



# INSIDER

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# ONLINE

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A publication for faculty and staff of the WMU College of Arts and Sciences

## Department of Chemistry to donate surplus glassware

Need a beaker for a flower vase? How about a few hundred test tubes? Glass Petri dishes?

The Department of Chemistry will be donating a surplus of scientific glassware to area middle schools and high schools over the next three weeks. WMU hopes to have all surplus lab supplies (beakers, flasks, petri dishes, test tubes, tongs, test tube racks, bottles, etc.) removed from McCracken Hall and passed on to local schools, by early March. The items no longer are needed in the Department because of changing lab courses and advances in research techniques throughout the past 10 years.

The project, headed by Electronics Shops Supervisor for the Department of Chemistry *Sean Bashaw*, has been a labor of love—sorting and cataloging the instruments along with the help of his wife, *Connie Bashaw*, graduate student, *Carla Schmiesing*, freshman, *Brandon Murray* and the son of a faculty member, *Christian Schreiber*.

Bashaw decided to go through with the project because he knew about the unused materials and “could not fathom the idea of the items going to surplus, or worse, being destroyed.”

At the beginning of the fall 2007 semester, Bashaw and his volunteers moved all the items and slowly moved through more than five labs and classrooms organizing everything.

He expects the faculty at the high schools simply to come in with boxes, inspect the items, and take what they want after signing a release form.

“We have the rooms set up to safely walk around in without worrying about broken glass or chemicals,” Bashaw said.

Bashaw is hoping to arrange the donation pick-ups on weekends, or possibly during the school’s spring break. “It would be a good opportunity for people working in the schools, because their students would be out of class,” he said.



*Electronics Shops Supervisor for the Department of Chemistry Sean Bashaw stands among the (literally) piles and piles of glassware available for donation.*

**FOR MORE INFORMATION, OR TO FIND OUT ABOUT OPEN HOUSE DATES AND TIMES, CONTACT SEAN BASHAW (269) 387-3045, OR EMAIL SEAN.BASHAW@WMICH.EDU**

Send items of academic or personal interest to:  
cheri.bales@wmich.edu

- **David Huffman** (Chemistry) recently published a paper in the *Journal of the American Chemical Society*



entitled "Probing Transient Copper Chaperone-Wilson Disease Protein Interactions at the Single-Molecule Level

with Nanovesicle Trapping." The paper was coauthored by WMU graduate student **Patrick Ochieng**. Other co-authors from Columbia University and Northwestern University included **Jamie Benitez**, **Aaron Keller**, **Liliya Yatsunky**, **Amy Rosenzweig**, and **Peng Chen**.

- **Michael S. Nassaney** (Anthropology) will be taking six students to



Laval University in Quebec this May to present papers on 10 years of archaeology at Fort St. Joseph to a [hopefully riveted] audience

at the French Colonial Historical Society on the occasion of the 400th anniversary of the founding of New France. **Joe Brandão** also will participate.

- **Greg Veeck** and **Jim Biles** (Geography) were chosen to edit a special volume of *The Journal of Geography* looking at the role of study abroad and other international education programs in US baccalaureate education.

- **Robert Ulin** (Anthropology) is invited to Sun Yat-Sen University in the Peoples Republic of China



to give a series of lectures. His book, *Understanding Cultures* - was translated into Chinese and at last report was the No 9 best selling

academic book in China. In addition, the Chair of the Department of Anthropology at Sun Yat-Sen University is interested in signing an agreement with Western Michigan University. Sun Yat-Sen has arguably the best Department of Anthropology in the People's Republic.

- **Brian Tripp** (Biological Sciences and Chemistry) and **James Kiddle** (Chemistry) published a paper



in the journal *Biochemistry* entitled "Inhibition of Carbonic Anhydrase II by Thioxolone: A Mechanistic and Structural Study". Co-authors on the pa-

per included **A. Barrese**, **C. Genis**, **S. Fisher**, **J. Orwenyo**, **M. Kumara**, **S. Dutta**, **E. Phillips**, **C. Tu**, **D. Silverman**, **L. Govindasamy**, **M. Agbandje-McKenna**, and **R. McKenna**.

- **Ekk Sinn** (Chemistry), **Don Schreiber** (Chemistry) and **Herb Fynevever** (Chemistry) received a FIPSE (Fund for the Improve-

ment of Post-secondary Education) grant to attend the second annual Colleagues Committed to Redesign (C2R) disciplinary institute in New Orleans. The institute is dedicated to the improvement of post-secondary education and supported by the Department of Education. The chemistry team, under the guidance of the institute, will develop technology to be used in the general chemistry classroom.

- **Maarten Vonhof** (Biological Sciences and Environmental Studies)



has been elected chair of the North American Society for Bat Research. The society is dedicated to the promotion and development of the scientific

study of bats in all areas, including conservation and public education, and has over 300 members. Vonhof was also recently invited to speak at the Bats and Wind Energy Cooperative meeting in Austin, Texas.

- **Joseph P. Stoltman** (Geography) has been elected president of the



National Council for Geographic Education to begin his term of office in January 2009. The National Council is the largest organization of profes-

sionals devoted to the teaching and learning of geography from pre-school through adulthood in the United States.

(Unless otherwise noted, all events are free of charge and open to the public)

**FEBRUARY**

**11**

**Event:** Geosciences Seminar  
**Speaker:** Ray Arvidson, Earth and Planetary Sciences, Washington University in St. Louis  
**Topic:** "The Mars Exploration Rover Mission"  
**Location:** 1104 Rood Hall  
**Time:** 4 p.m.

**13**

**Event:** Ethics Center Lecture  
**Speaker:** Dr. Fritz Allhoff, Philosophy, WMU  
**Topic:** "Torture and Ticking Time-Bombs: Research on Moral Judgments"  
**Location:** 105-107 Bernhard Center  
**Time:** 7:30 p.m.

**Event:** Emeriti Event  
**Speaker:** James Bosco, Educational Studies  
**Topic:** "The Kalamazoo Promise: Status and Future"  
**Location:** Emeriti Lounge, Walwood Hall  
**Time:** 2 p.m.

**15**

**Event:** WMU Department of Geography sponsors the Lucia Harrison Colloquium Series  
**Speaker:** Dr. Robert Anemone, WMU Department of Anthropology  
**Topic:** "Climate Change and the Evolution of Early Mammals: Vertebrate Paleontology in the Great Divide Basin of Southwestern Wyoming"  
**Location:** 2902 Wood Hall  
**Time:** 3 to 4:30 p.m.

**Event:** Biological Sciences Seminar  
**Speaker:** Jennifer Lau, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, Department of Plant Biology, W.K. Kellogg Biological Station, Michigan State University  
**Topic:** "Beyond the ecological: indirect effects and evolutionary change"  
**Location:** 1718 Wood Hall  
**Time:** 3:30 to 4:50 p.m.

**18**

**Event:** Physics Colloquium  
**Speaker:** Koblar Alan Jackson, Central Michigan University  
**Topic:** "Predicting the Properties of Atomic Clusters when 'Every Atom Counts'"  
**Location:** 1110 Rood Hall  
**Time:** 4 p.m., with refreshments at 3:30 p.m. in Bradley Commons, 2202 Everett Tower

**21**

**Event:** Ethics Film Series Presents, "The China Syndrome"  
**Location:** 213 Bernhard Center  
**Time:** 6:30 p.m. screening, 8:30 p.m. discussion

**22**

**Event:** WMU Department of Geography sponsors the Lucia Harrison Colloquium Series  
**Speaker:** Dr. Suzanne DeVries-Zimmerman, Hope College  
**Topic:** "Pollen and Sand in a Small Lake Within a Coastal Dune Complex? A Search for Proxies of Dune Growth and Migration"  
**Location:** 2902 Wood Hall  
**Time:** 3 to 4:30 p.m.

**Event:** Biological Sciences Seminar  
**Speaker:** Jerry Colca, President and CSO, Metabolic Solutions Development Company, Kalamazoo

**Topic:** "Preventing metabolic inflammation: a new approach to treating diabetes and a new approach to pharmaceutical development"  
**Location:** 1718 Wood Hall  
**Time:** 3:30 to 4:50 p.m.

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**Speaker:** Dr. Suzanne DeVries-Zimmerman, Hope College  
**Topic:** "Pollen and Sand in a Small Lake Within a Coastal Dune Complex? A Search for Proxies of Dune Growth and Migration"  
**Location:** 2902 Wood Hall  
**Time:** 3 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

**25**

**Event:** Geosciences Seminar  
**Speaker:** Andrey Kalinichev  
**Topic:** TBA  
**Location:** 1118 Rood Hall  
**Time:** 4 p.m.

**27**

**Event:** Werner Sichel Economics Lecture-Seminar Series  
**Speaker:** Dr. Hadi Saleh Esfahani, University of Illinois-Urbana  
**Topic:** "Development Policy in Globalizing World: New Perspectives on Options and Constraints"  
**Location:** 3508 Knauss Hall  
**Time:** 3 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

**MARCH**

**10**

**Event:** Geosciences Seminar  
**Speaker:** Kathy Nagy, University of Illinois at Chicago  
**Topic:** TBA  
**Location:** 1118 Rood Hall  
**Time:** 4 p.m.

12

**Event:** Emeriti Event  
**Speaker:** Ernst Breisach, Distinguished Scholar, History  
**Topic:** "Why Would an Historian Write a Biography?"  
**Location:** Emeriti Lounge,  
Walwood Hall  
**Time:** 2 p.m.

14

**Event:** WMU Department of Geography sponsors the Lucia Harrison Colloquium Series  
**Speaker:** Dr. David Dickason, WMU Department of Geography  
**Topic:** "The W.E. Upjohn Center for the Study of Geographical Change"  
**Location:** 2902 Wood Hall  
**Time:** 3 to 4:30 p.m.

**Event:** Biological Sciences Seminar  
**Speaker:** Michael Henshaw, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, Biology Department, Grand Valley State University  
**Topic:** "The Evolution of Multiple Queen Societies in Social Wasps"  
**Location:** 1718 Wood Hall  
**Time:** 3:30 to 4:50 p.m.

17

**Event:** Geosciences Seminar  
**Speaker:** Graduate Students Tamara DeFrain, Abdou Aly El-Magd and Alan LeFever  
**Topic:** TBA  
**Location:** 1118 Rood Hall  
**Time:** 4 p.m.

19

**Event:** Ethics Center Lecture  
**Topic:** "Civility in the Political Arena"  
**Location:** 105-107 Bernhard Center  
**Time:** 7:30 p.m.

21

**Event:** Biological Sciences Seminar  
**Speaker:** Steve Gorsich, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, Biology Department, Central Michigan University  
**Topic:** "Developing Stress Tolerance for Tomorrow's Fuel – How Yeast Will Take Us There"  
**Location:** 1718 Wood Hall  
**Time:** 3:30 to 4:50 p.m.

24

**Event:** Geosciences Seminar  
**Speaker:** Graduate Students Melanie Haveman, Travis Hayden, and Trevor Whitlock  
**Topic:** TBA  
**Location:** 1118 Rood Hall  
**Time:** 4 p.m.

26

**Event:** Werner Sichel Economics Lecture-Seminar Series  
**Speaker:** Dr. Joseph Joyce, Wellesley College  
**Topic:** "Global Justice: An Economist's Perspective"  
**Location:** 3508 Knauss Hall  
**Time:** 3 to 4:30 p.m.

27

**Event:** Ethics Center Lecture  
**Speaker:** Adrienne Asch  
**Topic:** "Ethics and Science: Some Lessons from Bioethics"  
**Location:** Putney Auditorium,  
Fetzer Center  
**Time:** 5 p.m.

28

**Event:** WMU Department of Geography sponsors the Lucia Harrison Colloquium Series  
**Speaker:** Dean Johnson, MSU Electrical Engineering  
**Topic:** "Application and Testing of a Pilot Google Earth Visualization system for South Haven Michigan"  
**Location:** 2902 Wood Hall  
**Time:** 3 to 4:30 p.m.

31

**Event:** Geosciences Seminar  
**Speaker:** Graduate Students Zhanay Sagintayev and Jessica Wold  
**Topic:** TBA  
**Location:** 1118 Rood Hall  
**Time:** 4 p.m.

**Event:** Ethics Center Lecture  
**Topic:** "Science, Ethics, and Politics: Are They Compatible?"  
**Location:** 210 Bernhard Center  
**Time:** 7 p.m.



**JAPAN!**  
CULTURE + HYPER CULTURE

# Angles curates Kennedy Center Japanese events



Western Michigan University's Dr. Jeffrey Angles has organized a series of literary and poetry-related events for a festival celebrating Japanese culture at Washington D.C.'s Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, the premier national institution for the arts. The series runs through Sunday, Feb. 17.

Angles, a WMU assistant professor of Japanese, was recruited for the honor because of his work co-editing a Japanese literary guide. His book, "Japan: A Traveler's Literary Companion," was a collaboration with Dr. J. Thomas Rimer, professor emeritus of Japanese Literature at the University of Pittsburgh. Published in May 2006 by Whereabouts Press, the book is a collection of Japanese short stories and essays that guides readers through the diverse landscape and culture of modern-day Japan.

The Kennedy Center festival, "Japan!: Culture + Hyperculture," will bring together more than 450 artists for 40 performances and more than a dozen free events that showcase the work of some of the most prominent figures in Japanese theater, dance, music, fashion, architecture, sculpture, poetry, literature, photography and film.

"When the Kennedy Center asked me to organize the literature events, I was thrilled. The idea of inviting my favorite authors to give readings in America seemed like a dream come true," Angles says. "Immediately, I responded I would love to do it."

Because of his research and work as a translator of contemporary Japanese literature, Angles has personal connections with a number of important authors, so he started by contacting them.

In particular, Angles wanted to invite figures known for their dramatic and interesting reading styles. One of the figures for whom he arranged a trip to Washington is

Yasuki Fukushima, a poet who played an important role in modernizing the tanka, a form of poetry that has 31 syllables and a long history of more than 1,300 years. Fukushima became famous in the 1960s for writing tanka on contemporary themes, such as the radical student movements of the era, then setting those poems to jazz accompaniment.

Other figures Angles invited to Washington are Yko Tawada, a prominent novelist who writes in both Japanese and German; Hiromi It, an important poet often considered the leader of the women's poetry movement in the 1980s; and Mutsuo Takahashi, a radical voice known in Japanese poetic circles for his bold expressions of homoerotic desire.

Angles also arranged for two panel discussions about various aspects of Japanese literature. One is dedicated

to the 11th-century "The Tale of Genji," which some scholars call "the world's first novel," while the other is dedicated to the

ways ancient poetic forms have been adapted and modified in contemporary Japan.

Angles will be in Washington for the events, sometimes appearing as an interpreter for the readers or helping to moderate the panel discussions. His responsibilities have involved serving as the main contact for the authors, helping to arrange for their visas to enter the United States, determining the individual needs for their performances, writing the programs for the events and scheduling.

"It will be a thrill just to be around such important writers," Angles says.

For more information, contact Jeffrey Angles at [jef-frey.angles@wmich.edu](mailto:jef-frey.angles@wmich.edu) or (269) 387-3044. The complete program for the festival is available online here: <http://www.kennedy-center.org/programs/festivals/07-08/japan/>.

**"IT WILL BE A THRILL JUST TO BE AROUND SUCH IMPORTANT WRITERS."**

**—JEFFREY ANGLES**

