Trustees schedule 2014 meeting dates

The WMU Board of Trustees has set its meeting dates for the remainder of the year. The dates are: April 9; Tuesday, June 3; Wednesday, July 23; Tuesday, Sept. 30; and Thursday, Dec. 4. Most meetings are held on campus in the Bernhard Center, but trustees occasionally meet in other locations.

Employee self-service option removed

Until further notice, payroll direct deposit changes will not be available through the employee self-service online system. Payroll direct deposit additions, changes and deletions may be made by filling out a request form in the Payroll and Disbursements Office in 1270 Seibert Administration Building. All changes to direct deposit information require that employees show appropriate identification. Call the payroll office at (269) 387-2935 for additional information.

New location for faculty-staff mixer

The location of the Fridays With Friends faculty-staff mixer Feb. 21 has been changed to the Gilmore Theatre Complex atrium. These free employee mixers are held from 4 to 6 p.m. Fridays and include light hors d’oeuvres and a cash bar. The March 21 event is also set for Gilmore’s atrium while the April 29 mixer will be in the Fetzer Center.

Don’t miss College Goal Sunday

Area college-bound students will be able to maximize their financial aid opportunities by attending MI College Goal from 2 to 4 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 9, in Schneider Hall. The event, which is being held at dozens of sites around the state, helps those who are thinking about attending college to fill out their Free Application for Federal Student Aid—FAFSA.

FAPSSAs must be submitted by the Saturday, March 1, deadline to ensure eligibility for the most assistance possible. For details, including a list of materials to bring and door prizes available, visit nicollegegoal.org.

Spring funding workshops continue

Faculty and staff members are invited to a series of professional development workshops every other Tuesday this semester that address topics associated with external and internal funding to support faculty scholarship. Space is limited, and registration closes the Friday prior to each session. The next workshop is Tuesday, Feb. 18. For details, call (269) 387-8270 or visit wmich.edu/research.

Feb. 14 is assessment awards deadline

The nomination due date for the University Assessment Excellence Unit Award and the University Individual Assessment Excellence Award is Friday, Feb. 14. Awards will be presented at the Assessment in Action Day conference Friday, March 21. For details, visit wmich.edu/news/2014/01/13223.

Sangren continues earning design praise

A spate of new awards puts Sangren Hall, home to the College of Education and Human Development, firmly in the lead as the University’s most honored architectural project.

The most recent accolade was formally presented in Detroit Feb. 5, when Sangren was recognized by the Construction Association of Michigan as one of the organization’s 2013 Special Issue featured projects. Peter J. Strandas, associate vice president for facilities management, traveled to Detroit to accept the award, along with representatives of architectural firm SHW Group and Miller-Davis, the construction management firm. As part of the award, Sangren was featured in a lengthy article in the organization’s October magazine. The article, “Sangren Hall: A 21st Century Schoolhouse,” lauded the “playful rigor” of the building’s design and its successful integration of technology, sustainability and collaborative work spaces.

The award comes just weeks after Sangren won a 2013 American School and University Architecture Portfolio Award in the post-secondary category. That citation lauded Sangren for its “excellent daylighting,” overall layout and variety of student gathering spaces.

Several other schools from around the nation were in the competition for that top port-

News-oriented quiz show episode to be taped on campus

National Public Radio’s “Wait Wait... Don’t Tell Me!” is coming to Miller Auditorium at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, March 20. The popular show airs on WMUK-102.1 FM at 10 a.m. Saturdays. Now in its 15th season, the Peabody Award-winning “Wait Wait...” uses current events to generate comedy in a quiz show format.

Host Peter Sagal, along with official judge and scorekeeper Carl Kasell, leads a rotating panel of comedians, humorists, journalists, listener contestants and celebrity guests through a comic review of the week’s news.

Contestants vie for the most coveted prize in all of public radio: a custom-recorded greeting by Kasell for their voicemail. Tickets are on sale now and range from $33 to $123. They can be purchased online at millerauditorium.com, by calling (269) 387-2300 or (800) 387-2312, or in person at the Miller Auditorium Ticket Office.

For more information about the show, visit waitwait.npr.org.
Talks look at globalization, bioethics

Patricia H. Werhane, the Wicklender Chair of Business Ethics and managing director of the Institute for Business and Professional Ethics at DePaul University, will speak on “Globalization and Its Discontents” at 3 p.m. Friday, Feb. 14, in 1120 Schneider Hall.

Also part of the Center for the Study of Ethics in Society’s spring season is “Breakthroughs in Genomics and Ethics” at 7 p.m. Monday, Feb. 17, in 2500 Knauss Hall. Speaking will be Elaine Engelhardt, from Utah Valley University, and WMU’s Michael Pritchard and Shirley Bach, philosophy.

High-profile author to give readings

Rachel Kushner, who has twice been a finalist for the National Book Award, will read from her works at 8 p.m. Friday, Feb. 14, in the Little Theatre as part of the Gwen Frostic Reading Series. In addition to her literary honors, Kushner received a 2013 Guggenheim Fellowship.

Events planned for Engineers Week

Bob Carlson, an aerospace engineer with a long track record at one of the nation’s foremost laboratories, is keynote speaker for the Engineers Week Dinner Tuesday, Feb. 18, in the Fetzer Center. He will speak on “Adventures in Light Jet Aircraft Development” during the after-dinner program that starts at 7:30 p.m.

This year marks the 55th Engineers Week celebration, which is designed to increase public awareness and appreciation of engineers and their work. For information about the dinner and other Engineers Week events, visit wmich.edu/engineer/eweek.

Referral receipes

Ronald Miller, computer science, will be recognized for his service to the University during a retirement reception from 3 to 5 p.m. Friday, Feb. 14, in D-132 Engineering and Applied Sciences Building. RSVP at heidi.kleyen@wmich.edu or (269) 276-3125 by Monday, Feb. 10.

Joan Johnson, information technology, will be recognized for her service to the University during a retirement reception from 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. Friday, Feb. 21, in the Oaklands.

For sale—

1880 1/2 story, 1800 sq. ft., 3 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath, 2-car garage. New carpeting throughout. $109,000.

2131 1/2 story, 2200 sq. ft., 4 bedroom, 2 bath, 2-car garage. Totally remodeled. $175,000.

2253 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 2-car garage. Nice location. $118,000.

2535 2 bedroom apartment, 950 sq. ft., full bath, kitchen, living room, laundry, parking. $395.

2757 1 bedroom apartment, 875 sq. ft., full bath, kitchen, living room, lake view, parking. $465.

2999 3 bedroom apartment, 1900 sq. ft., 2 bath, 2 parking spaces. $750.

3679 1 bedroom apartment, 700 sq. ft., full bath, parking, lake view. $420.

3750 1-bedroom apartment, 875 sq. ft., full bath, parking, lake view. $465.

Flats—

208 1 bedroom apartment, 725 sq. ft., full bath, parking, lake view. $465.

For rent—

1838 2 bedroom apartment, 1000 sq. ft., full bath, parking, lake view. $525.

3006 3 bedroom apartment, 1100 sq. ft., full bath, parking, lake view. $675.

3790 2 bedroom apartment, 850 sq. ft., full bath, parking, lake view. $525.

3800 2 bedroom apartment, 850 sq. ft., full bath, parking, lake view. $525.

2895 3 bedroom apartment, 1400 sq. ft., 2 bath, parking, lake view. $800.

For sale—

This year marks the 35th Engineers Week, an opportunity to recognize and celebrate contributions from the engineering community. The week preceding publication. Spring publication dates are submitted to the Office of University Relations by 5 p.m. Friday, Feb. 14.

Deadlines for submission are Jan. 9 and 23; Feb. 6 and 20; March 13 and 27; and April 10. Items may be submitted to Jeanne Baron via email, jeanne.baron@wmich.edu, Campus Mail Stop 5433; phone, (269) 387-8422 or fax, (269) 387-6059.

RMU’s website at rmu.wmich.edu/news is updated daily. 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.
Trustees approve retirements of nine employees

The retirements of four faculty members and five staff members were approved by the WMU Board of Trustees at its Jan. 22 meeting. Trustees also signed off on one faculty resignation as well as one sabbatical leave, and updated the department affiliations of numerous faculty members to make them consistent with revised names they approved for several academic departments.

Nominations accepted for staff awards

Nominations for Make a Difference awards are accepted from the following five employee groups: Administrative Professional Association; American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees; Michigan State Employees Association; Police Officers Association; and Professional Support Staff Organization. Nominations and forms are available year round at wmich.edu/makeadifference/nominations.

Board authorizes acquisition of property adjacent to campus

At their Jan. 22 meeting, WMU trustees approved University officials to move forward with the acquisition and subsequent demolition of 10 homes on pieces of property immediately adjacent to the north edge of WMU’s East Campus. Two of the parcels are located on Oakland Drive, and the remaining eight are on Belleville Place, which runs east off of Oakland Drive. The 10 parcels have been listed for sale since late December. A tentative agreement on a sale price of $370,000 has been negotiated between the University and the owner of the properties.

Jan. J. Van Der Kley, vice president for business and finance, told trustees the move falls squarely into WMU’s strategic plan and the goal of expanding the University’s footprint around its oldest facilities. Historic East Hall is located just up the hill from the parcels and is about to be renovated for use as an alumni center. That center is scheduled to open in 2015.

“We expect the acquisition and demolition of these houses to substantially improve the appearance of an area that serves as the formal gateway to our East and Oakland Drive campuses,” Van Der Kley said.

Office stages open houses

Development and alumni relations invites all WMU faculty and staff members to attend an open house in Walwood Hall. Open houses will be held from 5 to 6 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 11; Wednesday, Feb. 19; and Thursday, Feb. 27. Register at mywmu.com/openhouse.

Attendees will learn about the daily impact development and alumni relations makes and how the office’s staff members can help in any area of the University. In addition, there will be snacks, refreshments and door prizes.

Sports medicine clinics slated

The campus community is invited to ask staff members from the WMU Sports Medicine Clinic about injury treatment options and rehabilitation during drop-in sessions this spring.

No appointment is needed for the sessions, which will be offered from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. in three locations. The event dates and locations are:

• Wednesday, Feb. 19, Engineering and Applied Sciences Building lobby; and
• March 19, Student Recreation Center lobby; and
• March 26, Health and Human Services Building student commons.

Visitors are invited to ask about their training aches and pains, or to learn how a sports medicine approach to treatment can help someone with an injury return to activity as soon as possible.
Center created to enhance supply chain education

A new center has been established as part of the highly touted integrated supply management program to enhance delivery of leading-edge education by providing practical solutions to industry problems. The WMU Center for Integrated Supply Management will offer an array of student learning experiences focusing on hands-on education and innovative research, which will further strengthen student and business relationships and help establish the program as a thought leader in supply chain management.

Memorial service set for Duncan

A campus memorial service set for Friday, Feb. 21, will honor the life and work of Lonnie E. Duncan, counselor education and counseling psychology, who died Dec. 31.

The event will be held at the Fetzer Center beginning at 3 p.m. and will include recognition by professional organizations as well as remembrances by faculty colleagues, administrators, students and alumni. Those planning to attend, are asked to RSVP at deanna.merz@wmich.edu or (269) 387-5103 by Friday, Feb. 14.

On Campus with Cat Fuller

Cat Fuller’s routine isn’t what most of us would consider routine. In any given week, she might be in India, Malaysia, Hong Kong, Kenya, Uzbekistan or some other distant place. As director of international partnerships and degree programs for the Haenicke Institute, Fuller helps build and maintain the growing transnational education programs that WMU pioneered in the 1980s. These programs allow international students to do part of their coursework for a WMU degree in their home countries, where their tuition will is less.

“Western has always had to recruit,” Fuller says. “Setting up transnational education programs isn’t just busy work. It affects enrollment and is a big part of our future.” Fuller conducts site visits and other research to make sure potential partnerships fit a niche as well as fit into WMU’s mission. She also works out contract details, depending heavily on help from employees across campus who review course and other materials.

“I see it through from start to finish. I’m there in the beginning when we’re negotiating that partnership and I’m there at the end when the students graduate on the Mudder Auditorium stage,” Fuller says. “I try to visit all of my partners each year to ensure everything is going OK. I especially enjoy meeting the students. We talk about Western and I answer their questions. It makes them feel like they’re part of Western even before they get here.”

Fuller, who earned a Bachelor of Business Administration in Advertising and Promotion from WMU in 1988, was a student employee in the study abroad office. Instead of looking for a job locally, she moved to London and found a job with Dun & Bradstreet.

After returning home a year later, it was off to Los Angeles and a job as international construction coordinator for the Disney Stores corporate offices. She came back to WMU in 1993 and just before earning her master’s degree in educational leadership in 1997, took a part-time job as assistant to the director of twinning programs, which were the University’s first type of transnational programs. Fuller became full-time a year later and today, heads what had been the twinning programs unit.

She lives in Kalamazoo with her 16-year-old daughter, Madeleine, and enjoys working out as well as going to Kalamazoo Art Hops and area festivals and farmers’ markets.

“A typical year sees me out of the office about 40 to 50 percent of the time,” she notes. “Just getting home and relaxing is a wonderful thing to do—laundry becomes a hobby.”

Still, Fuller finds time to work on a second master’s degree in comparative religion, be active in WMU’s Administrative Professional Association, and serve on the Colleagues International Board of Directors as well as a local United Way funding committee.

Experts database going online

The Office of the Vice President for Research will release Phase 1 of WMU Discovery Experts Friday, Feb. 14.

Business leaders, industry partners and scholars will soon be able to access this electronic database of more than 900 WMU experts and collaborate on the broad range of discovery taking place at the University.

Daniel M. Litynski, vice president for research, says the database gives WMU personnel the ability to showcase their activities to the world as well as a tool to build their discovery, including research and commercialization, by finding collaborators and grant possibilities. WMU also will be linked with Michigan’s other major research universities through a state Web portal.

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Sangen continues earning design praise

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