WMU won the NAGPS Midwest Member of the Year AND Overall NAGPS Member of the Year!

The graduate student population has been busy getting involved in events like Grad Talks and other student led activities. We look forward to more students attending and presenting at these events. Please contact Bob Agiro (bobokoth.agiro@wmich.edu) if you are interested in presenting. Winners of the 3MT were: Tiantian Zhang, Dustin Rowland, Jeffrey Johnson, Timothy, and Clark, Raina Khatri.

The first floor of Walwood Hall has freed up, as a result of the Office of Development moving to Heritage Hall. This means graduate students may be allowed to have a space on campus to call their own. Hopefully, there could be some office space that students could make use of. The Graduate Student Association may also be able to relocate its offices to that location.

Title IX was discussed. Title IX is a federal law that prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex in any federally funded education program or activity. WMU is committed to ending rape on campus, and students employed by the University are considered responsible employees” and are mandated reporters regarding known harassment or misconduct. Students in such roles like all other employees at WMU must exercise reasonable care, and make all necessary steps to investigate and remedy any harassment or misconduct that occurs under their supervision.

Dr. Marianne Di Pierro, the Director of the Graduate Center for Research and Retention, was invited to discuss graduate funding applications. Many times failed applications result from missing vital steps in the application process, or poor writing communication. Even a good idea that is not crafted well may not be funded. Know the disparity between what you intend to write and that which you actually write. Please feel free to contact Dr. Di Pierro if you have questions on how to be competitive for funding opportunities at WMU:

marianne.dipierro@wmich.edu

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The Graduate Student Association (GSA) is soliciting applications for its **Vice-President position and Hilltop Review Editor** for the 2016-2018 academic years. The Editor position is a 10 hour commitment and receives a stipend compensation of $4,000.00 per year (subject for review by GSA General Body) for their efforts in helping to maintain the journal.

The service requirement for the Vice President position requires 20 hours per week. Applicants must be able to commit to two (2) academic years (Summer I 2016 to Spring 2018). The Vice-President of the Graduate Student Association will be awarded a full-time, nonteaching graduate assistantship/docent associateship for the Summer, Fall and Spring terms. To be eligible the student must be: (1) a full-time graduate student at Western Michigan University, (2) have completed at least one academic year at WMU and be enrolled for the next two consecutive years, (including Summer terms) (3) be in good academic standing.

The deadline for these applications is **January 29, 2016**

Feel free to contact the GSA’s President – Damon Chambers gsa@wmich.edu with any questions regarding this position. Application information may be found at [www.wmich.edu/gsa](http://www.wmich.edu/gsa)

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**Graduate Student Spotlight**

Marlies Hagge is a PhD candidate in Industrial Organizational Behavior Management in the Psychology Department at WMU. Marlies earned a BSc in business administration in Berlin, Germany and continued her graduate studies under the mentorship of Dr. Ron Van Houten at WMU. Marlies has been known to co-ordinate an army of undergraduate research assistants as they assist her in her work and research which include: occupational safety in the workplace, absenteeism, and helping to develop innovative performance management solutions. She is an exemplary student and scholar who uses her background to help those around her. As the Director of Administration for the National Association of Graduate Professional Students, Marlies managed the organization's administrative side and represented graduate student interests. Being an international student combined with her unique international experience, she is very interested in concerns that impact students from other countries as they learn to integrate into a new culture.
Dueling pianos at Monaco Bay, Dec. 11

The Hilltop Review publication date, Dec. 11

Apply Editor of Hilltop Review Open until Jan 2016

Apply for Vice President of GSA Open until Jan 2016

A General Overview of the Publishing Process Dec. 2

Brown Bag Mentoring Circle Dec. 4

For further details on events or to register for a workshop go to: http://www.wmich.edu/grad/events

Graduate Student Spotlight recognizes outstanding graduate students that contribute to the fostering an atmosphere of academic excellence, and by being an active member in all the communities they belong to. If you would like to be featured, or want to nominate an outstanding graduate student to be featured on the spotlight, please nominate them for the GSA Spotlight by contacting: neil.deochand@wmich.edu.