



# INSIDER

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# ONLINE

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

## University Distinguished Faculty Awards go to Two from CAS...

An internationally known mathematician and a science education expert who has explored the cultural component of improving science literacy will be honored by Western Michigan University as Distinguished Faculty Scholars during an Oct. 30 campuswide awards ceremony.



Dr. **William W. Cobern**, professor of biological sciences and director of the Mallinson Institute for Science Education, and Dr. Yuri S. Ledyaev, professor of mathematics, will be honored as Distinguished Faculty Scholars during WMU's Academic Convocation ceremonies at 3:30 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 30, in the Dalton Center Recital Hall. The event will feature WMU President John M. Dunn's State of the University address as well as the presentation of several other campuswide awards including Emerging Scholar, Distinguished Teaching and Distinguished Service awards.

Cobern holds a joint appointment as a professor of biological sciences and science education. He came to WMU in 1996 as associate professor of science education and coordinator of the elementary school master's program. Since then, he has been a principal researcher in a number of science education initiatives funded by the National Science Foundation and the Michigan Department of Education.

Mathematician Dr. **Yuri S. Ledyaev** was praised by those nominating him for his "great influence in the areas of control theory and nonsmooth analysis, distinguished record of publication and his consistent spirit of generosity." His wide-ranging research, supporters say, includes significant contributions in such areas as nonlinear control systems and global optimization problems.



Ledyaev, who has held visiting professorships at universities in five nations, has been a WMU faculty member since 1997. Letters of support for his work also came from around the world and reflect Ledyaev's stature in the international mathematics community as well as his ability to communicate the essence of his work and inspire others.

Ledyaev is the author or co-author of more than 60 journal articles, the co-author of a book published by the world's premier publisher in the field of mathematics and a member of the editorial board of three journals. He also is the recipient of a number of rare National Science Foundation grants for pure research in mathematics.

The Distinguished Faculty Scholar award is the highest honor the University bestows on its faculty members. Established in 1978, it recognizes those whose work is widely recognized beyond the University and constitutes a significant body of achievement, most of which has been accomplished while a faculty member at WMU. The award goes to scholars nominated for consideration through a campuswide selection process and carries a \$2,000 cash prize for each recipient. —*WMU News*

### ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROJECT WINS MHC GRANT

A \$6,000 grant from the Michigan Humanities Council helped make a recent open house for Western Michigan University's Fort St. Joseph archaeological project a resounding success.

The event July 26-27 drew more than 1,300 participants to the excavation site in Niles, Mich. It also highlighted a 10-year agreement between the city of Niles and WMU to continue the project. The grant was part of the council's "Michigan People, Michigan Places Our Stories, Our Lives" program, which supports community collaboration for public humanities programs.

**NOVEMBER**

**5**

Event: Panel Discussion

Title: "The Financial Meltdown and Its Aftermath: Causes, Consequences and Policy Options" presented by Jon Neill, Susan Pozo, James Hueng and Chris Korth, WMU

Location: 3508 Knauss Hall

Time: 3 p.m.

Event: Physics Colloquium

Title: "Engaging Students in Class and Beyond" presented by Andy Gavrin, Indiana University

Location: 1110 Rood Hall

Time: 4 p.m.

Refreshments served at 3:30 p.m. in Room 2202, Bradley Commons, Everett Tower

Event: Lise Meitner Talk

Title: "The Politics of Excellence: What Do the Nobel Science Prizes Actually Represent?" presented by Robert Marc Friedman, University of Oslo, Norway

Location: Fetzer Center

Time: 4 p.m.

Event: Center for the Study of Ethics in Society Talk

Title: "From Guernica to Baghdad: The Normalization of State Terrorism" presented by Ronald Kramer, WMU

Location: 210 Bernhard

Time: 7:30 p.m.

**6**

Event: Lise Meitner Talk

Title: "Women in Science: A Look Back and a Look Forward" presented by Robert Marc Friedman, University of Oslo, Norway

Location: Chemistry Building, Room 1720

Time: 3:30 p.m.

Event: Staged Reading

Title: "Remembering Miss Meitner," a reading of Robert M. Friedman's Play

Location: York Theatre

Time: 7 p.m.

**7**

Event: Sixth Annual Southwest Michigan French and Francophone Studies Roundtable

Title: "Exploring iPod Technology for Foreign Language Acquisition" presented by Janel Pettes Guikema, GVSU

Location: Fetzer Center

Time: 2 p.m.

Event: Biological Seminar Series

Title: "Development and regulation of GABA synapses in *C. elegans*" presented by Bruce Bamber, University of Toledo

Location: 1718 Wood Hall

Time: 3:30 to 4:50 p.m.

Event: Lucia Harrison Colloquium

Title: "National Park Service Interpretive Programs: Making Your Park Visit More Meaningful" presented by Ray Koole, WMU and "A Comparative Analysis of the 1876 and 2000 U.S. Presidential Elections" presented by Michael Gutowsky, WMU

Location: 2708 Wood Hall

Time: 3 p.m.

**12**

Event: Department of History and Canadian Studies Speaker

Title: "How Old is the League of the Iroquois?" presented by Dr. William A. Starna, SUNY-Oneonta

Location: 3301 Friedmann Hall

Time: 1 – 2:30 p.m.

**13**

Event: Federal Science Job/Internship Panel

Location: 2708 Wood Hall

Time: 3:30 to 5 p.m.

Event: Janet Heller reads book "How the Moon Regained Her Shape" for Student Education Association's Read-a-Thon

Location: Dual Language School, Kalamazoo

Time: 6 to 8 p.m.

Event: Frostic Reading Series: playwright Erik Ramsey

Location: Little Theatre

Time: 8 p.m.

**14**

Event: Biological Seminar Series

Title: "Tip Growth in Plants: Bridging the GAP between Membrane Trafficking and the Cytoskeleton" presented by Elison B. Blancaflor, The Samuel Roberts Noble Foundation

Location: 1718 Wood Hall

Time: 3:30 to 4:50 p.m.

**19**

Event: Janet Heller reads book "How the Moon Regained Her Shape" for Student Education Association's Read-a-Thon

Location: Washington Writer's Academy, Kalamazoo

Time: 7 to 8 p.m.

**21**

Event: Biological Seminar Series

Title: TBA, presented by Elena Litchman, MSU

Location: 1718 Wood Hall

Time: 3:30 to 4:50 p.m.

Event: Lucia Harrison Colloquium  
Title: "Historical Geography of Fire in  
Yellowstone National Park" present-  
ed by Judy Meyer, Missouri State  
University

Location: 2708 Wood Hall

Time: 3 p.m.

## DECEMBER

### 3

Event: Physics Colloquium  
Title: "Inner-Shell Photodetachment of  
Transition Metal NegativeIons" pre-  
sented by Ileana Dumitriu, WMU

Location: 1110 Rood Hall

Time: 4 p.m.

Refreshments served at 3:30 p.m. in  
Room 2202, Bradley Commons,  
Everett Tower

### 5

Event: Biological Seminar Series  
Title: TBA presented Daniel R. Bond,  
University of Minnesota

Location: 1718 Wood Hall

Time: 3:30 to 4:50 p.m.

Event: Janet Heller to Autograph book  
"How the Moon Regained Her  
Shape"

Location: Kalamazoo Public Library

Time: 6 to 9 p.m.

### 11

Event: Frostic Reading Series: poets Lisa  
Fishman and Daneen Wardrop

Location: Little Theatre

Time: 8 p.m.

*Festival events to take place through Nov. 8*

## RUSSIA WEEK EVENTS TO FEATURE CAS FACULTY



Kalamazoo-Pushkin Partnership, Lee Honors College, WMU's English Depart-  
ment, & the Portage District Library will co-sponsor a number of events this week:

- Thurs. Nov. 6, 6 p.m., Portage District Library hosts "A Poet's Tribute to Rus-  
sia." Judith Rypma reads her work. Light Russian refreshments and teas will  
also be available. (Free and open to the public)
- Sat. Nov. 8 Kalamazoo Russian Festival at WMU's Fetzer Center will include  
lectures and presentations by WMU Arts & Sciences faculty:
  - 11:30 a.m. "Pushkin's 'The Bronze Horseman': After the Flood." Scott Friesner
  - 12:30 p.m. "Russian-American Relations After Georgia." James Butterfield
  - 2:30 p.m. "For Better or Worse: Russian Influences on Central Asian Life." Allen Zagarell, Anthropology
  - 2:30 p.m. "The Amber Room: Legends of a Missing Treasure." Prof. Judith Rypma

The festival also features Russian food, Vendors, Fine Art, Musical Performanc-  
es, Balalaika Orchestra, Children's Crafts & activities. Festival Admittance \$8 for  
adults, \$4 with student ID,; under 6 free.

[WWW.RUSSIANFESTIVAL.ORG](http://WWW.RUSSIANFESTIVAL.ORG)

## STUDENTS RECEIVE GRADUATE GRANTS

The following CAS students received Graduate Student Research and Travel  
Grants in September 2008

### RESEARCH GRANTS

Mary Adams.....Biological Sciences  
Lori Barnes.....Psychology  
\*Michael Buchalski....Biological Sciences  
\*Fang Huang..... Science Education  
Douglas Johnson .....Psychology  
Teck Maan Lim.....Chemistry  
Julie Ryan.....Biological Sciences  
Renée Zaya.....Biological Sciences

### TRAVEL GRANTS

Suzanne Decker.....Psychology  
\*Irene Elksnis Geisler ..... History  
Tania Iqbal .....Biological Sciences  
Shannon Mortimore..... English  
John Panos .....Psychology  
\*Mihaiela Ristei..... Political Science  
\* also awarded a supplemental international  
travel grant funded by the Graduate Student Advi-  
sory Committee

## FACULTY AND STAFF

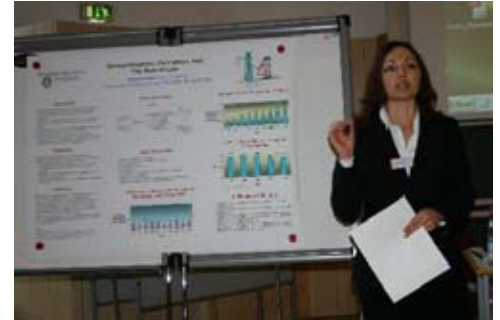
- Congratulations to **Autumn** and **Chad Edwards** (Communication). The following article was just accepted for publication in ICA's / Journal of Computer Mediated Communication/: "Computer-Mediated Word-of-Mouth Communication on RateMyProfessors.com: Expectancy Effects on Student Cognitive and Behavioral Learning" by Edwards, A., Edwards, C., Shaver, C., & Oaks, M. Special congratulations to graduate students **Carrie Shaver** and **Mark Oaks** who worked on the project as part of COM 6020 (Quantitative Communication Research).

## ALUMNI

- **Dr. Tsutomu (Tom) Kanayama** (Communication) recently was promoted to professor in the Department of Journalism and appointed the Interim Director for the Institute for the Study of Social Justice at Sophia University, Japan. The Institute was founded in April 1981 with the objective of raising the consciousness of students and the wider society regarding the promotion of social justice.
- **Angela Jacobs** (Communication) has been appointed the first Executive Recruiter for the Alumni Relations and Development Division at the University of Chicago. Jacobs received her MBA from the Keller Graduate School of Management and her Bachelor of Science degree in Organizational Communication from Western Michigan University. She is an active member the of the Western Michigan University

- alumni association and one of the Alumni Admissions Ambassadors.
- **Donald A. Davis**, assistant U.S. attorney for the last 33 years, and a Western Michigan University graduate has been named U.S. attorney for the western district of Michigan following the departure of Charles R. Gross.
- The School of Communication inducted into its Alumni Academy nine outstanding alumni -- **Shirley Woodworth, Timothy Terrentine, Neil Smith, Claudia Marshall, Curt Fonger, Patricia Dolly,**

**Laurel Cottrell DeVarney, Gary Dembs, and June Cottrell.**



*Mihaiela Ristei, Ph.D. candidate in Political Science, presented "Democratization, Corruption, and The Rule of Law" based on her dissertation research to the international conference, "The Economics of Corruption."*

## “HOW OLD IS THE LEAGUE OF THE IROQUOIS?”



### DR. WILLIAM A. STARNA

Professor Emeritus of Anthropology, SUNY-Oneonta

**Wednesday, November 12, 2008**  
**3301 Friedmann Hall**  
**1-2:30 pm**

Dr. Starna is a widely published and respected ethnohistorian who worked with, and recently edited the memoirs of, William N. Fenton, a founder of the ethnohistorical approach. Dr. Starna's presentation is based upon his current research and will deal with the controversial topic of the founding date of the famous League of the Iroquois. Based on a new reading of the extant written sources and Iroquois oral traditions, Dr. Starna attempts to resolve the question: **"How Old is the League of the Iroquois?"**

Sponsored by the Burnham Macmillian Committee of the Department of History and by Canadian Studies  
Light Refreshments Will be Served



Sponsored by the Department of Foreign Languages

## About the institute

The Summer Translation Institute (STI), hosted by the Department of Foreign Languages at Western Michigan University, offers a unique opportunity for advanced language learners and professionals to improve their translation skills while working on their language proficiency. This program is unique in that it provides intensive translation training in Arabic, Chinese, French, and Japanese, which is available only in a handful of graduate programs in the United States despite the high demand for translators in the marketplace.

## When and where

The Institute will take place during the first four weeks of Summer II 2009 (June 25, Thursday – July 24, Friday) on the campus of Western Michigan University in Kalamazoo, Michigan. Housing will be available for out-of-state students.

## Goals

- **Training students** in the nuts and bolts of translating to and from the particular language of their specialty
- **Giving students the practical skills** and basic knowledge necessary to make a career of translation
- **Preparing a future generation** of translators specializing in practical and literary translation
- **Raising awareness** of the theoretical and practical problems of translation, especially in regards to linguistic and cultural issues.

## Who Should Apply

The Institute welcomes applicants from across the nation and the world. We welcome your application if you are a...

- **Undergraduate student** from WMU or another university who is studying a foreign

language and is considering a career that will use those abilities

- **Graduate student** from WMU or another university who relies on translation for your research
- **Professional** who does or might be doing translation as part of your career
- **Government official** who relies on foreign languages as part of your career
- **High-school teacher** in Michigan who needs advanced courses in foreign languages to maintain your language teaching certification
- **International student or professional** who is interested in a short-term intensive language program in America
- **Native speaker of Arabic, Chinese, French, or Japanese** who wants experience in translating into English.

## Application and contact information

[www.wmich.edu/languages/summertranslation](http://www.wmich.edu/languages/summertranslation)