Registration open for WMU Day at the Capitol

Online registration is under way for WMU’s second annual WMU Day at the Capitol, which will take place from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Wednesday, May 27, on the front lawn of the state Capitol in Lansing.

The event will feature interactive and hands-on exhibits as well as performances showcasing the talents and success of WMU students, faculty and staff.

WMU T-shirts, optional bus transportation from Kalamazoo and box lunches will be available for participants who register by Friday, May 8. Participants may still register after May 8, but they will not be guaranteed a T-shirt, box lunch or bus seat.

Last year’s inaugural event drew more than 700 participants. “We made a strong impression on the Legislature last year, and with 46 new legislators this year, we are continuing to raise awareness about WMU,” says Greg Rusine, vice president for institutional advancement and legislative affairs.

Twenty-six proposals were chosen for the 2009 event, including projects and displays from a wide variety of WMU departments and programs.

Featured will be a 2004 Prius converted to a plug-in hybrid that is charged by a wind turbine on campus. The vehicle, converted by John Patten, industrial and manufacturing engineering, can drive up to 40 miles on electricity before using any gas. Another engineering success, WMU’s solar car, Sunseeker, which competed in nine collegiate solar races since 1990 and twice placed in the top six, also will be available to view.

Other displays and events include:

• Nursing students and physician assistants, who will take blood pressure and dispense information about hypertension;

• Student project awards funds to local charities

WMU students studying nonprofit leadership have given $15,000 to local charities through a program started this past fall for a select group of universities nationwide.

The WMU grants were part of the Student4Giving program to advance philanthropic education efforts at colleges, which is funded by the Campus Compact and Fidelity Charitable Gift Fund.

WMU was one of just 10 universities to receive funds to disperse as a way of giving students hands-on experience in identifying community needs, setting criteria for grants and administering funds.

The program engages students in strategic grant-making activities within the context of community-based learning and partnership with local nonprofit organizations. WMU distributed grants to:

• The Specialized Language Development Center, $5,000 for its Language Links Program, which provides two hours per week of individual, specialized instruction to economically disadvantaged children who are significantly below grade level in reading but who do not qualify or receive special education services;

• The Eastside Neighborhood Association, $2,725 for a community garden that will provide gardening expertise, gardening tools on loan, and fresh produce to families in that neighborhood;

• The YMCA, $2,500 for a speaker event at the Kalamazoo Summit on Racism, which

Second Polar Plunge exceeds fund-raising goal for Special Olympics

For the second time in as many years, WMU has surpassed its fund-raising goal for the Law Enforcement Torch Run Polar Plunge, which benefits Special Olympics Michigan. This year, the University sought to raise $10,000 and garnered nearly $11,000. In 2008, the goal was $3,000 and some $7,000 was raised. Numerous members of the WMU community, including President John M. Dunn (left photo) took part in the March 28 event by jumping into the icy waters of a makeshift ice pool in Lawson Ice Arena. Also participating along with Dunn were, from left (right photo), WMU mascot Buster Bronco and Kalamazoo Mayor Bobby Hopewell. (Photos by Mike Lanka)
Around Campus

Annual event showcases student art

WMU’s annual student art exhibit is running through April 17 in the Rich- mond Center for Visual Arts’ Monroe- Brown Gallery. The student show is one of the largest events of the year for the Frosted School of Art.

Educat or to make presentations

Sheridan Blau of the University of California-Santa Barbara is concluding the Department of English’s 2008-09 Scholarly Speakers Series. Blau will share a model and theory of literary instruction in his talk “True and False Knowledge in the Teaching and Learning of Literature” at 7 p.m. today in 2028 Brown.

Friday, April 10, he will conduct two hands-on workshops in 210 Bernhard Center. “Dismantling Interpretive Communities in Literature Classes: Students as Producers of Responsible Interpretations,” will be from 10:30 to 11:45 a.m. “Writing about Literature in an Authentic Academic Community” will be from 12:30 to 1:45 p.m.

Ethics Center film series continues

“Thee Shalt Not Bear False Witness,” produced for Polish television, will be shown at 6:30 p.m. Monday, April 13, in 1025 Brown as part of the Center for the Study of Ethics in Society Film Series. A discussion will follow the free event at 7:30 p.m. led by Lynwood Bartley, emeritus in communication.

Enginee ring projects spotlighted

A three-wheeled vehicle that exceeds the efficiency of most electric vehicles will be among the 69 projects presented Tuesday, April 14, at the 44th Confer- ence on Senior Engineering and Design. Students will demonstrate their projects from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the College of Engineering and Applied Sciences Building.

Speaker to discuss Islamic politics

The 2008-09 Samuel I. Clark Lecture will be presented by Roxanne L. Euben of Wellesley College. She will speak on “The Politics of Jihad in Islamist Thought” at 7 p.m. Wednesday, April 15, in the Fetzer Center’s Kim Auditorium.

Euben also will discuss post-9/11 challenges to doing research on Islam and Muslim political thought as well as her book, “Journey to the Other Shore: Muslim and Western Travelers in Search of Knowledge,” at noon Thursday, April 16, in the Political Science Library on the third floor of Friedman.

Aviation states research colloquium

Faculty, staff and students are invited to attend a research colloquium from 7 to 8:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 15, in 1001 Wood that will highlight the current studies taking place in the Col- lege of Aviation. Communications and security training post 9/11 will be among the topics discussed.

Outreach executive to discuss BTR Park’s success

Bob Miller, associate vice president for community outreach, will discuss the success of the University’s Business, Technology and Research Park Friday, April 10.

Miller’s talk, titled “A Community Suc- cess Story,” begins at 8 a.m. in the Dean’s Conference Room in Schneider Hall. The event will begin with breakfast at 7:30 a.m. and is free and open to the public. Reser- vations are required and may be made by calling 387-5050.

This is the sixth installment in the Key- stone Community Bank Breakfast Speaker Series for 2008-09.

Administrator named state law leader

Carol J.H. Hustoles, vice president for legal affairs and general counsel, has been named one of Michigan’s 25 Leaders in the Law and was among those honored during a Detroit area luncheon in March.

The Michigan Law- yers Weekly bestows the designation on the most gifted members of the legal community and to honor both legal success and the qualities of character that make only a few stand out.

A WMU legal staff member since 1991, Hustoles was named general counsel in 1999 and appointed to her current position in 2002. She has served the state on the Michi- gan State Board of Ethics and on the West- ern District Commission to review judicial appointments. Hustoles also has served as president of Kalamazoo Country Bar As- sociation and the Southwest Region Women Lawyers Association of Michigan.

Prof earns association’s highest honor

Gary D. Lawson, speech pathology and audiology, received the Michigan Speech-Lan- guage-Hearing Association’s highest award during its annual conference in March.

The Honors of the Association Award rec- ognizes sustained, out- standing accomplish- ments in the profession of speech, language and hearing. It goes to those who demonstrate their expertise through ongoing service that di- rectly benefits MSHA and the field as a whole and have a significant impact on people with communication impairments.

Lawson, a member of the speech pathol- ogy and audiology department since 1978, was recognized for his academic work in teaching and creating curricula advancing the preparation of audiologists and for his steadfast support to advance best practices of the profession.

Emeritus co-writes Fred Meijer book

Larry ten Harsel, emeritus in English and a past dean of the Lee Honors College, has co-written a book recounting the life of pioneer retailer Fred Meijer.

“Fred Meijer: Stories of His Life” in- cludes anecdotes from a broad list of con- tributors, ranging from former presidents and ambassadors to clerks at the checkout.

The book is a collection of photos and anecdotes about the 89-year-old grocery entrepreneur who, with his father, Hendrik, turned one store in Greenville, Mich., into a chain of nearly 200 supermarkets across the Midwest. It will be sold at all Meijer locations and online through Meijer.com.

Ten Harsel is now historian for the Frederik Meijer Gardens and Sculpture Park. He wrote the book along with Bill Smith, a retired Meijer vice president of marketing and advertising. The duo spent several years working on the book project.

Forex exchange

For sale—Lakefront home on Minkler Lake, just six miles south of Allegan and one mile east of M-40. Two bedrooms, 2.5 bathrooms, oak kitchen with appliances in- cluded, forced air heat with air conditioning, two-car garage on double lot with 140 feet of sandy beach. A large pole barn sits on a 100-by-200-foot access lot across from the driveway. Asking $265,000. Contact Lin at 673-4147 or 330-9092.

For rent—Relax for a week in South Haven at the great rate of $1,100 per week. Rent an additional week and save even more money. This Lake Michigan beachfront condo will sleep up to five, has a pool, and is within walking distance of downtown. Call 323-3198.

Jobs

Current job opportunities at WMU are announced daily on the Human Resources Web site at www.wmich.edu/hr/careers- at-wmu.htm. Please note that applications must be submitted online by the stated deadline. Complete application procedures are included with each posting.
A longtime WMU staff member has been named this year’s recipient of the YWCA of Kalamazoo’s Lifetime Woman of Achievement Award.

Martha Warfield, associate vice president for diversity and inclusion, will be presented with the award during the 25th annual YWCA Women of Achievement Celebration at 5:15 p.m. Thursday, May 14, in the Radisson Plaza Hotel in downtown Kalamazoo.

The lifetime achievement award is given to area women who demonstrate a lifetime of outstanding contributions to the well-being of the local community, state or nation and have a record of accomplishment, leadership and positive role modeling in their volunteer or professional activities. An independent selection committee determines recipients.

Warfield has shown a dedication to both education and mental health through a varied professional life that spans careers as a social worker, teacher, researcher, probation officer, counselor, entrepreneur and higher education administrator.

She has been widely involved in community affairs, and in 2008 received the Humanitarian of the Year Award from the Metropolitan Kalamazoo Branch of the NAACP. In addition, she received WMU’s Distinguished Service Award in 2000.

Warfield joined WMU’s staff and the Division of Student Affairs in 1992 as a licensed psychologist and associate professor in the University Counseling and Testing Center. She was director of the Division of Multicultural Affairs from 1993 until her promotion to assistant vice president for student affairs in 2002. She was tapped in 2004 to head a presidential initiative on diversity and named in 2007 to her current position as leader of campus diversity efforts.

The Mid-American Conference and WMU have confirmed the 2009 Bronco football schedule, including the University’s Homecoming game Saturday, Oct. 24.

WMU’s landscape services department has been celebrating Arbor Day continuously since 2006. By holding its 2009 observance April 17—before spring finals week begins and the 2008-09 academic year ends—organizers hope more members of the campus community will be able to attend.

“We’re looking forward to people turning out and investing a small portion of their day to reflect on the importance of trees,” says Durrell Junkins, a grounds supervisor in landscape services. “This year’s program will be especially exciting. We’ll not only be planting a tree and explaining a little about Arbor Day, but we’ll also be sharing some of the interesting accomplishments that we continue to build on for all to enjoy.”

During the event, WMU also will formally unveil its first campus tree walk, called the Wood Hall Tree Tour. A map with descriptions of the featured trees will be available at the Arbor Day celebration. All of the trees on the tour are labeled, so people can pick up a tour map and take a self-guided tour after the Arbor Day celebration. The tour map and descriptions are available online by going to www.pp.wmich.edu/ss and clicking “Tree Tours.”

For 2009, games will be held Sept. 5, at Eastern Michigan University; and Nov. 24, at Michigan State University; Nov. 14, at Northern Illinois University; Oct. 10, at University of Toledo; Oct. 17, Central Michigan University; Oct. 24, Buffalo (Homecoming); Oct. 31, at Kent State University; Nov. 7, at Michigan State University; Nov. 14, at Eastern Michigan University; and Nov. 24, Ball State University.

Go to www.wumbroncos.com for more information or to order tickets.
Keeping tabs on membership and payroll at the University Recreation Center is a full-time job for Cindy VanderWoude, membership coordinator. The position gives her the opportunity to work with a broad variety of people on campus and in the community.

“It’s nice to be around students. Over the years, this University has changed and really grown. It’s a great atmosphere,” she says.

Starting in the Office of Admissions almost 23 years ago, she also has worked in the Office of Residence Life. VanderWoude moved to her current position in University Recreation in 2000.

She tirelessly campaigns to remind faculty and staff that membership to the recreation center is free except for paying taxes on the membership, which amounts to about $5 a month.

“We’re constantly pitching to faculty and staff that one of their benefits is the membership,” she says. “And the SRC is only open to faculty, staff, students and alumni and not the general community.”

Participation at the recreation center has increased during the past year, as people have focused on low-cost activities closer to home with the downturn in the economy, VanderWoude adds.

In addition to membership, she enjoys a variety of other duties. These include processing new student employee paperwork when they are hired and payroll for the department, making sure 200 students who work in a variety of positions receive their paychecks.

A native of Geneseo, Ill., VanderWoude lives in Kalamazoo with her husband, Scott, and her rescued chocolate Labrador retriever, Latte.

In her spare time, VanderWoude is an independent consultant for Tastefully Simple, a gourmet food company.

She enjoys sports, especially playing volleyball and watching the Detroit Tigers. She loves being involved with the community as a member of the Kalamazoo Jaycees and is looking forward to volunteering for the SPCA of Southwest Michigan to help care for homeless pets.

HR offering new faculty, staff training program

Human Resources has established a new faculty and staff training program called “Getting Back to the Basics” that will start in May and continue through August.

The free program features HR staff and other WMU experts providing a series of learning opportunities for employees on a variety of topics.

Each session will be held in the Fetzer Center, feature a question-and-answer period, and include light refreshments. Pre-registration is required for all sessions.

The first session is set for 10 a.m. Wednesday, May 6, and is titled “Performance Management Review Workshop.” This training session is a special two-hour introduction to the “Getting Back to the Basics” program.

It is designed for supervisors completing performance management year-end reviews and will provide an overview of the performance management process, as well as specifics on how to get the most out of the process.

Supervisors are encouraged to spend the second workshop hour completing performance evaluation forms for the 2008-09 review period or creating outlines and notes with the assistance of HR staff members.

Registration details will be posted on the HR Web site at www.wmich.edu/hr the week of April 20.

For more information about “Getting Back to the Basics,” continue checking the HR Web site or contact Nichelle Moses at nicelle.moses@wmich.edu or 387-3650.

Leadership colloquium set

Faculty, staff and students are invited to learn about leadership opportunities in academia during a colloquium from 3 to 4:30 p.m. Thursday, April 16, in the Fetzer Center.

A reception and poster session highlighting WMU’s 2008-09 Academic Leadership Academy projects will follow in Fetzer’s lobby.

During the colloquium, a panel will discuss leadership opportunities at all higher education levels.

RSVP to atis-facdev@wmich.edu or to Andrea Beach at andrea.beach@wmich.edu or 387-4196. For more information, go to http://atis.wmich.edu/facdev or contact Beach.

Student project awards funds

Seeks to eliminate institutional racism; • Family and Children’s Services, $2,150 for its Parenting Education Classes for birth parents and relatives whose children have been or are at risk of being removed from the family home due to abuse or neglect; and • New Genesis, $2,350 for its 5-Star After School Program for children who work to improve their skills in reading and math and their parents to learn how to support their children’s academic achievement.

Prior to awarding the grants, WMU students researched local issues and prioritized projects that combated institutional racism and secured basic human rights to food, housing and transportation through advocacy; improved academic skills—specifically reading, writing, math and science—through after-school and mentoring programs; and strengthened families through educational programs for parents and guardians.

Twenty-two students enrolled in the Seminar in Nonprofit Leadership at WMU were part of the University’s Student-Giving effort. The Nonprofit Leadership Program is part of the School of Public Affairs and Administration. During the past seven years, it has graduated and certified 76 nonprofit leaders as well as served local nonprofits by providing 22,500 hours of interns’ time and 9,600 hours of service-learning time.

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