



Western News

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For and about WMU faculty and staff

25 Year Club reservations due soon

The 25 Year Club gala honoring longtime employees will be held at 5:30 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 29, in the Bernhard Center's East Ballroom. Reservations are due Monday, Nov. 14. The annual gala honors employees who have built their careers at WMU. Invitations were mailed to club members and those about to be inducted.

Applications sought for CHHS post

Qualified internal candidates are encouraged to apply for the position of director of the School of Interdisciplinary Health Programs in the College of Health and Human Services. Contact Ann Tyler, search committee chair, at ann.tyler@wmich.edu with questions or to nominate a candidate. For details about the position, visit wmich.edu/hr/jobs.

WARF schedules retirement program

Western's Association of Retired Faculty—WARF—invites individuals considering retirement or retirees interested in a financial refresher to attend the next offering in its Navigating Retirement series. The two-part program, titled "Essentials of a Successful Investment Strategy," will be presented by A.D. Issa, emeritus in finance and commercial law, on consecutive Fridays.

Part I is set for Nov. 11 and Part II Nov. 18. Both sessions will take place from 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. in 1010 Health and Human Services Building. Those planning to attend are asked to visit the WARF website at wmuaaup.org/aaup_002.htm and read the documents posted under What's New.

Financial Atrocities and Countdown to Retirement will prepare attendees for the sessions, as will Pre-Retirement Checklist. Essentials of a Successful Investment Strategy provides an overview of the sessions.

Open enrollment period is underway

Open enrollment for 2017 health care benefits and flexible spending accounts has opened and runs through Friday, Nov. 11, for AAUP faculty and for AFSCME, MSEA, POA and eligible nonbargaining employees. This also is the open enrollment period for health care benefits for WMU retirees.

If no action is taken, benefit elections roll-over to 2017 except for FSA, which must be elected annually. Employees who complete the wellness program requirements by the end of 2016 will receive the wellness incentive for all of calendar year 2017. Detailed open enrollment information was mailed to employees. Information also is available on the Human Resources website at wmich.edu/hr/openenrollment.

CAS faculty urged to apply for award

College of Arts and Sciences faculty are invited to apply for the \$1,000 Gender Scholar Award for excellence in gender-related research by 5 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 30.

Grant puts rare manuscript into collection

A rare 12th-century manuscript that is a copy of a work first produced some 300 years earlier is now at home in WMU's Special Collections and Rare Book Department, thanks to a grant from the New York City-based B.H. Breslauer Foundation.

Written in northern France between 831 and 833, the original text was the work of Paschasius Radbertus, a Benedictine abbot later made a saint by Pope Gregory VII. It is an instructional text about the Eucharist for Benedictine monks.

The manuscript's Latin title is "De Corpore et Sanguine Domini," which means "On the Body and Blood of the Lord." The influential writing was widely disseminated during the Middle Ages and was considered groundbreaking and controversial in its argument for the Eucharist transforming into the body and blood of Christ.

Purchased using both endowed funds for the rare book collection and a \$70,000 grant from the Breslauer Foundation, the small 12th-century manuscript is expected to play a major role in graduate and undergraduate teaching and research. WMU is home to an internationally known Medieval Institute as well as two renowned research centers—the Richard Rawlinson Center for Anglo-Saxon Studies and Manuscript Research and the Center for Cistercian and Monastic Studies.

The manuscript arrived on campus Oct. 20 and is now at home in Waldo Library, says Susan Steuer, University Libraries. It will be exhibited only occasionally, she says, because of the toll exhibition can take on these artifacts.

"The manuscript will be used primarily for research and teaching," Steuer says, noting that library staff will digitize the work to extend access to the manuscript even more widely. "There are still things you need to see in their original physical form to fully understand."

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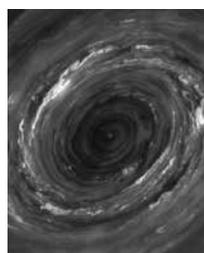
NASA fellow modeling off-world polar storms

Figuring out how the weather on Earth works is difficult enough. Now try deciphering atmospheric processes hundreds of millions of miles away on Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus and Neptune—the solar system's giant gas planets.

Doctoral candidate Shawn R. Brueshaber is trying to do just that, and his efforts earned him a NASA Earth and Space Science Fellowship. Brueshaber is one of only 28 applicants to receive a \$30,000 award for 2016-17 from the fellowship's planetary science research division.

He's investigating polar vortices, large patches of air circulating near the pole. These circulations are sometimes bounded by a jet stream and tend to change shape over time, just as the Earth's polar vortex did in January 2014 when it plunged parts of Canada and the U.S. into a deep freeze.

Receiving the fellowship is a coup for the veteran engineer, who's taught thermodynamics, materials science and graduate-level fluid mechanics at WMU. He's worked for 20



Brueshaber, **above**. (Photo by Jeanne Baron) Saturn's north pole vortex, **above left**. (Photo courtesy of NASA/JPL-Caltech/Space Science Institute)

years at several Michigan companies in a variety of roles—none of them related to weather or astronomy. But he's been fascinated by these subjects and has kept studying and reading about them.

So, for his doctoral dissertation, Brueshaber chose to investigate polar vortices on the solar system's gas planets. But it took extra support from two mechanical and aerospace engineering professors on his dissertation committee to make such a project viable because WMU didn't have an academic department or program that focused on weather, climate or planetary studies.

Chair William Liou worked with Brueshaber to meld his engineering skills with his personal interests, and Tianshu Liu introduced him to Kunio Sayanagi, a noted atmospheric and planetary sciences researcher at Hampton University who's now on his doctoral committee and works closely with him on his research.

"The motion of fluids ranging from the very small to the very large—like an atmosphere—is governed by physical laws and is fairly well understood. But the turbulent nature of fluids is the last remaining branch of classical physics that still defies a complete understanding," Brueshaber says. "WMU's mechanical and aerospace department understood that there was

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Around campus and beyond

Business presentations slated

Three business-related activities will bring high-ranking executives to campus, including an IT conference, an entrepreneurial presentation and a CEO forum. They include the Data and the Internet of Things conference Friday, Nov. 4, in the Fetzer Center, featuring sessions and workshops for industry, academic and student participants.

Registration is \$100 and includes a continental breakfast and lunch. Presenters include Richard Hook, chief information officer at Penske Corp. and senior vice president and CIO, Penske Automotive Group; Dan Fay, senior director of strategic engagement for Microsoft Research; and WMU's Kuanchin Chen, business information systems. For more information, visit westernmichiganitforum.com.

Ben Gott, founder of Boxed Water is Better, will speak at 8 a.m. Friday, Nov. 11, in 2150 Schneider as part of the Entrepreneurship Forum speaker series. This event begins with breakfast at 7:30 a.m. Reservations are required by calling 387-5964 or at wmich.edu/business/e-rsvp.

Ten top executives from Michigan companies will be on campus Thursday, Nov. 10, to work with students and present two panel discussions open to the public. Called the WMU Bronco CEO Forum, the group unites WMU alumni who are top executives for leading companies. The panel discussions are at 9:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. For more information, contact Cynthia Dawson at 387-5069.

Coercion, morality ethics topic

Hallie Liberto from the University of Connecticut, will address the intersection of coercion and moral deliberation when she speaks at 5 p.m. Friday, Nov. 4, in 157 Bernhard Center. Her presentation, titled "Coercion and Moral Power," is part of the Center for the Study of Ethics in Society's fall season and the 10th Annual Graduate Philosophy Conference.

Chemist to discuss climate change

Physical chemist Marsha Lester, professor of chemistry at the University of Pennsylvania, will speak on "Climate Change Science and Policy" at noon Thursday, Nov. 10, in 2500 Knauss Hall.

A reception in her honor will be held later that day at 4:30 p.m. in the Chemistry Building foyer, followed by a second talk by Lester on "The Atmosphere's Detergents" at 5:30 p.m. in 1260 Chemistry Building.

Poet in spotlight for Frostic Series

Award-winning poet Cathy Park Hong from Sarah Lawrence College and poetry editor of *The New Republic*, will read from her works at 8 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 17, in 157-159 Bernhard Center as part of the Gwen Frostic Reading Series.

Hong is the author of "Engine Empire," "Dance Dance Revolution" and "Translating Mo'um." She is the recipient of the Barnard Women Poets Prize and Guggenheim, National Endowment for the Arts and Fullbright fellowships.

Numerous events in November are honoring veterans

A wide range of events are being held on campus and in the local community this month to honor military veterans.

Today, WMU's ROTC is hosting a fundraiser to benefit the Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Battle Creek, Michigan. The event is set for 6 to 8:30 p.m. in the Activity Therapy Building on East Campus. Enjoy

food, games and a raffle of signed WMU merchandise. Admission is \$5 at the door.

On Veterans Day, which is Friday, Nov. 11, the ROTC Cannon Crew and Boomer the cannon will be participating in the Kalamazoo Veterans Day remembrance ceremony. The annual event is held at Rose Park to honor all veterans from the local community who served in the armed forces.

Also on Veterans Day, several area restaurants will be providing free meals to veterans. Visit bit.ly/2fcQS8K for a list of participating eateries.

In addition, veterans will be saluted Saturday, Nov. 19, during WMU's hockey and football games, and there will be a military discount for the football game. The K-Wings Military Appreciation Night has been set for Saturday, Nov. 12.

Veterans-related events at WMU will be posted at wmich.edu/news/events as they become available.

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.

Staffer earns interior design award

Julie Lenczycki, construction services, has earned a third place design award for the Heritage Hall Renovation in the Design Competition Awards of the Association of University Interior Designers.



Lenczycki

Lenczycki received the honor in the Renovation over \$500,000 category during the association's 2016 annual national conference. She also has been a recipient of several previous AUID awards, most recently for her work on the Zhang Legacy Collections Center.

AUID is a nonprofit organization established in 1979 to provide an information-sharing opportunity for individuals who work within institutions of higher education.

A WMU staff member since 1987, Lenczycki has been active in the association for the past 29 years. The interior designer sits on its board as the past president. In addition, she also has served AUID in capacities such as publicist, newsletter editor, annual scholarship chairperson and director at large.

Coaches announce academic honors

Lauren Sinacola and Chad Wiseman, head coaches for women's and men's soccer, were both at the helm of 2015-16 teams that have earned a National Soccer Coaches



Sinacola

Association of America Team Academic Award.

To qualify for the award, a team must have a minimum grade point average of 3.0 or higher for the entire academic year.

The women finished with a 3.55 GPA, third-highest among the seven Mid-American Conference schools that were honored. This is the seventh consecutive year the women have earned the award.



Wiseman

The men were honored for the fifth-straight season, posting an overall team GPA of 3.34, which ranked among the top of Division I institutions. The NSCAA annually recognizes college and high school soccer programs that have excelled in the classroom in addition to their work on the field. A total of 914 soccer teams—590 for women and 324 for men—across all divisions of collegiate soccer posted a team grade point average of 3.0 or higher.

Of that total, WMU was one of 236 schools that had both their men's and women's programs recognized.

Sinacola was named head women's soccer coach in May after spending three seasons as an assistant coach under former head coach Nate Norman. While serving as an assistant, she helped guide the Broncos to the MAC Tournament Championship game every season and to tournament wins in 2013 and 2015.

Wiseman became the seventh head coach of the Bronco men's soccer program in 2013. He began his coaching career as an assistant coach at WMU. In just his third season as a head coach, he guided the Broncos to their first Top 25 ranking in school history.

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WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY

Alum working to broaden opportunities for young Dominicans

A member of the Dominican Republic Congress paid an official visit to WMU this past week to discuss mutually beneficial student exchanges.

During his visit, Carlos Amarante, a 2004 graduate of WMU's bachelor's program in civil engineering, met

with President John M. Dunn and other key officials. Juan M. Tavares, Haenicke Institute for Global Education, accompanied him during his campus meetings.

Amarante is one of the 278 Dominican students in the past eight years who have graduated from WMU as part of the D.R.'s National Scholars Program. The program



Meeting to discuss student exchanges were, from left, Tavares, Amarante and Dunn. (Photo by Mike Lanka)

provides funding for a broad swath of Dominican students to learn English and travel to approved U.S. universities. Since 2008, WMU has been one of a select group of universities enrolling students through the program.

After earning his

WMU degree, Amarante returned to his home country determined to give back by working to expand educational, health and sport opportunities for young people. He ran for a four-year congressional term and in 2015 at age 25 became the youngest person ever to be elected to the D.R. Congress.

"Young people want to have more oppor-

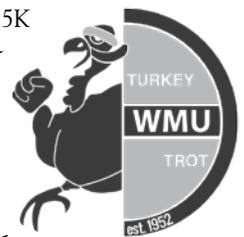
tunities. That was something my campaign was based on," Amarante says. "We know that in these four years [of our terms], we need to do something that really impacts our generation."

He's working with other young congresspersons from different political parties in his home country, plus proposing that WMU collaborate on student exchanges.

Tavares says discussions are focusing initially on bringing to WMU nursing or occupational therapy students, women volleyball players, and those wanting to study English. In exchange, WMU would be able to send some of its students to the D.R. to complete short-term study abroad programs or their student teaching requirements in Dominican schools.

Turkey Trot to be Nov. 19

The Turkey Trot 5K run and walk, southwest Michigan's oldest organized race, will begin at 8:30 a.m. Saturday, Nov. 19.



Registration is underway for the event, which winds through the WMU campus and is open to the public as well as the WMU community.

The early registration cost to participate in the Turkey Trot is \$20 for walkers and runners who sign up online by noon Monday, Nov. 14; in person by 5 p.m. Nov. 14; and by mail that is postmarked no later than Nov. 14.

Preregistration—online, in person and by mail—will continue until 11:59 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 17, but costs \$25 per person. On-site registration also costs \$25.

Check-in for the Turkey Trot will take place from 7 to 8 a.m. on the day of the event. During this period, racers and walkers may register on site as well as pick up their participant packets.

For more information or to register, visit wmich.edu/rec/intramurals/turkeytrot.

GETTING OUT THE VOTE—Cher, **below right**, made a stop at the Bernhard Center Oct. 31 to campaign for Democratic presidential candidate Hillary Clinton. She talked about the power of voters who make a candidate successful and encouraged young people to get to the polls Nov. 8. Her WMU appearance attracted some 600 people, including Lou A. Morgan, University Libraries, **far left**, who dressed in attire designed to promote voting. Meanwhile,



at *Western News* press time, Sen. Bernie Sanders was scheduled to be stumping for Clinton during a get-out-the-vote rally Nov. 2, in Miller Auditorium. Republican challenger, Donald Trump was in West Michigan Oct. 31, campaigning in Grand Rapids, and his son, Donald Jr., was at a rally for his father Nov. 2 at Grand Valley State University. (Photos by Mike Lanka)

Drawings continue for campus United Way donors

Those who make a donation to this year's campus United Way campaign in any amount by 5 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 15, are eligible for a prize drawing Monday, Nov. 21.

The drawing will include WMU sweatshirts as well as hockey, basketball and Miller Auditorium tickets.

In addition, any donor of a new, undesignated gift of at least \$50 to United Way, or an undesignated gift that has increased from the previous year by \$25, will automatically be entered into a drawing for a new vehicle of choice up to a value of \$30,000 from one

of the local United Way's sponsoring dealerships. To be included in this special drawing, pledge forms also must be received at the president's office by 5 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 15.

Employees with questions should email wmu-unity@wmich.edu.

Service

The following faculty and staff members are recognized for 40, 30, 25, 20, 15, 10 and five years of service during November.

40 Years—Diana L. Sawyer, maintenance services.

30 Years—Shirley J. Campbell, University Libraries; Carol J. Patterson, Logistical Services; Stacy L. Thinnis, intercollegiate athletics; and Cindy A. VanderWoude, University Recreation.

25 Years—Timothy R. Cobbs, maintenance services; David Franklin Florida II, electrical and computer engineering; and Randy A. Randt, building custodial and support services.

20 Years—James M. Burgess, College of Health and Human Services; Edward L. Maring, maintenance services; Carmen Rivera, Burnham Dining Service; and Lisa Lynn York, student financial aid and scholarships.

15 Years—Brian Earl Beridon, building custodial and support services; Erika Ann Carr, enrollment management; Siobhan Frederick, communication; Napoleon Hall,

maintenance services; and Gerald M. Schulz, maintenance services.

10 Years—Kimberly M. Feenstra, College of Aviation; Nikki Jo Fitzgerald, public safety; Kristin I. Keirns, intercollegiate athletics; Lisa M. Marshall, Sindecuse Health Center; James P. Mayo, information technology; Eleonora Philopoulos, construction; Vicki L. Thompson, admissions; and Ronald H. Uldriks, power plant.

Five Years—Sarah J. Anderson, College of Health and Human Services; Charles Jeffrey Brown, building custodial and support services; Jessica Christie, Bernhard Center Dining Services; Michael Dean Davenport, maintenance services; Lindsey D. Millet, College of Arts and Sciences-advising; Karen Monroe, interdisciplinary health programs; Michelle C. Munetsi, Mallinson Institute for Science Education; Michael G. Sisk, business and finance-information technology; Nicole Marie Slater, building custodial and support services; and William Earvin Thurman, building custodial and support services.

Obituaries

Mary Cain, emerita in education and professional development, will be memorialized during a service at 2 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 17, in Kanley Chapel. As previously reported, Cain died Oct. 1 at age 91.

Elaine Chew, a physician assistant, died Oct. 11. She was 82. Chew joined the staff in 1975 and retired in 1990 after 14 years of service. A memorial service will be held at 1 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 3, in the Community Church of Douglas, 6780 Wiley Road in Douglas.

Bonnie Sleeman, former executive assistant in information technology, died Oct. 19. She was 70. Sleeman joined the staff in 1987 and retired in 2007 after 20 years of service. Visit the personal memory page at betzlerfuneralhome.com for service details.

On Campus with Jason Long



BRONCO LEGACY
(Photo by Jeanne Baron)

Jason Long remembers visiting Heritage Hall many times as a boy when his mother, Elizabeth, taught accountancy in Heritage Hall. Today, he works out of the historic East Campus building in his role as marketing manager for the development and alumni relations office.

Elizabeth went on to teach full time at WMU for 20 years. Long went on to earn a bachelor's degree in advertising and promotion from WMU in 1999 and work in advertising and photography in Chicago for 10 years before landing his current job in 2012.

"I'm dyed-in-the-wool brown and gold," he says, noting that both of his parents are alums and his familiarity with the University comes in handy. "My experience here and having grown up around here give me an inherent knowledge of WMU. And you need a lot of program and University knowledge to tell our story in the correct way."

Long oversees his office's MyWMU brand as well as its key information dissemination vehicles—social media, printed materials and electronic communications, including the mywmu.com website. He supervises a creative staff comprised of a designer, social media specialist and copywriter. Together, they help their office's event planners and fundraisers craft messages to their intended audiences and engage people through videos, storytelling and photos to publicize engagement events and fundraising activities.

"I'm very fortunate to have a very talented team. They're the masters of their trade. I offer support and share the work load," Long says. "Being the center of the engagement part is the most fun. I get to sell a product that I love—Western—and tell stories to a wide audience, a very engaged audience. What I find really awesome is being able to talk to young people about all of the cool experiences that students can have here."

When it comes to fundraising, he encourages people across campus to let development know if they need assistance to raise awareness about their programs or garner gifts.

"We're ready to help departments turn alumni into donors and to help programs sustain their success," he says. "We're here to assist, not to compete."

Long lives in Portage, Michigan, with his wife, Christen. He was playing soccer and skiing by age 5, and now he's passing on a love of these sports to his 4-year-old daughter and 6-year-old son. Volunteering as a soccer coach and with the Arc Community Advocates in Kalamazoo takes up the lion's share of his spare time. "I'm no different than any other parent the rest of the time," he says. "I love my kids, I love my wife and I love my family."

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Grant puts rare manuscript into collection

She adds that the new manuscript is of interest because it represents some typical features of manuscripts of its date, but also because it has a number of unusual characteristics, such as its small size—about 3 by 4.5 inches—and the author's citation of sources. The small size, Steuer says, reflects the fact it was meant as a tool for individual study, rather than group use.

Elizabeth Teviotdale, Medieval Institute, plans to use the manuscript's presence as a tool for a graduate seminar in medieval studies she teaches. The seminar includes master's students in medieval studies and master's

and doctoral students in history, English and other disciplines. They will be able to compare the manuscript with others from the era that are available online.

Both Steuer and Teviotdale expect the newly acquired manuscript to draw attention at WMU's annual International Congress on Medieval Studies, the world's largest gathering of medieval scholars, which is held each May at WMU.

"This is now our earliest complete text, and it is transformational for our collection," Teviotdale says. "It is an acquisition that will be of interest far beyond our walls."

New employee mixers slated

A Gold Gathering faculty-staff mixer is set for 4 to 6 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 10, in the Fetzer Center lobby. Complimentary hors d'oeuvres and a cash bar will be available.

The Meemic-Redman Agency, event sponsor, will conduct a drawing for a Samsung tablet. Employees must be present to win.

Additional Gold Gatherings, formerly Fridays with Friends, are planned for Friday, Feb. 17, and Thursday, April 20. Thursday lunch buffets also are planned for Jan. 26 and March 30.

Visit wmich.edu/provost/goldgatherings for details.

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NASA Fellow modeling off-world polar storms

a nice connection between computational methods and weather if we could find the right folks to help out, and we did. I give a lot of credit to Drs. Liou and Liu for being willing to help in this endeavor, and to Dr. Sayanagi."

Armed with his fellowship, Brueshaber is continuing to delve into what influences a polar vortex. He notes that the research fits with NASA's interest in expanding both basic and applied science about atmospheric phenomena on Earth and all other planets.

Brueshaber says scientists are still trying to understand the gas planets. For instance, Jupiter doesn't have a polar vortex at all.

Saturn, on the other hand, has a vortex at both the north and south poles but unlike any others known to date, these vortices remain even when the seasons change.

To figure out what's causing such differences, Brueshaber is using numerical simulations that take into account key variables. By modeling their effect, he hopes to gain a better understanding of the fluid-dynamic characteristics of polar vortices and determine which variables favor and suppress vortices.

Brueshaber is doing a preliminary set of computational experiments that examines

the influence of a planet's size and rotational speed, strength of small-scale storms, and spin direction of small-scale storms. Do these variables favor emergence of a polar vortex and if so, how big and strong is the vortex?

He'll start the next phase of his work this spring, when he looks at how the temperature at different depths of an atmosphere affect any polar vortex.

"We're on the threshold of starting to study climate on a number of the newly discovered planets in other solar systems," Brueshaber says, "so we're going to learn even more, and the mysteries will deepen."

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