalamaZoo—Senior IT strategists from Penske Automotive Group and Microsoft headline a conference at Western Michigan University that will focus on Big Data and the Internet of Things.

Hosted by WMU’s Department of Business Information Systems, the conference will be held Friday, November 4, at the Fetzer Center with sessions and workshops for industry, academic and student participants. The event is open to the public. Registration is $100 and includes continental breakfast and lunch.

Penske’s Richard Hook, B.B.A.’96, senior vice president and chief information officer, will present “Driving Technology @ Penske Corporation.” Hook previously served Penske as vice president, IT infrastructure. Prior to joining Penske in 2009, Hook held various positons at Arthur Andersen LLP, H&R Block Financial Advisors and Federal-Mogul Corporation. In addition, he is a Certified Information Systems Security Professional and Certified Information Systems Auditor.

Dan Fay, is the senior director of strategic engagements for Microsoft Research, where he defines and leads engagement strategies for new and emerging technologies. He has led multidisciplinary teams to collaborate on addressing scientific challenges and is developing a new program (Azure for Research) to bring cloud computing to academic researchers. Fay also has project experience working with internet of things, cloud computing, high performance computing, grid computing, and collaboration and visualization tools in scientific research. Before joining Microsoft in 1992, Fay was a senior software engineer with Digital Equipment Corporation. Fay holds a degree in electrical and computer engineering from Northeastern University. Fay’s presentation is titled “Unlocking information with IoT and the Cloud.”

Dr. Kuanchin Chen is a WMU professor of computer information systems. His research interests include electronic business; social networking; business analytics and data science; privacy and security; project management; and human computer interactions. He has published numerous scholarly articles in journals, books, and conference proceedings. Chen has received several research and teaching awards and frequently gives lectures on methodology, research contributions, academic-industry collaborations and various other topics at research centers, higher education institutions and government agencies. Chen will discuss “Business Analytics Education at WMU and in the United States.”

Other special talks and workshops planned
The conference offers numerous speakers, panels, breakout sessions and research presentations, featuring experts representing a variety of industries, including:

- **Joseph Tan**, editor-in-chief of International Journal of Healthcare Information Systems and Informatics, McMaster University, Canada  
  Topic: The Emerging Digitization Revolution: How Big Data/IoTs, Social Media and New Informatics Competencies will Impact on Humanity Future

- **Peter Pearce**, principal, Baker Tilly Management & Technology Consulting, Enterprise Solutions  
  Topic: Modern Cloud Enterprise-wide Business Technology-Big Data, Analytics, Business IoT and the Power of Multi-tenancy

- **Jim VanderMey**, chief innovation officer, Open Systems Technologies  
  Topic: The Business Imperative for Analytics and Organizational Integration in Enterprise IoT Implementations

- **Ganapa Murthy**, senior innovation analyst, Kellogg Company  
  Topic: IoT Wearables Powering “Quantified Self” Movement

- **Dr. Andrew Targowski**, professor of business information systems  
  Topic: From Big Data to Big Wisdom Towards the Integrational Model of Computerized Business-oriented Cognition

- **Guarav Dave**, senior director infrastructure services, WMU  
  Topic: WMU’s Cyber Infrastructure: The Invisible Path

- **Beth Wolniewicz**, higher education specialist, Splunk  
  Topic: IOT and The Art of Possibility: Medicine, Sports, Student Success and the Presidential Election

Two workshops are also planned:

- **SAS Data Analytics Demonstration**, George Habek, senior analytical training consultant, global academic program—Education Practice, Global Academic Program, SAS

- **Agile Project Management Workshop**, Gabrielle B. Haskins, project management professional, chief project officer, Project Executive Coaching, and Mei Lim, senior IT project manager, MESSA

Additionally, multi-track research presentations will provide other perspectives on this year’s theme.

For more information or to register, visit WesternMichiganITForum.com or contact the conference coordinator, Cait Smith, at caitlin.smith@wmich.edu or (269) 387-5411.
Integrated supply management students receive prestigious industry scholarships

BY ALYSSA BENSON
SEPTEMBER 8, 2016 | WMU NEWS

KALAMAZOO, Mich.—Western Michigan University integrated supply management students Aaron McClendon from Westland, and Emma Stuba from La Grange, Illinois, have received two of the coveted Transportation Club of Detroit scholarships for 2016.

The scholarships total $6,000, with Stuba receiving $4,000 and McClendon receiving $2,000, and will be formally presented to the students at an awards ceremony in October. This is the fourth year in a row that WMU students have been recipients of the scholarship.

“Emma and Aaron are both exemplary students who go above and beyond to demonstrate their dedication to their coursework and the supply chain field,” says Dr. Sime Curkovic, professor of supply chain management.

AARON MCCLENDON

McClendon is also a recent recipient of the $10,000 Gary L. Buffington Scholarship awarded by the Industrial Supply Association Education Foundation, and the $5,000 R. Gene Richter Scholarship awarded by the Richter Foundation in partnership with the Institute for Supply Management. This summer he completed his second internship at General Motors as a value chain analyst.

"Winning the TCD Scholarship affords me the freedom to focus more on my passions—to learn and mentor other students during my last year of college,” says McClendon. “This investment is a huge motivating factor for me to finish my undergraduate experience strong and begin my career with confidence.”

EMMA STUBA

Stuba completed a global procurement internship at Marathon Petroleum this summer and has participated in externships with Coyote Logistics, Stryker and John Deere. She was a finalist in the 2016 Haworth College of Business Trailblazers Student Recognition Program, is a part of the college’s Dean’s Leadership Scholar Program and serves as a student ambassador for the college.
"Being an integrated supply management major taught me how important the transportation industry is, and to be considered and awarded a scholarship by the Transportation Club of Detroit means a lot to me,” says Stuba. “This scholarship will help me finance a significant portion of my education, and I cannot thank the Transportation Club of Detroit enough for their generosity."

ABOUT THE ISM PROGRAM

WMU’s integrated supply management program has been recognized nationally by several organizations and publications for its leadership in preparing students for careers in supply chain management. Recent accolades include a No. 2 ranking by Software Advice for emphasis on technology and quantitative methods, a No. 5 undergraduate program ranking from SCM World, and a top 10 program ranking by Gartner. Each year, approximately 100 students graduate from the WMU ISM program with nearly all finding positions in the profession.

For more information about the program, visit wmix.edu/supplychain.

For more news, arts and events, visit wmix.edu/news.