

Transitions

The Official Newsletter of The Advocacy Office for Transfer Students and Military Affairs

Homecoming Week Aims to Boost Brown and Gold Spirit

Western Michigan University's annual Homecoming celebration offers students a chance to meet their fellow Broncos while expressing their WMU pride. The week-long celebration begins Monday, Oct. 19, and offers daily activities to build school spirit in anticipation of the Bronco's home football game against the University at Buffalo. Several teams will be competing for the Spirit Cup, earning points for each competition held throughout the week.

Homecoming Kick-off begins at 5:30 p.m. Monday at Goldsworth Pond and will offer food from Qdoba Mexican Grill, the event's sponsor, as well as live music from local act Living the Dream. A canned food sculpture competition will also be held in support of Kalamazoo Loaves and Fishes, which provides grocery

and food assistance to individuals and families in the Kalamazoo area.

The festivities continue Wednesday afternoon as the Western Student Association hosts Western Wednesday, which will feature giveaways including WMU apparel, water bottles, key chains and foam fingers. There will also be prizes from Qdoba as well as an appearance by Buster Bronco.

Ears are sure to be ringing after the Yell like Hell cheer competition Thursday. Teams of up to thirty people will compete to voice their pride and support their organizations as loudly as possible at Miller Auditorium. The event begins at 7:30 p.m., with teams being judged by loudness, creativity and synchronization.

Following the Yell like Hell competition, the Campus Activities Board will host a Miller Movie at 9 p.m. in Miller Auditorium. Students

who bring a canned food donation for Kalamazoo Loaves and Fishes will be entered in a raffle for a Homecoming gift bag. Admission is \$1 for students with a Bronco ID, or \$2 without.

The fight for the Spirit Cup culminates Friday with the Western Games, a long-standing tradition of WMU Homecoming, which begins at 11 a.m. at Goldsworth Pond. Games include a donut eating competition, relay race, tug of war, and soapbox derby race.

The Homecoming football game begins Saturday, Oct. 24 at 2 p.m. at Waldo Stadium. The Broncos will host the University at Buffalo Bulls.

More information about Homecoming week festivities can be found at www.homecoming.wmich.edu.

WMU Hockey to Host Military Appreciation Night

Western Michigan's Men's Hockey team will host Military Appreciation Night Saturday, Nov. 7. Throughout the night, members of the military will be recognized for their service.

One hundred free tickets have been provided by WMU Intercollegiate Athletics for military students and their friends and family. The tickets may be picked up at the Advocacy Office for Transfer Students and Military Affairs, located in 1353 Ellsworth Hall during regular business hours.

Information booths hosted by

the Advocacy Office for Transfer Students and Military Affairs and the Military and Veterans Student Association will be set up in the lobby and will offer information and giveaways. Donations will also be accepted for the Advocacy Office's Care Package program, which sends WMU gear, toiletries, and stationary items to deployed students.

The game begins at 7:35 p.m. in Lawson Arena. Doors open at 6:35 p.m. and admission is free for WMU students with their Bronco ID. The Broncos will play the Lake Superior State University Lakers.

The Advocacy Office for Transfer Students and Military Affairs is located in 1353 Ellsworth Hall.

*Phone: (269) 387-0740
Fax: (269) 387-0743*

advocacy-office@wmich.edu

What advice would you offer to new transfer students?

I think the main thing I would tell transfer students to do is get involved. There are so many clubs and activities going on at the University and in the Kalamazoo area that a transfer student, especially one who is coming out of town, should not get bored. Getting involved could also help ease the transition of coming to Western. It would also create a wonderful opportunity to develop new friendships, which is important when going to a new school.

Another important thing for transfer students to do is ask questions. They should talk with their RAs or other student leaders when they're not sure about something (such as where to go for payments, dorm policies, locations of buildings, etc.) They should not feel afraid to ask about things they are unsure about. It's only for the students' good to ask and get the information they need. If they don't ask questions, it could negatively impact their Western experience.

*Saleem Ismail
WMU Grad Student
Statistics*

Career and Student Employment Services Prepares Students for Job Search

The most daunting task for many students is the job search that awaits them upon graduation. Students often have a hard enough time finding employment to support themselves while attaining a degree.

Career and Student Employment Services, a division of WMU's Career Networks, is dedicated to providing students with career advising and employment information. The office also operates BroncoJOBS, a database of career, internship and student employment listings.

Located in Ellsworth Hall, Career and Student Employment Services offers career advising by

appointment and on a walk-in basis.

Walk-in advising offers students the opportunity to discuss career options for a particular major, networking and career fair tips, and how to begin a career or internship search. Advisors can also help review resumes or cover letters, research specific careers, and offer assistance using BroncoJOBS.

Advising appointments are available to those with more involved career concerns, such as deciding upon a career goal, finding an internship or summer job, choosing or changing a major, and practicing for job interviews.

Career and Student

Employment Services can also assist in finding part-time work for students, including work study jobs on campus.

BroncoJOBS offers students the ability to post a resume and apply to jobs and internships. The database can be sorted by profession as well as location of employment.

Also available through BroncoJOBS are calendars of networking events and career fairs, career guidance information, and a customizable portfolio.

More information about Career and Student Employment Services or Bronco JOBS can be found on their Web site at <http://www.wmich.edu/career/cases/>.

About the AOTSMA...

The Advocacy Office for Transfer Students and Military Affairs was established in 2007 by Interim President Deither Haenicke to make transitioning to WMU as smooth and seamless as possible for transfer and military students. The office, located in 1353 Ellsworth Hall, is part of the Center for Academic Success Programs. The office is overseen by Transfer Advocate Steven Miller, Military Advocate Tracey Moon, and Office Associate Eric McConnell.

Skills Center and Writing Center Offer Mid-Semester Help

The Fall semester is halfway complete, and many students may be seeking additional help in their classes. The Academic Skills Center and Writing Center, both part of the Center for Academic Success Programs, offer instruction and tutoring to students, as well as seminars on college success, to help students reach their full potential.

The Academic Skills Center offers Supplemental Instruction in many specific "high-risk" classes. The sessions, which are led by a student who has already taken the respective class, offer a small study group atmosphere with lots of personal interaction. Supplemental Instruction sessions are a great way to meet

students in your major, and can also cut the time you spend studying outside of class.

Content Tutoring is offered for students taking Economics, Elementary Education Math, Math, Music, or Spanish courses. Tutors are available to discuss course assignments, lectures, readings and exams. Tutoring also offers a small-group environment, but is not specific to one course. Many students come to Content Tutoring sessions to do their homework, so they can ask questions as they arise. Study groups can also be held at tutoring sessions.

College Success Seminars are held several days a week to help students build and improve the skills

they need. Seminars are held on learning styles, note taking techniques, researching and source finding, test taking, time management, and other crucial skills.

More information about the Academic Skills Center and schedules of College Success Seminars, Supplemental Instruction, and Content Tutoring Sessions can be found on their Web site at <http://www.wmich.edu/asc/>.

The Writing Center, in 1065 Moore Hall, offers one-to-one instruction for students who want to improve their writing. Instruction is offered by appointment. The Writing Center can be reached at (269) 387-4615.

Academic Advisors Ease Stress of Registration

As a new semester quickly approaches, planning ahead is important to ensure students register for the classes they need. Registration begins as early as Oct. 19 for some students.

Academic Advisors are available to assist students with any registration questions or problems they may have. Students can also check in with their advisor for program information. Program guides are available online through the program's respective Web site.

Academic Advising Offices

Arts and Sciences	2318 Friedmann	(269) 387-4366
Aviation	2210 Kohrman	(269) 387-0347
Dance	3123 Dalton Center	(269) 387-5845
Education	2504 Sangren	(269) 387-3474
Engineering	E102 CAES Building	(269) 276-3270
Fine Arts	2132 Dalton Center	(269) 387-4672
Frostic School of Art	2104 Richmond Center	(269) 387-2440
General University Studies	1315 Ellsworth	(269) 387-4156
Haworth College of Business	2130 Schneider	(269) 387-5075
Health and Human Services	2125 CHHS Building	(269) 387-2656
International Student Services	B2425 Ellsworth	(269) 387-5890
Lee Honors College	LHC Building	(269) 387-3230
Music	2132 Dalton Center	(269) 387-4672
Theatre	1103 Gilmore Complex	(269) 387-3210
University Curriculum	2041 Moore	(269) 387-4410

Registration Dates

Graduate students	Oct. 19
Athletes, Honors, RA	Oct. 20
Seniors (122.000)	Oct. 21
Seniors (112.000)	Oct. 22
Seniors (103.000)	Oct. 23
Seniors (94.000)	Oct. 26
Seniors (88.000)	Oct. 27
Juniors (80.000)	Oct. 28
Juniors (71.000)	Oct. 29
Juniors (62.000)	Oct. 30
Juniors (56.000)	Nov. 2
Sophomores (47.000)	Nov. 3
Sophomores (38.000)	Nov. 4
Sophomores (30.000)	Nov. 5
Sophomores (26.000)	Nov. 6
Last Day to Drop Classes	Nov. 9
Freshmen (18.000)	Nov. 10
Freshmen (14.000)	Nov. 11
Freshmen (11.000)	Nov. 12
Freshmen (0.000)	Nov. 13

Relieve Stress at Health and Wellness Expo

Looking for relief from mid-semester stress? WMU Student Recreation will host the Health & Wellness Expo on Tuesday, Nov. 10, in the Student Recreation Center Indoor Tennis Courts from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

All members of the WMU community are welcome to sample healthy food, get a relaxing chair massage, try-out hands on displays and receive acupuncture treatment.

Flu shots will also be available to keep “what’s going around” from getting to you.

Free on-campus parking will be available to Health & Wellness Expo visitors in Lot 13 and the Ellsworth Parking Structure.

VA Rep to Host Drop-ins on campus

Battle Creek Veterans Affairs Representative and friend of the Advocacy Office Mick Hornev will be visiting campus once a month to assist student veterans and military with any VA-associated needs they may have.

Mr. Hornev, the Battle Creek VA’s OEF/OIF Transition Patient Advocate, will be on campus the first Wednesday of each month in the Advocacy Office, located in 1353 Ellsworth Hall.

Meetings will be available from 1 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

WMU Fast Facts

Did you know...

...WMU’s athletic team were originally nicknamed the “Hilltoppers?”

...WMU’s school colors were chosen because of the brown and gold Brown-Eyed Susans that could be found around campus?

Upcoming Events

Students are invited to join Transfer Advocate Steve Miller for a series of drop-in luncheons on campus. Transfer students are welcome to ask questions and share their experiences at WMU.

The luncheons will be held:

Oct. 29, from 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m., in the Bernhard Cafeteria for off-campus transfer students

Nov. 17, from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., in the Davis Dining Hall for on-campus transfer students

The Military and Veterans Student Association will hold its 2nd Annual Veterans Day Flag Relay on Wednesday, Nov. 11 at 7 a.m.

The American Flag, POW/MIA Flag and WMU flag will be run from WMU to Fort Custer National Cemetery in one mile increments.

Students who are interested in helping run the flags can contact Julie Schuitema at J6schuitema@wmich.edu or can call (269) 387-7683.

The Military and Veterans Student Association holds weekly meetings Sundays at 8 p.m. in the lower level of the Wesley Foundation, located on campus.