Trustees set meeting dates for 2015

The WMU Board of Trustees has scheduled six more meetings for 2015. The dates are Wednesday, March 25; Wednesday, April 22; Wednesday, June 3; Wednesday, July 8; Tuesday, Oct. 6; and Tuesday, Dec. 8. Times and other details will be released shortly before each meeting.

Enhancement made to WMU Alert

The WMU Alert system has been enhanced so that students and employees can select up to two Extended University Programs sites in addition to the WMU main campus, and register to receive alerts from those locations. Visit wmich.edu/news/2015/01/21223 for details.

Faculty funding applications sought

Applications for the Support for Faculty Scholars Award are due Monday, Feb. 2. Details and application forms are available by visiting wmich.edu/research/funding-sources.html and clicking Internal Funding Opportunities.

Spring employee-mixer dates set

Fridays with Friends mixers for faculty and staff members, featuring complimentary light hors d’oeuvres and a cash bar, have been set for spring. They will be held from 4 to 6 p.m. Jan. 30 and March 27 in the Gilmore Theatre Complex atrium, and Feb. 27 in the Fetzer Center. A mixer celebrating the end of the semester will be held from 4 to 6 p.m. Tuesday, May 5, in Fetzer.

Graduate journal seeking submissions

The Hilltop Review, WMU’s journal of graduate research, is seeking submissions for its spring 2015 issue by Monday, Feb. 2. Visit http://scholarworks.wmich.edu/hilltopreview for details and archived issues.

Still time to provide wayfinding input

Two online surveys remain active, gathering input on how to make WMU easier to navigate for both visitors and campus community members. The survey for University community members is at surveymonkey.com/s/26F8GRL. The survey for occasional campus visitors and the general public is at surveymonkey.com/s/6YGDDLL.

Assessment awards deadline is Feb. 13

The University Assessment Steering Committee is accepting materials for its annual awards that recognize and showcase WMU’s outstanding efforts in the area of assessment. Friday, Feb. 13, is the deadline to apply for the UASC Individual Assessment Excellence Award or to nominate a unit for the University Assessment Excellence Award. Winners will be feted at the WMU Assessment in Action Day conference Friday, April 3. Visit wmich.edu/assessment/grants.html for eligibility requirements and other information.

Hettinger, Miller to lead Board of Trustees

James F. Hettinger of Fennville and Kenneth Miller of Kalamazoo have been elected chair and vice chair, respectively, of the WMU Board of Trustees.

The two, both WMU alumni, were elected at the board’s Jan. 22 meeting and will serve throughout 2015. This is Hettinger’s second year in the board leadership role. Miller replaced Trustee Mary Asmonga-Knapp of Battle Creek as vice chair. She remains on the board.

Hettinger, the 1995 Michigan Economic Developer of the Year, retired in 2008 as head of Battle Creek Unlimited after 30 years of service with that economic development organization. Late last fall, he was asked to re-take the organization’s reins as interim executive director. He has been serving as a WMU trustee since 2009.

Miller is a principal with Havirco, a Kalamazoo-based investment management firm launched in 1983. He also is the owner of the Millennium Restaurant Group LLC. He is in his second eight-year term as a WMU trustee and has twice served as chair of the WMU board.

Other WMU board officers elected to one-year terms at the Jan. 22 meeting were: Betty A. Kocher, secretary to the board; Jan J. Van Der Kley, treasurer and assistant secretary; and Patti VanWalbeck, assistant treasurer. Van Der Kley is the University’s vice president for business and finance, and VanWalbeck is associate vice president for business and finance.

Nation’s first sustainable brewing degree announced

The Kalamazoo area closed out its 2015 Beer Week celebration Jan. 17 with news that the nation’s first higher education programs in sustainable brewing are being launched at Kalamazoo Valley Community College and WMU.

The brewing programs, which will be offered starting in fall 2015, were developed by the two schools working in close coordination with the industry.

The resulting “two-plus-two” program in sustainable craft brewing will offer students the opportunity to earn a certificate or associate degree at KVCC, then move on to a Bachelor of Science degree that marries industry art and science with WMU’s national reputation in sustainability.

“Water use and water recovery are among the top issues among craft brewers around the nation,” says Edwin A. Martini, associate dean of the College of Arts and Sciences. “WMU brings the resources of a research university and a national reputation in water research and sustainability to the table, and KVCC’s food science and culinary arts expertise is providing the entry point and first credentials for students.

“Knowing that the craft beer industry is key to our community and state’s economic development, we enlisted the help of our industry advisors and designed a rigorous

Google Apps for Education at WMU aids teaching, learning

WMU has adopted a suite of Web-based productivity tools and storage from Internet giant Google that will improve collaboration and productivity for teaching and learning.

Starring Jan. 6, Google Apps for Education—GAE—at WMU became available to all members of the University community who have an “@wmich.edu” email account.

WMU is offering the core applications of GAE and initially is focusing on enhancing the teaching and learning experience for both faculty members and students.

WMU’s initial rollout of GAE consists of five core apps that are familiar to many people.Adam Newsted, information technology, is co-managing the project’s rollout and says by enabling those products, every-
**Weeklong celebration honors student employees**

WMU will recognize its nearly 4,000 student employees during the 29th annual Student Employee Appreciation Week, Monday through Friday, Feb. 23-27. The week is dedicated to all student employees and is a time to recognize their hard work and countless contributions to WMU. Through two related awards, it also provides an opportunity to showcase the University’s outstanding student employees and the staff members who supervise them.

Career and Student Employment Services is accepting award nominations online through Friday, Feb. 13, for those awards. Faculty and staff members may make nominations for the Belleville Student Employee of the Year award, with the winning student’s nomination being forwarded to a national competition, while students may make nominations for the Supervisor of the Year award.

WMU employees are encouraged to submit award nominations and to thank their student workers in some way during appreciation week.

All 2015 award winners and nominees will be announced as well as celebrated during an afternoon reception Wednesday, Feb. 25, in the Bernhard Center’s East Ballroom. To make an award nomination and recognition certificate and ideas, visit wmich.edu/career/seaw.

**Jobs**

Current job opportunities at WMU are announced daily on the Human Resources website at wmich.edu/hr/jobs. Please note that applications must be submitted online by the stated deadline. Complete application procedures are included with each posting.

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**Around campus and beyond**

**Hawking biography to be screened**

A biography of renowned physicist Stephen Hawking will be shown at 7 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 31, in 1102 Road Hall. The screening of this PBS documentary is free and open to the public. It is being sponsored by the Department of Physics and the Kalamazoo Astronomical Society. KAS will provide popcorn and soft drinks, and those who attend are welcome to bring snacks to share. Visit kasonline.org for more information.

**Competition draws top students**

Another 400 academically talented high school seniors from around the country will be on campus from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 31, to conclude the 32nd annual Medallion Scholarship Competition. Accompanied by many of their parents, they are vying for at least 20 full Medallion Scholarships worth $50,000 each over four years.

**World affairs lectures begin Feb. 2**

WMU is again partnering with the World Affairs Council of Western Michigan in Grand Rapids to promote timely talks on international issues in conjunction with the council’s 2015 “Great Decisions Series.” It is one of the most important lecture series on international affairs and American foreign policy concerns that is held in the United States. At least one lecture will be held March 23 series take place at 6 p.m. on consecutive Mondays in the Aquinas Performing Arts Center in Grand Rapids. WMU students and employees who sign up at the university table located in the center’s foyer can attend the lectures at no cost. There is free parking close to the center.

This year’s series kicks off Feb. 2 with Aarti Shahani, National Public Radio technology correspondent, presenting “Privacy: Is There Such a Thing?” Visit worldmichigan.org for full series details.

**Back-to-back career fairs scheduled**

WMU’s annual Career Fair is set for 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 12, and is expected to attract about 180 employers and 2,000 job seekers. The first Government and Nonprofit Career Fair follows Friday, Feb. 13, from 1 to 4 p.m. is expected to attract about 70 employers.

Both events are open to the public but tailored to students and alumni of Kalamazoo College, Kalamazoo Valley Community College and WMU. They will take place in the Bernhard Center Ballrooms. WMU students are encouraged to attend to fair preparation week sessions that will be held Tuesday through Friday, Feb. 3-6. Session pre-registration is requested. Visit wmich.edu/career/events for more information.

**Ethics Center slates spring lectures**

The Center for the Study of Ethics in Society is presenting six lectures this spring. Tuesday, Feb. 10, is the Winnie Veenstra Peace Lecture featuring Hope Museum of History and Central Michigan University. She will speak at 7 p.m. in 2018 Brown Hall on “Peace Education and the U.S. Public School: Embracing Global Citizenship Prior to World War I.”

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**Instructor appointed to circuit court**

Paul J. Bridenstine, political science, has been appointed by Gov. Rick Snyder as a judge in Michigan’s 9th Circuit Court. His appointment fills a vacancy left by the Oct. 31 retirement of Circuit Judge Richard Johnson. Bridenstine, a part-time instructor at WMU, had been serving since 2000 as a judge in Michigan’s 9th District Court. He will face election in the November 2016 general election for his new position on the Kalamazoo County circuit court bench.

Bridenstine earned a bachelor’s degree from the University of Notre Dame and a law degree from the University of Detroit Mercy. From 1992 to 2000, he was assistant prosecuting attorney for the city of Kalamazoo.

**Staffer pens book for advisors, advises**

Marianne Di Pierro, Graduate College, has written a new book titled “Navigating the Dissertation: Strategies for New Doctoral Advising Faculty and Their Advisees.” The book was published by New Forums Press and released in October.

Di Pierro has been director of the Graduate Center for Research and Retention for 13 years. She has coached more than 90 doctoral students across a broad spectrum of fields to complete their dissertations and graduations.

Her book examines the intricacies of the doctoral educational process and delineates a process for continuous improvement that will shape and enhance better professional relationships between dissertation advisors and their advisees as well as cultivate opportunities for increased retention and graduation.

It includes critical principles, interwoven with students’ real life experiences, and departs from other books that provide generally only a one-dimensional view, usually from the student’s perspective.

**Prof edits civilization series book**

Andrew Targowski, business information systems, is the editor of “Virtual Civilization in the 21st Century.” The book was published this fall by Nova Science Publishers and includes chapters by Targowski as well as his BIS colleagues K.C. Chen and Muhammad A. Razi for the “Focus on Civilizations and Cultures” series.

It analyzes a new phenomenon in civilization: the transformation of the current “information wave” into “virtual civilization.” It posits that for the first time in 6,000 years of human civilization, society has become a quantum society, which can be real and virtual at the same time.

The book examines numerous aspects of this civilization’s culture, societal divides, trends, architecture and development. It also discusses how virtual civilization may define the success of human civilization in the 21st century.
Disability Services for Students offers learning series for employees

The Disability Services for Students office is offering a series of programs from 11:45 a.m. to 1 p.m. over several Fridays to promote awareness of the challenges that students with disabilities face at WMU and how employees can help support these students. Programs include a meal at 11:45 a.m. and feature a video on a disability topic, student panelists and a question-and-answer session. The program dates, topics and meeting locations are: Feb. 6, hearing impairments, 2908 Wood Hall; Feb. 13, autism spectrum disorder, D-132 Engineering and Applied Sciences Building; Feb. 20, visual impairments, 1320 Schneider Hall; March 20, autism spectrum disorder, 2302 Freydmann Hall; March 27, learning disabilities and ADHD, 2021 Brown Hall; April 3, learning disabilities, 1284 Health and Human Services Building; and April 10, hearing impairments, 6623 Everett Tower. Visit wmich.edu/facultydevelopment and click the Register for workshops button to register for a program. Direct questions to Kellie Skiba at kellie.l.skiba@wmich.edu or (269) 387-2116.

WMU trustees approve 13 retirements, 1 resignation

The retirements of one faculty member and 12 staff members were approved by the WMU Board of Trustees during its Jan. 22 meeting. Trustees also signed off on one faculty resignation and sabbaticals for two administrators who are returning to the faculty. The faculty member who is retiring is doing so with emeritus status. Her name, position, years of continuous service and effective date of retirement is Mary Patricia Fuehr, nursing, 12 years, effective Dec. 31.

The staff members retiring are: Susan M. Alexander, public safety, 21 years, effective Jan. 31; Pamela J. Buist, WMU Apartments, 34 years, effective Dec. 31, 2014; Teresa A. Coburn, Sindecuse Health Center, 20 years, effective Feb. 28; Jonathan Epstein, Sindecuse Health Center, 10 years, effective Jan. 12; Marc P. Fawley, building custodial and support services, 24 years, effective Jan. 19; Joyceelyn F. Fooy, Division of Intercollegiate Athletics, 31 years, effective Jan. 31; Margie A. Glenn, cash operations, 15 years, effective Jan. 9; George R. Kohman, information technology, 46 years, effective Feb. 20; Candace E. List, history, 23 years, effective Dec. 18, 2014; Roger K. Mills, construction, 34 years, effective Dec. 31, 2014; Brenda Wardlow, building custodial and support services, 17 years, effective Dec. 31, 2014; and Teresa L. Ziebarth, mathematics, 17 years, effective Dec. 31, 2014.

The faculty member resigning is: Daniela Hernandez, mathematics, effective Dec. 21, 2014.

The two administrators returning to the faculty and who both received sabbatical leaves for the fall 2015 semester are: Marc Alspector-Kelly, from chair of philosophy to associate professor of philosophy, effective July 1, 2015, and James Murray, from director of the Medieval Institute to professor of history, effective July 1, 2015.


efi and recruiting efforts in the fast food and packaging industries, died Monday, Jan. 19. He was 56.

Services have been held. To make a memorial guestbook entry, visit langelands.com.

Ellen Page-Robin, founding director of WMU’s gerontology program and emerita in community health services, died Jan. 3. She was 82.

Page-Robin joined the faculty in 1968 and retired in 1998 after more than 30 years of service.

A memorial service will be held March 21 in the Kiva Room at Friendship Village, 1400 N. Drake, Kalamazoo. Details will be published as they become available. Messages may be left at avinkcremation.com.

Erwin W. Rayford, emeritus in industrial technology and education, died June 18, 2014.

Rayford was 94.

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New admissions director takes helm next month

Dacheo (Dah-SHAY) Hill, director of admissions at Northeastern Illinois University in Chicago, will head enrollment efforts at WMU beginning Monday, Feb. 9.

Hill has been an NIU administrator since 2013. Her background includes technical skills in a number of admissions-related programs and experience in applying them to recruitment.

During her time as NIU’s admissions director, she played a key role in expanding the university’s recruitment reach and admissions yield.

Hill previously was at Purdue University-Calumet from 2007 to 2012, beginning as a recruiter and academic advisor and ending with a 10-month stint as interim director of admissions. She also has served as an academic coordinator at the University of Illinois at Chicago and in multiple admissions positions at DePaul University.

Hill will succeed Penny Bundy, who is now WMU’s director of graduate admissions.

‘Who’s Who’ nominations accepted

Nominations are being accepted for “Who’s Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges.”

In order for WMU to meet the national nomination deadline, submissions are due by Friday, Feb. 6. To request a nomination form, email salp-calho@wmich.edu. Direct questions to (269) 387-2547.

Other news

Colleges bound students invited to free financial aid program

College-bound students and their families are invited to come to campus Sunday, Feb. 8, for College Goal Sunday and learn how to maximize their financial aid opportunities.

The event, set for 2 to 4 p.m. in Schneider Hall, is being held at sites across the country to help high school seniors and others fill out their Free Application for Federal Student Aid, or FAFSA. This form must be filed by the Sunday, March 1, deadline to ensure eligibility for the most financial assistance possible.

WMU’s event, one of dozens being held around the state as part of the MI College Goal effort, is open to everyone thinking about attending college, regardless of age.

Volunteers from WMU’s Office of Student Financial Aid and Scholarships will be on hand to answer questions about financial aid resources and help guide attendees through each step of completing and filing the FAFSA.

Visit nicollegegoal.org for a complete list of items to bring and details about how to win a $1,000 scholarship, an iPod Touch or a $25 Amazon gift card. Contact Carol Mountjoy, student financial aid and scholarship, at carol.mountjoy@wmich.edu or (269) 387-6000 for more information about WMU’s on-campus event.

Graduate College Fellows announced for 2015

Christine Browning, mathematics, and Julie Apker, communication, have been selected as Graduate College Faculty Fellows for 2015.

Now in its third year, the fellows program gives WMU faculty members an opportunity to develop as leaders on campus while making significant contributions to graduate education.

During her fellowship, Browning will focus on data collection, environmental scanning and benchmarking peer institutions. The data collection will aid the Graduate College’s efforts in marketing and communicating innovations and achievements and in recruiting and retaining a student body that reflects societal diversity.

Apker, a Graduate College Fellow this past year, will continue for a second year and focus on student and faculty engagement and success. She has been instrumental in helping develop an online orientation for graduate students and organizing professional and personal development programming for students. Now, she will be working on training opportunities for new mentors and graduate directors.

Obituaries

Editor’s note: Visit wmich.edu/news/obituaries for additional details.

Joel Kendrick, WMU Pilot Plants general manager and a leader in boosting recycling efforts in the fast food and packaging industries, died Monday, Jan. 19. He was 56.

Services have been held. To make a memorial guestbook entry, visit langelands.com.

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Trustees grant sabbatical leaves in December to 36 faculty members

The WMU Board of Trustees granted sabbatical leaves to 36 faculty members during its Dec. 18, 2014, meeting.

The sabbaticals effective for the fall 2015 semester are: Onur Arugaslan, finance and commercial law; Muralidhar Ghanatassala, mechanical and aerospace engineering; Robert Harmon, marketing; Berit Miller, occupational therapy; Wilson Warren, history; Lisa Whittaker, aviation sciences; and Qiji Zhu, mathematics.

The sabbaticals effective for the spring 2016 semester are: Lisa Baker, psychology; Losamn Bielein Palmer, educational leadership, research and technology; Sung-Chung, physics; John Dilworth, philosophy; Chad Edwards, communication; Jill Hermann-Wilmarth, teaching, learning and educational studies; Kevin High, aviation sciences; and J.D. Shao, civil and construction engineering.

The sabbaticals effective for the 2015-16 academic year are: Jeffrey Angles, world languages and literatures; Massood Atashbar, electrical and computer engineering; Clement Burns, physics; Charles Emerson, geography; Sharon Gill, biological sciences; Chansheng He, geography; Kate Kline, humanities; Adriane Little, art; Natalie Oanh Tran, Spanish; Lisa Paulius, physics; Judith Ann Rypma, English; and Saltum Shao, civil and construction engineering.

Oma Smith, accountancy; Vivian Steemers, world languages and literatures; and Brian C. Wilson, comparative religion.

Google Apps for Education at WMU

Google Apps for Education at WMU, visit wmic.edu/google.

Hangouts, for instant messaging, video chat and Web conferencing; and Sites, for personal websites with browser-based authoring.

WMU's GAE suite allows users to create, share and edit files simultaneously and in real-time. Google automatically stores everything in the cloud and provides 24/7 support at no cost to nonprofit institutions such as WMU. Users will have a consistent experience regardless of whether they are collaborating by computer, tablet or smartphone, and they will have unlimited storage for free. In addition, their documents remain their own property and Google will not send them advertisements based upon the content of those documents.

Working with Newsted on the GAE rollout is Eli Collins-Brown, educational leadership, research and technology. Collins-Brown, a GAE expert, says many faculty members already use a variety of Google consumer apps to manage curricula, provide collaboration for coursework, and share information within and between departments.

Visit wmic.edu/facultydevelopment for details about spring Cool Tools workshops focusing on GAE and this spring's Teaching with Technology Symposium, which will include GAE information. For more about GAE at WMU, visit wmic.edu/google.

On Campus with Kenny Martin Jr.

Western News