Become a certified brand ambassador

The Behind the W Brand Ambassador program has dates available through December 2015 for all three of its workshops. The workshops have been designed to strengthen the University's internal brand-building efforts and to provide employees with knowledge and tools to talk about WMU's brand. They are offered to all faculty and staff members, and each one in the series lasts three hours. The workshops are on “Understanding the WMU Identity,” “Understanding WMU Audiences and Ways to Communicate with Them,” and “WMU Communication Guidelines and Standards.” Full-day sessions encompassing all three are being offered July 10 at the College of Engineering and Applied Sciences building and July 24 at the College of Aviation campus in Battle Creek.

The workshops also are being held individually in August and other months. Space is limited, so register soon at wmich.edu/behindthew.

Google Apps for Education expanded

Bloggers, Groups and YouTube are now available in WMU's Google Apps for Education, a service for all WMU students and employees detailed at wmich.edu/google. They are part of the service's consumer apps group. Consumer apps are governed by a contract between the user and Google. WMU’s Google Apps for Education also offers several core apps through an agreement between the University and Google and covered by WMU’s existing Google Apps terms of service.

The value of enabling consumer apps is that users can sign in through their Bronco NetID. To maintain or create a personal account for YouTube, Google Plus or another consumer app, simply sign in using a non-WMU email address.

Free Microsoft products available

Office 365 ProPlus provides desktop versions of Microsoft Office for both PC and Mac to WMU students and employees at no cost. It also provides access to mobile Office apps as well as cloud-based, online collaboration tools. These include OneDrive for Business, Word Online, Excel Online, PowerPoint Online and OneNote Online.

Only currently enrolled students and currently employed faculty and staff are eligible. Eligibility ends 90 days after students are no longer enrolled and faculty and staff members are no longer actively employed. Visit wmich.edu/helpdesk/office365 for details.

Western News to go on hiatus soon

The next issue of Western News will be distributed on Thursday, June 25. This will be the last issue for the summer. The deadline to submit items for the issue is 5 p.m. Friday, June 19. Western News will resume publication at the beginning of the fall semester.

Psychologist receives $416,385 NIH grant

A veteran WMU psychology professor has landed a three-year, $416,385 grant from the National Institutes of Health to conduct research with her students on the behavioral pharmacology of novel stimulant drugs, commonly known on the street as “bath salts.”

Lisa Baker, psychology, will implement animal models of substance abuse to evaluate the abuse potential of various chemical constituents of bath salts. She will conduct her study with the aid of several undergraduate and graduate students, who will gain valuable research experience.

Bath salt drugs have nothing in common with products on the market that are added to bath water. They encompass a variety of recreational designer drugs that were disguised as true bath salts and labeled as “not for human consumption.”

The drugs are synthetic cathinones derived from a plant in Africa and the Middle East whose leaves people chew for a boost of energy, similar to coca leaves, which are used to make cocaine. First synthesized in the 1920s, they were obscure until early in the 21st century, when underground chemists rediscovered them and began using them in designer drugs.

Synthetic cathinones were legal in many U.S. and European jurisdictions. In 2011, the drugs were classified as schedule I substances in the United States, meaning they have no medical purpose. As a result, they are now illegal to produce, possess, or distribute.

Baker, who is associate professor of psychology, will work with her students on research that will focus on the potential abuse liability of synthetic cathinones.

Valley Dining Center groundbreaking set for June 12

The WMU community will gather in Goldsworth Valley Friday, June 12, for a groundbreaking ceremony to mark the start of construction on a dramatic new dining facility that will be open for fall 2016.

The 1:30 p.m. event on the site directly across from Goldsworth Valley Pond will feature WMU President John M. Dunn, Vice President for Student Affairs Diane Anderson and Dining Services Director Judy Clipper. Students, administrators, dining staff and others from across the campus are expected to attend.

Goldsworth Valley Drive is partially closed for site preparation and utility work. Those attending the groundbreaking should approach the area traveling clockwise on the campus Ring Road, driving around the road closure barricades to park near the intramural-field end of the road.

The two-story Valley Dining Center will overlook the Goldsworth Valley Pond and have nine dining venues as well as a retail cafe and convenience store. It will serve all 12 residence halls in the Valley and be open to all WMU students, faculty and staff members, and visitors.

Trustees set 2015-16 budget, keep tuition within state cap

Trustees approved that increase June 3, as well. It meets Michigan’s tuition restraint request, and WMU remains the state’s most affordable research university.

Big expense changes in the budget include increases in compensation levels that range from 2 to 3 percent for WMU employees. In addition to the $6.3 million in new compensation costs to cover those increases, a nearly $1.8 million compensation system adjustment has been added due to the market-based Staff Compensation Project completed in May.

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For and about WMU faculty and staff

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The study of WMU compensation levels was the first in six years and resulted in pay increases for 355 people.
Thirty-three faculty members receive promotions

The WMU Board of Trustees approved promotions for 33 faculty members at its June 3 meeting. The promotions are effective with the beginning of the 2015-16 academic year.

Promoted to professor are: Ala Al-Fuqaha, computer science; Julie Apker, communication; Michele Behr, University Libraries; Debasri Damashke, psychology; Kevin Wanner, comparative religion; Takashi Yoshida, history.

Promoted to associate professor are: David Areux, physician assistant; Amy Dasmeshk, philosophy; Andzej Dudek, computer science; John Dickey, family and consumer sciences; and Mary Peterson, environmental control.

Promoted to assistant professor are: James Cousins, history; Bryce Dickey, family and consumer sciences; and Mary Peterson, environmental control.

Promoted to faculty specialist II are: Tracy DeMars, teaching, and educational studies; and Kathryn Wagner, theatre.

Promoted to master faculty specialist are: James Coats, business; Bryan Dickey, family and consumer sciences; and Mary Peterson, speech pathology and audiology.

Promoted to faculty specialist I are: Tracey DeMars, teaching, and educational studies; Linda Dove, family and consumer sciences; and Annette Hamel, communication.

Economists edit book on governance

Stanny Asefa and Wei-Chiao Huang, economists, have edited a new book titled "The Political Economy of Good Governance." The book, just released by the Upjohn Press, features papers presented by a notable group of social scientists during WMU’s 2012-13 Sichel Lecture Series.

Asefa and Huang wrote the book’s introduction, presenting a useful definition of governance as well as the general points of good governance and challenges to it. They also wrote the final chapter, which examines topics that relate governance to sustainable development and poverty reduction.

The book’s contributors explore additional key dimensions of good governance, as well as what deleterious and negative consequences may arise in its absence. They connect the importance of education, health, climate change, political parties and other issues to address the challenges of creating a world where more countries embrace good governance policies to benefit their peoples.

Staffer chairing Goodwill committee

Michael Hodgkinson, maintenance services, has been recruited to serve as chair of the Facilities Committee for the Board of Directors of Goodwill Industries of Southwest Michigan. Hodgkinson has been serving on the board for the past year.

In his additional role, he will head the committee charged with monitoring the condition of Goodwill’s facilities, overseeing improvements and construction, and providing technical advice as well as suggestions for facility improvements.

He joined WMU’s staff in 1996 as an environmental control person and has risen through the Facilities Management ranks to become manager for operations in the maintenance services unit.

Regional group honors supervisor

Tyler Payne, Help Desk, was named Student Employment Supervisor of the Year for Michigan this spring by the Midwest Association of Student Employment Administrators in recognition of his mentoring, professionalism and leadership.

“Tyler is one of those guys who has the perfect balance of technical skills and people skills,” says his supervisor Arnold Taylor, in WMU’s Office of Information Technology. “He is committed to making sure he’s serving people and brings an attitude of customer service to the job every day.”

Payne supervises about 20 student technicians at WMU’s Help Desk. He joined the University’s staff in 2010 and also was selected as WMU’s Supervisor of the Year for 2015.
Legendary WMU cross country and track and field Head Coach George Dales was formally inducted into the Mid-American Conference Hall of Fame during a May 27 ceremony in Cleveland.

Dales led WMU to the Mid-American Conference’s first and second team Division I National Championships and is responsible for two of these national championships earned by MAC teams. During his tenure, the Broncos won back-to-back NCAA Cross Country Championships in 1964 and 1965, and accumulated 12 MAC titles in track and field and eight in cross country. His cross country teams finished in the top 10 nationally on 13 occasions, and he was the 1970 NCAA Track Coach of the Year.

Dales coached many athletes, including Olympic Gold Medalist Ira Muchnick, the world record holder in the 100m and 1956 Olympic winner in the 4x100m. Under Dales, the Broncos earned 25 All-American honors, producing 11 in track and field and another 14 in cross country. His 1964 and 1965 NCAA championship teams were inducted into the WMU Athletic Hall of Fame in 2009, becoming the first entire teams—rather than individuals—to be inducted.

Dales, 93, joined the University’s staff as an athletics and physical education specialist in January 1953 and retired as head track and cross-country coach in 1970. He continued working at WMU on the physical education staff until retiring as a professor in 1987. He ended his coaching career with the wonniest record in MAC history from the standpoint of team victories. His teams, both cross country and track, nearly finished lower than third in the conference.

Dales was one of seven charter members inducted into the U.S. Track & Field and Cross Country Coaches Association Hall of Fame. He also is a member of the WMU Athletic Hall of Fame and Miami University Athletics Cradle of Coaches. The most prestigious honor a coach can receive from the U.S. Track & Field and Cross Country Coaches Association is the George Dales Award. The annual award was created in honor of Dales for his relentless pursuit of the growth and development of track and field and cross country over more than half a century.

Dales served as an advisor in both Greece and Mexico and in the latter assignment, worked with Christos Fapaniochlos, who went on to become the world’s first 18-foot pole vaulter.

After his retirement, Dales continued to serve and advance the sport of track and field for many years. He was secretary/treasurer for the NCAA Division I Track & Field Coaches Association for 25 years. He also served as commissioner of the Central Collegiate Conference, president of the International Track & Field Coaches Association, and editor-in-chief of the Track & Field Review.

In addition to WMU employees, WMU alumni are expected to be out in force to attend a special alumni gathering at the field that evening.

**WMU night at Growlers game set**

Friday evening, June 19, is WMU Faculty and Staff Appreciation Night at the Kalama-zoo Growlers’ Baseball Game. The game will begin at 7:05 p.m. at Homer Stryker Field.

Students and faculty staff members can purchase adult admission tickets to attend the game that night for $7 each. To help Bronco families attend, WMU President John M. Dunn will cover the cost for children 18 and under. The offer is good for the first 300 child ticket requests from employees, with up to two child tickets available for each adult ticket purchased. Tickets may be purchased by calling (269) 492-9966.

**[HTTP://BIT.LY/1GCBW6S]**
Three Bronco teams honored for top academic scores

Golf, men’s basketball and women’s tennis at WMU are among the more than 1,000 teams to be honored by the NCAA for top scores in the classroom.

Based on their most recent multi-year Academic Progress Rate, ending with 2013-14, these teams have earned NCAA Public Recognition Awards this year for posting scores in the top 10 percent of their sports. The Bronco golf team earned its first NCAA Public Recognition award last season and won its second this year.

With its 2015 designation, the men’s basketball team earned recognition for the sixth time since the NCAA began bestowing the honor with the 2004-05 academic year, more than any other Bronco athletic program. The team has been honored three times in the last five years and is the only men’s basketball team in the Mid-American Conference to be recognized this year.

Women’s tennis is marking its third public recognition in four years and fifth overall. It is the only MAC women’s tennis program to receive the honor this year.

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accepted medical use and have high abuse potential.

Baker’s grant is through the Academic Research Enhancement Award—AREA—program sponsored by the NIH. The program supports projects at educational institutions that provide baccalaureate or advanced degrees for two years then moved into her current position. Both she and ARHC, a University Libraries unit, were housed in East Hall until 2013, when the Zhang Legacy Collections Center opened.

“I was very lucky and just fell into the job,” she says. “I meet new people every day.”

“I like working with patrons,” says Campbell, who has been at the University for a total of 15 years. “I was very lucky and just fell into the job,” she says. “I meet new people every day.”

“People who abuse drugs are likely to engage in polysubstance abuse, using various drugs in combination,” Baker says. “We know that concurrent use of multiple stimulants poses a greater risk for toxicities to the brain and cardiovascular system.”

She adds that a major aim of her project is to determine, using animal models, if concurrent use of multiple stimulants that are all commonly abused stimulates, like cocaine, ecstasy and methamphetamine.

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