Joint international program in Malta accepting applications for 2010 classes

WMU’s new joint international master’s program with the University of Malta is accepting applications for classes that will begin in that Mediterranean nation in October 2010. The collaborative master’s-level program is structured to allow students to earn one master’s degree in criminology and criminal justice studies from the University of Malta, and another in criminology, law and public policy from WMU.

Thirteen WMU faculty members from the departments of Political Science and Sociology will partner with faculty from the University of Malta—that country’s flagship university—to teach course work in the program.

The collaboration between the two universities is designed as a novel international and interdisciplinary venture that combines the strengths of European and American graduate programs. The curriculum will include theory, research methods and data analysis as well as Mediterranean-based case studies on:

- gender, crime and justice
- environmental crime and justice
- surveillance and security
- state and corporate crime.

The University of Malta, which traces its origins to 1592, is one of the oldest universities in the Mediterranean. Today, the university has some 10,000 students, 750 of whom are foreign students from nearly 80 countries.

Additional information about the program can be found on the University of Malta’s Web site at www.um.edu.mt/imp/content.aspx?id=168553. Information also can be found at www.wmich.edu/politics.

WMU study shows nonprofit EMOs growing steadily

In contrast with their for-profit counterparts, nonprofit education management companies are growing at a steady rate, a study recently released by researchers at WMU and two partner institutions has found.

The new report was released by WMU’s College of Education and Human Development and the Education Policy Research Unit at Arizona State University and Education and the Public Interest Center at the University of Colorado at Boulder. It finds that nonprofit EMOs are garnering more support and are growing steadily, while the growth of for-profit EMOs is slowing.

The study was compiled as part of the 2008-09 edition of “Profiles of Nonprofit Education Management Organizations” and comes after an earlier study examining for-profit EMOs. It was written by Gary Miron, WMU professor of educational leadership, research and technology, and Jessica Urschel, a WMU graduate research assistant. Miron and Urschel also co-wrote the for-profit EMO study with Alex Molnar, a professor at Arizona State University.

Michigan has been leading the way in hiring education management organizations to run charter and conventional public schools. The EMO sector emerged in the 1990s as part of an effort to use market forces to reform public education. Until recently, most attention has been...
Talk to focus on care of elderly

Elder care will be discussed Friday, Dec. 4, during the next Keystone Breakfast Speaker Series presentation. Dawn VandertPolf from Adult Day Services at Oakland Centre and Laura Lalatais from Hospice Care of Southwest Michigan will present the talk in the Dean’s Conference Room in Schneider Hall. The free event begins with breakfast at 7:30 a.m. Reservations are required at 387-5050.

Annual concerts slated for holidays

Two annual musical events honoring the holiday season are on the docket.

Sunday, Dec. 6, the School of Music will present its annual Christmas concert featuring more than 200 student musicians. This year’s holiday extravaganza, “Messiah and More,” will take place at 3 p.m. in Miller Auditorium. Tickets are available at www.millerauditorium.com or WMU-200. All proceeds will support music student scholarships.

Closer to Christmas, the Western Brass Quintet will present its popular holiday concert. This brass celebration of Christmas with guest performers is free and will take place at 3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 20, in the Dalton Center Recital Hall.

Science, modern life examined

Joris Merceles from the University of Ghent, Belgium, will present a public lecture from 5 to 7 p.m. Monday, Dec. 7, in 1720 Chemistry Building called “Leo H. Baekeland and the Struggle for the Control of Bakelite: The Impact of Intellectual Property Regimes.” It will examine Baekeland’s role in many developments in chemistry and everyday applications as well as look at how his inventions led to struggles over ownership of these new plastic compounds and the products they made possible.

Frostic Reading Series continues

Playwrights James Daniels, theatre, and Andris Viskis will be on campus for presentations at 8 p.m. Monday, Dec. 7, in York Arena Theatre as part of the English department’s Frostic Reading Series.

Daniel has been a professional actor for more than 30 years and is the author of four one-person shows, including “Wyatt Earp: The Last Man Standing.” Viskis is a lecturer at Babe-Bolyai University in Romania, as well as a playwright, essayist, poet, philosopher, theologian, dramaturge and publisher. He is the 2009-10 Spoolhof Chair at Calvin College.

Grand opening provides grand entertainment

WMU formally opened its Confucius Institute Nov. 23. The event included an array of cultural performances. The institute will provide new Chinese language and cultural studies options for WMU students and faculty and dramatically expand international opportunities for area K-12 schools and local businesses.

Film director wins national award

Tom Ludwig, English, won a 2009 Voice Awards Honorable Mention for a documentary video titled “A Long Strange Trip” that he and local filmmaker Matt Clysdale directed. Ludwig teaches for the Kalamazoo Regional Educational Service Agency’s Education for the Arts program, and that program’s students provided production assistance for the video.

The Voice Awards are presented by the federal Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, in part to honor those who incorporate dignified, respectful and accurate portrayals of individuals with mental health problems into film and television productions.

Ludwig joined the English department faculty as an instructor in 1998. Most of his work is in 16mm experimental film, but he has produced three documentary films and began building a body of work in digital composite video.

Emeritus inducted into hall of fame

Daniel L. Stufflebeam, founding director of the Evaluation Center, has been inducted into the College of Education and Human Ecology’s 2009 Hall of Fame at Ohio State University.

Stufflebeam established OSU’s Evaluation Center in 1963 as well as created a doctoral program in evaluation and assessment at the university. After leaving OSU in 1973, he crafted the national Standards for Educational Evaluation and was principal author of the original U.S. standards for program and personnel assessment. He also founded and directed the federal Center for Standards for Research on Educational Accountability and Teacher Education.

In 2007, Stufflebeam retired from WMU as a Distinguished University Professor and an emeritus in educational studies after 34 years of service to the University.

Profs brief Russians on research

Andrew Targowski, business information systems, and Richard Zinser, family and consumer sciences, presented papers at an international conference in Siberia, Russia, Nov. 18-19. The two also were nominated to the editorial board of a new journal called “Professional Education in Russia and Abroad.”

Prior to the conference, Targowski and Zinser visited the city of Novokuzevtok to meet with faculty at the Kuzbas State Pedagogical Academy, where they signed a letter of intent to collaborate on research and publication in the field of comparative education, culture and civilization.

The Russians have expressed interest in strengthening their ties with WMU.

Service outage scheduled

GoWMU’s Employee Self Service menu will be unavailable from 4 p.m. Friday, Dec. 4, to 8 a.m. Monday, Dec. 7. Direct questions to the Help Desk at 387-HELP.

Correction

Western News reported an incorrect location for the Emeriti Council’s “New York Showcase” Wednesday, Dec. 9. The program will take place in Williams Theatre.

Jobs

Current job opportunities at WMU are announced daily on the Human Resources Web site at www.wmich.edu/hr/careers-at-wmu.html. Please note that applications must be submitted online by the stated deadline. Complete application procedures are included with each posting.

Around Campus
December apt time to review snow removal, closure procedures

Winter hours will soon begin for WMU’s snow removal crews.

The crews must plow, shovel, scrape and de-ice more than 23 miles of roads, 100 acres of parking, 39 miles of walks, 200,000 square feet of steps and ramps, and hundreds of doorways.

Winter weather rarely results in a decision to close WMU. But when there is a shutdown, news of the decision is posted on the University’s home page at www.wmich.edu and emergency information line at 387-1021.

As in past years, various steps around the campus that are deemed to be a convenience rather than a necessity will be closed for the winter, allowing crews to concentrate on major access areas.

Students, and faculty and staff members who have special mobility needs during the ice and snow season should call the landscape staff at 387-8555, as snow and ice removal schedules can be adjusted to accommodate needs.

Those making requests regarding weekend or other special activities also should direct their calls to that office. Callers are asked to provide as much advance notice as possible.

Questions or concerns after normal business hours should be directed to the Department of Public Safety at 387-5555.

University’s acclaimed Seita Scholars program receives significant gift from AT&T

The AT&T Foundation has donated $24,000 to the Seita Scholars program, funding the purchase of 24 laptop computers, nearly all of which are loaned to scholars who need them for academic purposes. Some of the scholars joined University officials to accept the donation during a check presentation event. Among those participating in the event were, from left: Gavin Goetz, AT&T vice president; Nicholas Burke and Nia Williams, scholars; state Rep. Robert Jones; alumnus John Seita, for whom the Seita program is named; president John M. Dunn; Greg Clark, AT&T vice president; Nicole Ayers, scholar; Terry Mulvihill, AT&T director; Caya Lin, scholar; Ed Sackley, representing U.S. Rep. Fred Upton, and Deb Shields, representing state Sen. Tom George. (Photo by Mike Lanka)

Student fashion show benefits area homeless

The University’s student-run fashion show will be held Friday and Saturday, Dec. 4-5. Proceeds will benefit the Kalamazoo Gospel Mission, an organization that serves local community by donating to the hard Center Ballroom, with doors opening both nights will begin at 8 p.m. in the Bern-dent models from WMU’s Merchandising 30 student designers and 48 volunteer stu-dents.

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“This fall, we have chosen to give back to the local community by donating to the Kalamazoo Gospel Mission,” says MODA President Deanna Ansara. “It’s important to our organization to support those less fortunate, especially during the holiday season.”

 remembering Ray T. Cool, health, physical education and recreation; James C. Cott-on, information technology; Petronia R. Douglas, University Libraries; Nancy Eim-ers, English; Timothy A. Ender, information technology; Donna S. Hetzel, accountancy; Susan M. Stapleton, College of Arts and Sci-ences; and Sharanec R. Sutton, Facilities Management-building custodial and support services.

Service

The following faculty and staff members are recognized for 40, 35, 30, 25, 20, 15, 10 and five years of service during December.

40 Years—Umar F. Abdul-Matukallim, Human Resources, and Jerry F. Fuss, logisti-cal services.

35 Years—Robert J. Dlouhy, Career English Language Center, and Kathleen A. Horn, management.

30 Years—Janice S. Cleverenger, Facilities Management-landscape services, and Trace L. Sherburn, accounting.

25 Years—Sharon M. Van Dyken, College of Education.

20 Years—Ray T. Cool, health, physical education and recreation; James C. Cott-on, information technology; Petronia R. Douglas, University Libraries; Nancy Eim-ers, English; Timothy A. Ender, information technology; Donna S. Hetzel, accountancy; Susan M. Stapleton, College of Arts and Sci-ences; and Sharanec R. Sutton, Facilities Management-building custodial and support services.

15 Years—Patti J. VanWalbeck, ac-counting.

10 Years—Bradley J. Bazin, electrical and computer engineering; Timothy B. Palmer, management; Kenneth A. Randt, Facilities Management-building custodial and support services; Michael P. Smith, public safety; Ineke F. Way, social work; Jennifer Wie-bold, blindness and low vision studies; and Li Yang, computer science.

Five Years—Michael C. Durham, geosci-ences; Gregory A. Flamm, speech pathology and audiology; Beau C. Hartlenode, Miller Auditorium; Ahmad Irade, civil and construc-tion engineering; Dennis C. McCrumb, educational leadership, research and tech-nology; Jacob R. Moreland II, intercollegiate athletics; Mary E. Peterson, speech pathol-ogy and audiology; and Helen M. Sharp, speech pathology and audiology.

Small joined the faculty in 1971 and retired as an associate professor in 1996 after 25-1/2 years of service to WMU.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Kalamazoo chapter of Wild Ones, a national organization Small co-founded with her husband, Tom, emeritus in English.

Gayle L. Van Sweden, a former Facilities Management staff member, died Jan. 24, 2008, in Kalamazoo, it was recently learned. She was 65.

Van Sweden came to the University and the building custodial and support services unit in 1980. She retired in 2007 after 17-1/2 years of service to WMU.

Obituaries

Raymond L. Janes, emeritus in paper and printing science and engineering, died Nov. 19. He was 78.

Janes joined the fac-ulty in 1957 and left in 1960 to work on his doctorate. He returned in 1963 as chair of the Department of Paper and Printing Science and Engineering, a post he held until 1977.

A noted pulp and paper researcher, he retired in 1995 after 35 years of service to WMU and had been residing in Lansing, Mich.

Memorial contributions may be made to Hospice of Lansing-Stoneleigh or the donor’s local Humane Society.

Annabelle T. Mackie, former staff mem-ber in the Department of Public Safety, died Nov. 13 in Kalamazoo. She was 97.

Mackie joined the public safety staff as a secretary in 1966 and retired from that post in 1980 after 13-1/2 years of service to WMU. She resided in Portage, Mich.

Memorial contributions may be made to St. Monica Catholic Church.

Nancy (Cutbirth) Small, emerita in English and a local environmental advocate, died Nov. 27 in Kalamazoo. She was 69.

Small joined the faculty in 1971 and retired as an associate professor in 1996 after 25-1/2 years of service to WMU.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Kalamazoo chapter of Wild Ones, a national organization Small co-founded with her husband, Tom, emeritus in English.

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the Oaklands. is set for 3 to 5 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 9, in University Programs, to campus. The event is open to the general public.

• Faculty and staff members are invited
• The WMU community is invited to
• Growth in the number of different nonprofit EMOs has tapered off somewhat in half of the nation’s 50 states last year. Although Illinois has relatively few charter schools, it has the highest proportion—72 percent—of its charter schools managed by nonprofit EMOs.
• There are 103 nonprofit EMOs in the country, including 16 described in the report as “large,” managing 10 or more schools. Altogether, nonprofit EMOs managed 609 public schools in 2008-09. “Large” nonprofit EMOs managed nearly half—46 percent—of these.

Findings from the report show that:

• Nonprofit EMOs operated public schools focused on for-profit EMOs; however, new interest and private funds have been devoted to the nonprofit management sector.

“The nonprofit EMOs are diverse,” Mitro says. “Some of them charge similar fees and behave similarly to for-profit EMOs. An increasing number of the nonprofit EMOs, however, are actually bringing additional financial resources to the charter schools they operate. These are resources which they funnel from private foundations.” Urschel says for-profit and nonprofit EMOs are changing the education landscape. “Although this new form of privatization is less common among traditional public schools, EMOs now operate close to 30 percent of the nation’s charter schools,” Urschel notes.

Employee receptions

Receptions have been planned to salute an outgoing and an incoming employee.

• The WMU community is invited to attend a departmental retirement reception for Joan Rahn, a part-time mathematics instructor for many years. The event is set for noon to 2 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 10, and is open to the general public.
• Faculty and staff members are invited to attend a reception to introduce Dawn Gavmer, associate provost of Extended University Programs, to campus. The event is set for 3 to 5 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 9, in the Oaks.

Western Warm-Up slated

Registration is under way through Friday, Dec. 4, for Western Warm-Up, an event previously known as Spring Welcomefest that is a mini Bronco Bash for spring semester’s new and returning students.

Western Warm-Up will take place from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 21, in the Bernhard Center’s East Ballroom. It gives students a chance to learn more about WMU departments, offices and registered student organizations.

Tables are being assigned on a first-come, first-served basis. Go to www.wmich.edu/fye to sign up. Hot chocolate and cookies will be provided, as well as live entertainment from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Piano maker names WMU professor Steinway Artist

Steinway promises its artists a concert-ready Steinway wherever in the world they appear. The company has cultivated this special relationship with pianists in a wide range of genres for decades, from classical musicians such as Lief Ove Andsnes to pop artists such as Billy Joel. Zegree was presented with the honor at a recent Gershwin concert in the Dalton Center. The concert also celebrated WMU’s quest to become an All-Steinway School and showcased the University’s collection of Steinway pianos.

Joyce Gard, speech pathology and audiology, has had a career at WMU that has spanned more than 26 years, first as a secretary in the department and now as office coordinator after being promoted to that post in 1986.

Over the years, Gard has seen the department grow and change. When she joined the staff in 1983, the department was housed in the Speech and Hearing Center located on the East Campus, the University’s original site. Everything was handled in that 1930s-era building, from graduate and undergraduate classes to clinical and research facilities. Then the department moved in 2005 into the state-of-the-art Health and Human Services Building.

Gard came to WMU after the department’s founder, Charles Van Ripper, retired as chair, but he gave her some advice that has stuck with her through the years. “I had an opportunity to visit with him at his home in Portage one afternoon,” she remembers. “He gave me some words of wisdom that I try to live by: ‘Joyce, do something new each day you live, even if it is as simple as driving home from work a new way. That will help keep life interesting.’”

In her role as office coordinator, Gard handles personnel matters for the department as well as grant troubleshooting, payroll and keeping expenses within budget. The precise accounting involved in her job at WMU is balanced nicely with her interest in art, which she indulges in outside of work. She received her bachelor’s degree from the former Nazareth College in Kalamazoo.

“When something doesn’t balance, I enjoy figuring out why. But when I’m home, I leave that behind and can just create,” she says. “It’s easy for me to talk about painting. I’m extremely visual.”

Some of Gard’s creations are displayed on campus. They include a painting called “The Larynx,” which is a colorful tribute to the late Robert Erickson, a former chair of her department. The work features deep reds and a video scope image of the vocal folds. It hangs on the third floor of the University Medical and Health Sciences Center.

“The painting is my voice because it’s the way I express my thoughts,” Gard says. Along with creating art, Gard also likes to read, travel, exercise and watch hockey, as well as to spend time with her friends, two grown children, a son and daughter; and eight-year-old granddaughter.