



Western News

MARCH 30, 2017
Volume 43, Number 13

For and about WMU faculty and staff

Dunn celebration tickets still available

Although going fast, tickets are still available for the Friday, April 7, communitywide celebration marking the retirement of President John M. Dunn. The celebration is set for 3 p.m. in Miller Auditorium. Tickets for general seating must be secured before the event and are only available by request through the Miller Auditorium box office in person or by calling (269) 387-2300.

WMUK spring pledge drive underway

The University's public radio station, WMUK, has begun its annual spring membership drive, which will run through Monday, April 3. The station has set a pledge goal of \$164,000. To give online, visit wmuk.org.

The spring campaign marks the 40th anniversary of WMUK's local bluegrass show, "Grassroots." To celebrate, contributors to the campaign will be entered into a drawing to win a pair of tickets to see Belá Fleck and Abigale Washburn Thursday, May 11, at the Kalamazoo State Theatre.

Japanese lessons for teenagers offered

Beginning Japanese language lessons for teenagers are now available through WMU's Soga Japan Center. The program is open to middle school and high school students. The fee is \$30 for three lessons.

Lessons will be held from 4 to 4:45 p.m. in 2045 Brown Hall on three consecutive Fridays: April 7, 14 and 21. No experience is necessary, but registration is required at wmich.edu/japancenter/events. For more information, contact Michiko Yoshimoto at michiko.yoshimoto@wmich.edu or (269) 387-5874.

Campuswide shredding event set

WMU students, faculty and staff are encouraged to "get their shred on" to ensure all professional and personal documents are properly destroyed and recycled. The event will take place from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Tuesday, April 11, in Lot 41 near Sangren Hall. Details about what material may be disposed of is available at wmich.edu/news/2017/03/38836.

APA awards luncheon scheduled

The Administrative Professional Association will celebrate the winners of its 2017 annual awards at a luncheon from noon to 1:30 p.m. Tuesday, April 18, in the Fetzer Center. This year's honorees are Lindsey Palar, Outstanding New Professional Award; Derek Andree, Outstanding Professional Award; and Teri Schrimpf, Tony Griffin Service Award.

Registration is required by Thursday, April 13, at mywmu.com/apaaawards. Admission is \$5 for active-dues-paying APA members, each of whom may bring a guest at the member rate, and \$10 for others.

Grad programs ranked among nation's best

The latest annual *U.S. News & World Report* ranking of the top graduate programs in the nation shows WMU with eight programs ranked among the top 100 in their disciplines, four in the top 50 and two programs assessed as the best of their kind in Michigan.



In the latest round of rankings released March 14, WMU's occupational therapy program based in Kalamazoo is the state's highest ranking program in that discipline. The speech-language pathology program is tied for recognition as that discipline's best such program in the state.

Programs ranked among the nation's top 100 are: occupational therapy, Kalamazoo

(32); rehabilitation counseling (37); speech-language pathology (46); audiology, (48), physician assistant (57); occupational therapy, Grand Rapids (58); social work (71); and online College of Education and Human Development programs (92).

Seven of WMU's top-100 graduate programs are part of the University's celebrated College of Health and Human Services. The eighth top-100 designation is in the education college.

Another seven WMU graduate programs also are highly ranked among programs offered by the nation's more than 650 colleges and universities that confer master's and doctoral degrees. The additional ranked WMU programs are in: earth sciences/geosciences (113), public affairs (115), English (116), education (120), history (125), art (131),

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University gets final OK to offer classes in Florida

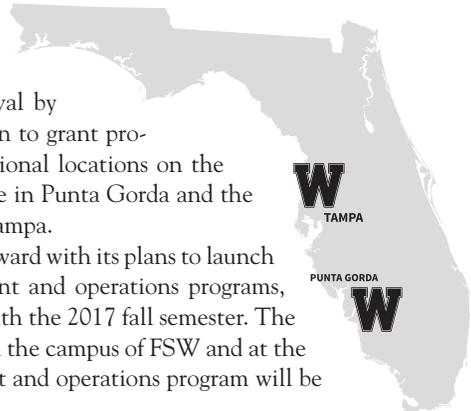
The Higher Learning Commission has approved WMU's request to offer programs at two locations in Florida.

The HLC's decision follows last year's approval by Florida's Commission for Independent Education to grant provisional licenses allowing WMU to operate regional locations on the campuses of Florida SouthWestern State College in Punta Gorda and the WMU Cooley Law School in Riverview, near Tampa.

With the HLC's approval, WMU can move forward with its plans to launch aviation flight science and aviation management and operations programs, each leading to a bachelor's degree, beginning with the 2017 fall semester. The aviation flight science program will be offered on the campus of FSW and at the Punta Gorda Airport. The aviation management and operations program will be offered online.

In 2015, WMU petitioned for approvals that would provide the College of Aviation with an additional location that would allow increased flight time and enhance the college's ability to respond to aviation industry needs, allow the College of Health and Human Services to advance the delivery of its nationally recognized programs by providing more health care settings for clinical rotations, and expand the off-site delivery of academic programs

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Presidential search process 'on track and on time'

The search for WMU's ninth president is in a new phase, with a campuswide committee examining the credentials of a pool of 78 applicants and preparing for in-person interviews.



Johnston

"We are on track and on time," Trustee William Johnston told his fellow members of the WMU Board of Trustees at its March 15 meeting.

Johnston is chair of a 22-member Presidential Search Advisory Committee. He said the firm the committee is working with—Parker Executive Search—has turned over application materials for what Johnston called "a robust" field of candidates who are "talented and experienced."

The committee members examined the materials and assembled March 16 to narrow the field based on their research and reading of the applications. Ten candidates were selected to be interviewed March 22 and 23.

After interviews are completed, the committee will further narrow the group to the names of finalist candidates that will then be delivered to the full board during the first week of April. Johnston said the goal, as outlined last fall when the committee began its work, is to have the name of the next WMU president ready to announce at the April 27 trustees meeting.

Around campus and beyond

Geographic Bee to be held Friday

For the 10th straight year, just over 100 young geography buffs from across the state will come to WMU for the Michigan State Geographic Bee. The event will be Friday, March 31, in the Fetzer Center and is the second level of the national competition. The state finals start at about 2:15 p.m. and are open to the public. The top geography student in Michigan will be selected from a field of 10 students who make it to the national round.

Winnie Veenstra Peace Lecture set

Alexander Guerrero, Rutgers University assistant professor of philosophy, will deliver the annual Winnie Veenstra Peace Lecture at 6 p.m. Thursday, April 6, in 213 Bernhard Center. The title of his presentation is "Again Toward Perpetual Peace: Elections, World Government and Lottocracy." For more information, visit wmich.edu/news/2017/03/38944.

Focused career fairs slated in April

Two specialized career events are being held next month: the Education Career Fair Wednesday, April 5, and Aviation Outlook Day Friday, April 7. Both of these annual events are free and open to the public. No pre-registration is required.

More than 110 school districts will

participate in the April 5 fair from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the East Ballroom of the Bernhard Center. More than 30 organizations have signed up to take part in the April 7 event from 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at the aviation campus in Battle Creek, Michigan.

Frostic series slates three April events

The Gwen Frostic Reading Series closes out its spring 2017 season with three presentations in April. First up will be Dao Strom, a writer and musician, who will read from her works at 8 p.m. Thursday, April 6, in 3512 Knauss Hall.

Next, New Issues Press authors Carol Zoref and Myron Hardy will read at 8 p.m. Thursday, April 13, in 157-159 Bernhard Center. Lastly, graduate student authors will get in on the act as part of WMU's MFA/Ph.D. Festival. Their readings start at 7 p.m. Saturday, April 22, in 157-159 Bernhard Center.

Prescription drugs are event focus

Learn how to dispose of prescription drugs safely during an educational and fun event from 1:30 to 4 p.m. Wednesday, April 12, at the Campus Flagpoles near the Lee Honors College. In addition to informational materials, there will be free games and giveaways.

Prof co-edits new queer history edition

Susan K. Freeman, gender and women's studies chair, has co-edited a second edition of a book on queer history that takes into



Freeman

account recent historic changes. "Understanding and Teaching U.S. Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender History," edited with Leila J. Rupp from the University of California, Santa Barbara, was published in March by the University of Wisconsin Press.

It updates the essays on the Supreme Court, same-sex marriage, the political right and transgender history. In addition, the authors of several other essays have taken the opportunity to add new material and references where warranted. It also includes introductory essays by Freeman and Rupp.

This is the first book designed for university and high school teachers who want to integrate queer history into the standard curriculum.

Sociologist pens public safety book

Barry Goetz, sociology, has written a new book that examines public safety programs and practices and their impact on commu-



Goetz

nity inequities and marginalized populations. "On the Frontlines of the Welfare State: How the Fire Service & Police Shape Social Problems" was published in February by Routledge Press.

The book shows how public safety agencies are being asked to absorb more social welfare functions amidst cutbacks in other areas and focuses on arson fraud and community policing initiatives. It notes that although public safety agencies protect people's well-being, they also shape social problems and community inequities.

Two areas of public safety are examined: arson control and fire prevention, especially within the contexts of urban change and gentrification, and community policing, especially as a mechanism of expanding drug treatment service and prevention programs.

Dean earns national diversity award

Ming Li, dean of the College of Education and Human Development, is among 39 higher education leaders who have received



Li

the 2017 Giving Back Award from *INSIGHT Into Diversity* magazine. They are recognized in the magazine's April issue. The award honors college and university administrators who go above and beyond their everyday leadership duties and "give back" to their campuses and communities. They are selected based on their outstanding demonstration of social responsibility; involvement with students, faculty, staff and the community; and commitment to serving underrepresented populations.

Li was specifically honored because he has focused his career on diversifying the K-12 teacher workforce by making teacher preparation programs more accessible to underrepresented students. He is the only state honoree this year from a public university.

Service anniversaries

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

40 Years—Carol A. Morris-Mier, College of Education and Human Development.

35 Years—Jean E. Bowsky-Verschoof, Bernhard Center, and Vernon Payne, associate vice president for student affairs.

30 Years—Timothy J. Bowers, landscape services; Nancy E. Cretsinger, College of Health and Human Services; and Cam Vossen, public safety.

20 Years—Suzanne V. Beals, development

and alumni relations; Lee Ann Claussen, political science; Michael F. DeBlecourt, Bernhard Center; Pamela Mottley, English; Rob Pennock, Auxiliary Enterprises; and Kristi L. Schutter, university budgets.

15 Years—Erik Conover, information technology.

10 Years—Steven C. Durian, power plant; Nick Gauthier, art; Daniel Kelsh, maintenance services; Bruce Allen Kirkendall, maintenance services; Mark W. St. Martin, interdisciplinary health programs; and Joseph A. Wilson, EUP-Grand Rapids.

Five Years—Chris Broomell, College of Education and Human Development; Andre Carr, admissions; Lisa R. Garcia, Haworth College of Business; Officer Hohnke, public safety; Adam W. Limban, student financial aid and scholarships; Mara Van Niekerk, counselor education and counseling psychology; and Denise Wheatley, social work.

Retirement reception

Joel Boyd, CELCIS, will be recognized for his 21-1/2 years of service to the University during a retirement reception from 4 to 7 p.m. Thursday, April 13, in the Oaklands.

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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W WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY

Fulbright Scholarship has Jon Davis talking math in South Africa

For many students, mathematics isn't an easy subject to master. Teaching mathematics in a country like South Africa, which has 11 official languages, can also be daunting.



Davis donated calculators to the Solomon Mahlangu school, then trained its faculty on the handheld devices. (Photo courtesy of Jon Davis)

Although English is the common mode of instruction in that country, Jon Davis, mathematics, thinks doing a little more talking could lead to better learning outcomes for students. So he is using his six-month-long Fulbright Program Scholarship to delve deeper into how conceptual discourse and code-switching techniques can be tools in promoting student understanding.

Davis traveled to South Africa in January to explore ethnomathematics—the

study of the relationship between culture and math—and to observe mathematics instruction within South Africa's centralized education system.

"I'm particularly interested in studying a discursive method known as 'exploratory talk,' the kind of talk where participants engage critically but constructively with each other's ideas," Davis says. "I'm also interested in what linguists call 'code-switching,' which has been encouraged throughout South Africa across a variety of academic subjects because of the multilingual nature of the country's classrooms."

Davis says code-switching involves the use of two or more languages within a speech act.

"You explain a concept in English, then give students time to code-switch between languages to fully understand the subject,"

he says. "Students have the ability to interact with the material at a deeper level when you give them the time to use their preferred language to process the content before responding in English."

While in South Africa, Davis has been invited to teach classes as well as to give presentations on his current NSF grant, which relates to America's Common Core standards. He also is exploring opportunities for collaboration with South African researchers and for opening up study abroad options for WMU undergraduates.

"I intend to use my experiences in South Africa to bring a global perspective to our methods courses at WMU and promote study abroad within the mathematics department," he says, adding that they also are reinventing his math classroom research.

Open house slated to obtain input on new student center

The University community is invited to a presentation and open house on the library-student center master planning project April 10 from 3 to 5 p.m. in the first-floor lounge of the Bernhard Center.

Officials are seeking input from students, faculty and staff on the master planning study for a new facility that will combine a reimagined Waldo Library with a student center to create an integrated learning and activity hub for the campus.

The design team from Perkins + Will will present an overview of the project vision and program concept and answer questions. An open house for walk-up discussion will follow. Refreshments will be provided.

The project provides a reimagined, technology-rich environment for integrated experiences, interactive engagement, cultural exchange, active learning and discovery outside of the classroom. It will act as the community hub for the entire University, foster positive and creative interactions as well as intellectual and social exploration, and build a distinctive and supportive learning experience that fosters success across the University.

April 7 is end of active phase for Broncos4Broncos campaign

The 2016-17 Broncos4Broncos Campus Campaign is well underway, and financial incentives that extend giving options are being offered to participating units and groups.

The WMU campaign is designed to promote employee giving to the more than 1,903 scholarship, program and other funds that specifically benefit the University's students, although WMU entities that earn incentives may designate their award money to go to any WMU fund of their choice.

Last fiscal year, 842 employees donated nearly \$490,000 to more than 295 funds. Such gifts are 100 percent tax-deductible, as

Hockey Broncos conclude successful season

The hockey team finished third in the National Collegiate Hockey Conference this past season, a program best, and earned home ice in the NCHC Quarterfinals for the first time in program history. Under Head Coach Andy Murray, second from right, it earned a spot in the top 10 in both the **USCHO.com** and USA Today/USA Hockey Magazine polls for nine weeks and spent an overall total of 19 weeks ranked. WMU also finished the regular season spotted sixth in the Pairwise Rankings, earning a program-best No. 2 seed for its sixth NCAA Tournament appearance. Murray was named NCHC Coach of the Year and is a finalist for the Spencer Penrose Award. He helped engineer the nation's best turnaround, going from eight wins in 2015-16 to 22 in 2016-17. Captain Sheldon Dries became just the second Bronco to be named to the All-NCHC team, earning second team honors. Freshman goalie Ben Blacker was named to the NCHC All-Rookie team. (Photo courtesy of intercollegiate athletics)



Today's changing perspectives on gender to be discussed

Actor and award-winning storyteller Scott Turner Schofield will present "Gender Inclusion" as the featured speaker for Kalamazoo County's 19th annual Respecting Differences program.

Turner will present his talk, which is free and open to the public, at 9:30 a.m. and again at 1:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 12, in Miller Auditorium. Both presentations will include an on-stage American Sign Language translator.

The 2017 Respecting Differences program will deal with gender issues that may come up both at work and in social life,

and will include a closing question-and-answer session.

Schofield will cover topics such as how to respect pronouns, what topics are off-limits and how to negotiate using the restroom in a post-"bathroom bills" world.

His presentation will offer concrete, easy-to-understand guidance for "not putting your foot in your mouth" around transgender and nonbinary people.

Schofield demystifies trans and nonbinary genders by using an intersectional frame-

work—the way that the topics of biological sex, gender and sexuality are influenced by factors such as race/ethnicity, socioeconomic status, cultural heritage, disability and geographical location.

Those interested can get a greater sense of Schofield's presentation skills and style by viewing his "Ending Gender" TED Talk online at scotttschofield.com.

Admission to his Kalamazoo talks is free; however, tickets will be required. Every WMU faculty and staff member, including part-time instructors, have or soon will receive a ticket through campus mail.

Obituary—wmich.edu/news/obituaries

Ross Gregory, emeritus in history, died Feb. 10. He was 83. Gregory joined the faculty in 1966 and retired in 2004 after more than 38 years of service.



Schofield



On Campus with Deanne Puca



INQUIRING MIND
(Photo by Madeleine Fojtik)

"I started writing for my high school newspaper, and that's what sparked my interest in being a journalist," explains Deanne Puca, a part-time news and communication specialist in the Office of University Relations since 2006.

Puca went on to earn a bachelor's degree in journalism and work as an intern and reporter for the next 15 years at several Michigan newspapers and news services, writing about politics, education, government and business. Now, she writes and edits news releases as well as University publications and website content for WMU. Puca also serves on several event organizing committees and helps to promote such important annual programs as Bronco BUDS, the Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration, the United Way campus fundraising drive and Spring Convocation.

"I enjoy the diversity of my work and covering and learning about a wide variety of topics across the University. I'm also proud to talk about WMU within our community," she says. "Just as when I was a journalist, the constant learning makes my job fun. My unit covers a broad range of areas that I'm being educated in every day."

Puca adds that her work at the University also is rewarding because she gets to share what she learns with people on and off campus.

"As an example, I'm one of the two people who regularly write the On Campus profiles in *Western News*. So, I get to meet many people across WMU and learn about their work," she notes. "I really enjoy being able to let other faculty and staff members know how we all contribute to making the University such a special place."

Although born in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, Puca has lived most of her life in Michigan. She and her husband, Michael, have two teenage daughters and have resided in Kalamazoo for almost 20 years. They spend their summers in Scotts, Michigan, at Long Lake. The couple have a cottage there, and it has become a central location to connect with their large extended family.

Puca loves music, including singing; traveling; and visiting family. She speaks some Spanish and enjoys practicing the language when she travels. She also is interested in photography, and often photographs her daughters' school and sports activities.

Diagnosed with multiple sclerosis more than 20 years ago, Puca uses a cane to help with her balance. The condition limits her physical activity, but with the ongoing support of her family and friends, she says she tries to face any challenge with optimism and humor.

Psychologist to deliver lecture in honor of Croteau

A special lecture honoring longtime WMU faculty member James Croteau will feature a presentation by a prominent psychologist and scholar who will touch on issues facing people of color who are lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer/questioning.

Beverly Greene, a professor of psychology at St. Johns University, will speak at 6 p.m. Thursday, April 6, in 1910 Sangren Hall. Her presentation, titled "Psychological Resilience and Vulnerability among LGBTQ People of Color," is free and open to the public.

Greene specializes in the role of institutionalized racism, sexism, heterosexism and other oppressive ideologies in psychology, as well as

the practice of psychotherapy in organized mental health to facilitate social justice.

Her work seeks to better understand psychological resilience and vulnerability in marginalized people and their use in psychotherapy, as well as to examine social privilege and marginalization via the development of multiple identity paradigms.

Croteau, a professor of counselor education and counseling psychology, died in September at age 59. He was nationally known for his research, training, clinical work and publications focused on racism awareness, racial healing, and LGBT issues in the workplace and on college campuses.

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University gets final OK to offer classes in Florida

through Extended University Programs. The HLC approval allowing WMU to operate regional locations in Punta Gorda and Tampa is on top of EUP's nearly 350 online classes currently available to residents of Florida.

In addition to aviation programs, the HLC's Institutional Actions Council approved WMU's request to offer the:

- Certificate in alcohol and drug abuse
- Bachelor of Science in child and family development
- Master of Science in engineering management
- Certificate in gerontology
- Certificate in integrative holistic health wellness

- Bachelor of Science in interdisciplinary health services
- Certificate in low vision rehabilitation for occupational therapy
- Master of Music in music therapy
- Master of Science in nursing
- Master of Arts in organizational learning and performance
- Master of Science in Medicine in physician assistant
- Master of Arts in spirituality, culture and health
- Bachelor of Arts in university studies
- Bachelor of Science in university studies
- Master of Arts in vision rehabilitation Therapy

Tiger Night tickets on sale



The second annual WMU Night at Comerica Park has been set for June 28, Western Wednesday, when the Detroit Tigers take on the Kansas City Royals in a night home game.

Everyone who purchases tickets by Monday, May 1, will be automatically entered for a chance to win one of three autographed Detroit Tigers items.

Individual game tickets are being sold in selected sections through the Detroit Tigers ticket portal. The tickets sold through the WMU Night ticket portal include a commemorative hat voucher and a \$5 donation to the WMU Alumni Association Legacy Scholarship.

Packages are available for one of three special MyWMU pre-game tailgates, and chartered buses are available to take fans to Comerica Park.

For more information, visit mywmu.com.

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Grad programs among best

and clinical psychology (135).

A special online ranking offered by *U.S. News* this year assesses the relative diversity of the nation's law schools. The WMU Cooley Law School is tied with three other law schools for the No. 21 spot in the nation, and is ranked by a wide margin as the most diverse law school in Michigan.

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