



# Western News

MAY 26, 2016  
Volume 42, Number 16

For and about WMU faculty and staff

## Staff Compensation System guidelines recently undergo minor revisions

The Staff Compensation System executive committee, comprised of WMU's president, vice-presidents, director of intercollegiate athletics and chief human resources officer, has approved minor revisions to the Staff Compensation System Administrative Guidelines. The revised guidelines are available on the web at [wmich.edu/hr/staffcompensation](http://wmich.edu/hr/staffcompensation). The revisions clarify how specific portions of the guidelines have been applied since first adopted in July 2015.

## New email familiarization events set

Several WMU email migration familiarization presentations have been scheduled for May and June. The schedule may be found at [wmich.edu/email](http://wmich.edu/email). Additionally, the migration schedule has been posted and may be found at [wmich.edu/email/migration](http://wmich.edu/email/migration). Questions should be referred to the Help Desk at (269) 387-4357, option 1.

## Next round of program review delayed

WMU is delaying the launch of the second round of its integrated program review and planning process. The second round, Learner Support Unit Review and Planning, was to begin June 1. The launch is being delayed until Tuesday, July 5.

## Still time to sign up for Tigers outing

The inaugural WMU Night at Comerica Park is Wednesday, June 22, and with more than 3,100 tickets sold, fewer than 400 WMU/Tigers commemorative hats remain. Don't miss out; purchase your tickets today. Also, limited space is available on several charter buses that will leave from Parking Lot #1 and return after the game. Visit [mywmu.com/tigers](http://mywmu.com/tigers) for more information regarding ticket sales and transportation.

## Broncos FIRST seeking applicants for members of learning community

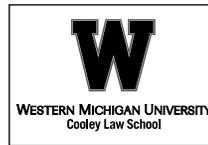
The Broncos FIRST project is seeking faculty and staff members to join its 2016-17 Professional Learning Community—PLC—cohort. Applications will be accepted through Thursday, June 30.

The project is funded by a U.S. Department of Education grant and housed in the Center for Research on Instructional Change in Postsecondary Education. It aims to increase the persistence of low-income students at WMU.

The Broncos FIRST community gives employees a unique opportunity to interact with first-year students, build relationships across campus with colleagues and deepen their own expertise on student persistence. The student voice drives the focus of the action research projects that will be developed to drive change at WMU around student success. For details and the application, visit [wmich.edu/changeresearch/broncosfirst/plc](http://wmich.edu/changeresearch/broncosfirst/plc).

## First-year law classes offered in Kalamazoo

The WMU Cooley Law School and WMU will offer 15 credits of first-year instruction to incoming law students on WMU's Kalamazoo campus beginning this September.



"This new program will enable entering law students to take nine credits in the fall term and six more credits in the winter term at Kalamazoo," says WMU-Cooley Law School President and Dean Don LeDuc. "After earning 15 credits in the fundamental subjects of torts, contracts and criminal law and completing the introduction to law program, students may pursue the balance of their legal education at the law school campus of their choice, whether in Grand Rapids; Lansing; or Auburn Hills, Michigan; or in Tampa Bay, Florida."

"The 15-credit program will allow WMU students to begin their legal education in familiar surroundings on our beautiful main campus," says WMU President

John M. Dunn. "And it will attract students from other universities who want the amenities, resources and learning environment of a major public research university as they pursue a law degree."

The May 23 announcement about fall classes follows a May 16 agreement between the two schools outlining student and employee services, benefits and privileges. The agreement grants law students attending classes in Kalamazoo access to WMU's Student Recreation Center, Sindecuse Health Center, Waldo Library, student organizations and athletic events at a discounted price

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## Famed composer Legrand awarded honorary degree

WMU awarded French composer Michel Legrand, who has written the scores for more than 200 films and television shows, an honorary degree during a ceremony May 11.

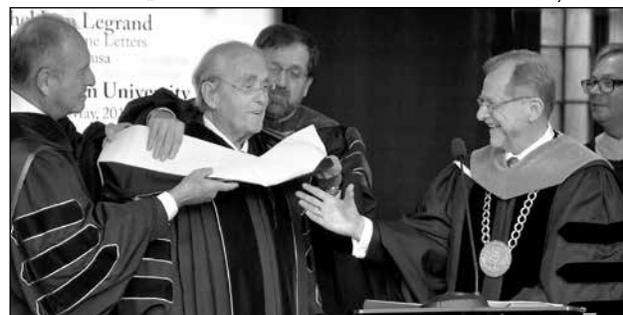
In town to perform at the Gilmore International Keyboard Festival, composer,

conductor and pianist Legrand received an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters. The three-time Academy Award and five-time Grammy Award winner was lauded in a

brief formal degree ceremony attended by about 80 community members and campus officials at a private home.

WMU President John M. Dunn read the formal degree citation, noting that Legrand's work over the years "bridged the musical styles of European classical, American jazz and popular music."

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From left, Trustee Kenneth V. Miller, Michel Legrand, Provost Timothy J. Greene, President John M. Dunn and Professor Thomas Knific, who nominated Legrand for the degree. (Photo by Mike Lanka)

## Interim dean, other key appointments announced

Interim deans have been appointed to two colleges, and WMUK-FM as well as study abroad have new leaders.

Satish Deshpande has been appointed interim dean of the Haworth College of Business, and Jane Baas will take the reins of the Lee Honors College. Both have been serving as associate deans in their respective colleges and both will serve while WMU conducts searches to permanently fill the two posts.

Deshpande replaces Kay Palan, who is leaving WMU to become dean of the University of Alabama's Culverhouse College of Commerce July 1. A professor of management, he has served as Haworth's associate dean since 2011.

Baas, a professor of dance, has been associate dean of the honors college since 2014 and before that served as chair of dance in multiple appointments for nine years. She replaces Carla Koretsky, who will become dean of the College of Arts and Sciences July 1.

Meanwhile, Stephen Anthony Williams, a National Public Radio station manager for WESM-FM at the University of Maryland Eastern Shore since 2011, has been named



Deshpande



Baas



Williams



Penyak

Continued on page 4

# Around campus and beyond

## Juneteenth Celebration at WMU

The 17th annual Juneteenth Celebration will feature the staging of a multifaceted production and dramatic reading as well as honor Kalamazoo mass shooting victim Tiana Carruthers. The event starts at 4 p.m. Sunday, June 19, in the Dalton Center Recital Hall. It will feature "Waiting for Freedom to Come," which is written and directed by Buddy Hannah.

"Waiting for Freedom to Come" tells the history of Juneteenth as shared by Viola Simmons, whose great, great, great grandfather was among the enslaved people present on June 19, 1865. On that day, the enslaved people of Texas received word that they were free, more than two years after President Abraham Lincoln signed the Emancipation Proclamation. The production incorporates songs, dance, drumming and poetry to explain why people celebrate this historic event.

Juneteenth is the oldest African-American celebration and is a major recognition of freedom just as other independence holidays around the world. It is a way to observe and share the proud history of African-American strength, endurance

and resilience and a way to pass on the legacy of culture to children while honoring those ancestors who never gave up the struggle for freedom.

Tickets can be purchased at the Black Arts & Cultural Center in Kalamazoo and various local businesses. For more information, contact Lewis Walker, emeritus in sociology, at (269) 375-0913 or Mimi Abdul Bellamy in the Lewis Walker Institute for the Study of Race and Ethnic Relations at (269) 387-2141.

## Faculty development slates programs

The faculty development office's Game Your Class Institute is set for Monday through Thursday, June 6-9 in 2033 University Computing Center. Registration is required. Details are available at [wmich.edu/facultydevelopment](http://wmich.edu/facultydevelopment).

Also, it's time for departments to nominate graduate students for the Graduate Student Teaching Intensive, set for Monday through Friday, July 25-29. The cost is \$200.00 to be paid by the departments. Applications are available at [wmich.edu/facultydevelopment/graduate/teachingintensive](http://wmich.edu/facultydevelopment/graduate/teachingintensive).

## Geographer still making Aral Sea news

Philip Micklin, emeritus in geography, has authored an article in the April issue of *Environmental Earth Sciences* titled "The Future Aral Sea: Hope and Despair."



Micklin

*Environmental Earth Sciences* is an international peer-reviewed journal published online by Springer Science.

The article will also appear on pages 1-15 of the publication's *Thematic Issue: Sustainable Water Resources Management in Central Asia, Volume 2*. It may be accessed at [bit.ly/1WSRCC5](http://bit.ly/1WSRCC5).

Micklin has been studying the Aral Sea for decades and in recent years, he has been a prominent writer and speaker on the subject at conferences and other venues. He is an expert on the once-large lake that is located among the deserts of Central Asia. Since the 1960s, the Aral has suffered unprecedented drying, and ecological and economic damage due to large-scale withdrawals of water for irrigation from the two rivers feeding it.

## Emeritus featured in magazine article

Roger Ulrich, emeritus in psychology, is featured in an article about his life as an Amish Mennonite Indian, which appears in the spring 2016 issue of *Communities Magazine*.



Ulrich

Ulrich joined WMU as professor and head of the department of psychology in 1965, and he retired in 1998. During his years at the University, he pursued the study of behavioral psychology but wasn't content to simply study behaviorism or to apply it to others.

He founded a cooperative farm community, Lake Village Homestead in 1971 on 265 acres along Long Lake, just outside of Kalamazoo. The magazine, which covers intentional communities, highlighted Ulrich's goals and observations as he lives with some 20 other Lake Village members and about another 20 members who live on an adjacent 100 acres of land.

## Prof's book earns 'Great Places' award

Amy Wagenfeld, occupational therapy, and Daniel Winterbottom from the University of Washington, received the 2016



Wagenfeld

Great Places Book Award from the Environmental Design Research Association. The won for "Therapeutic Gardens: Design for Healing Spaces." The book was published in 2015 by Timber Press.

Wagenfeld and Winterbottom were recognized at EDRA's annual conference May 18. To be eligible, books must be published in the last three years and advance the critical understanding of place or design of exceptional environments.

"We're proud to honor your work and inspiration," said Marechiel Santos-Lang, executive director of ERDA in announcing the award. "In a year with an extraordinary number of high-quality entries, your submission truly exemplifies the concern for human factors in the design of the built environments, and a commitment to promoting the links between design research and practice."

## Service-May

The following faculty and staff members are recognized for 40, 35, 30, 20, 15, 10 and five years of service during May.

**40 Years**—Marilyn V. Duke, Center For Academic Success Programs, and Jon H. VanderMeer, communication.

**35 Years**—Judith A. Medendorp, special education and literacy studies.

**30 Years**—Daryl E. Buczkowski, information technology; and Jeffery A. Johns, maintenance services.

**20 Years**—Jerome Carter, Center For Disability Services; Paul E. Choker, Dining Services; Tracey Lawie, Miller Auditorium; Jill Svinicki, Center For Disability Services; and Bethany Timmerman, Extended Uni-

versity Programs.

**15 Years**—Janet M. Bond, information technology; Felicia Taylor Crawford, institutional equity; Mark J. Daniel, West Hills Athletic Club; Marianne E. Di Piero, Graduate College; Gretchen Kauth, Sincuse Health Center; Angie M. O'Bryant, public safety; and Kristie M. Sturmoski, Extended University Programs.

**10 Years**—Annette A. Cummins, Haenicke Institute; Adrienne D. Fraaza, First-Year Experience; Nick Griffith, investments and endowment management; Maleeka T. Love, First Year Experience; Lewis Pyenson, history; Ewa Urban, Career and Student Employment Services; and Paige L. Warner, First-Year Experience.

**Five Years**—Sarah Hagen, Career and Student Employment Services, and David Nivala, Online Education.

## Receptions

**Gary L. Blackmer**, chemistry, will be recognized for 18 years of service to WMU during a retirement reception from 2 to 4 p.m. Thursday, June 9, in 3880 Chemistry Building.

**Jim Knight**, Dining Services, will be recognized for 39 years of service to WMU during a retirement reception from 1 to 4 p.m. Friday, June 10, in the Bernhard Center's Presidents Dining Room.

## Jobs

Current job opportunities at WMU are announced daily on the Human Resources website at [wmich.edu/hr/jobs](http://wmich.edu/hr/jobs). Please note that applications must be submitted online by the stated deadline. Complete application procedures are included with each posting.

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**DEADLINE:** Items to be considered for publication should be submitted to the Office of University Relations by 5 p.m. Friday the week preceding publication. Publication dates for the summer are **May 12 and 26** and **June 9 and 23**. *Western News* will resume publication **Sept. 8**. Items may be submitted to Jeanne Baron via: email, [jeanne.baron@wmich.edu](mailto:jeanne.baron@wmich.edu); mail, Campus Mail Stop 5433; phone, (269) 387-8433; or fax, (269) 387-8422.

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# Fort St. Joseph archaeological site focus of summer programs

The Fort St. Joseph Archaeological Project, sponsored by WMU and the city of Niles, Michigan, is beginning its intensive summer program schedule that includes summer camps, lectures, an open house and a traditional field school.

The schedule begins with the 41st annual WMU Archaeological Field School, a long-running tradition and one of the oldest archaeological field schools in the U.S., from Thursday, June 30, to Friday, Aug. 19.

The field school is highlighted through several other programs at the fort this summer.

The Summer Camp Program for youth and lifelong learners provides an opportunity for the public to engage in history and search for evidence at the Fort St. Joseph archeology site. Participants spend a week discovering the extensive history of Fort St. Joseph and participate in onsite excavation.

The Lifelong Learner Camps offer students three WMU graduate credits, nine State Board Continuing Education Units in Michigan, credits for recertification in Illinois, and/or credits applicable toward the Professional Growth Plan in Indiana. To apply, visit [nileshistorycenter.org](http://nileshistorycenter.org). Camp dates and target audiences are:

- Friday through Friday, July 15-22, lifelong learners;
- Monday through Saturday, July 25-30, teachers and graduate students; and
- Monday through Friday, Aug. 1-5, middle school students in grades six to nine.

A Summer Lecture Series invites the public to engage in several interactive and educational programs that focus on the theme of "Flowing Through Time: Rivers in Historical and Archaeological Perspective." The lectures take place at 7 p.m. Wednes-

days, July 20 through Aug. 3, in the Niles District Library.

The annual Fort St. Joseph Open House will be held from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 6, and Sunday, Aug. 7, at the corner of Fort and Bond Streets in Niles. Attendees can meet WMU archaeologists working at the site, observe period demonstrations at the Living History Village, participate in children's activities and crafts, learn about the importance of the St. Joseph River past and present, and more.

To apply for a camp, visit [wmich.edu/fortstjoseph](http://wmich.edu/fortstjoseph).

## Ensemble sets sights on big recording project

What started as a class project between two music students has grown into a large-scale orchestral pop ensemble recording at a world-renowned residential studio in Texas.

A crowdfunding campaign is now in progress to pay for the group, MNOE, to travel to the famous Sonic Ranch located on a 2,400-acre pecan orchard near El Paso, Texas.

Members of MNOE, which stands for the Mark Niskanen Orchestral Experiment, will live on-site while they record the project with master recording engineers.

The band, composed almost entirely of current or recently graduated WMU jazz and classical musicians, plans to record its debut album June 13-23. People can pre-order the album as well as buy promotional materials by going to [pledgemusic.com/mnoe](http://pledgemusic.com/mnoe).

## Host an international visitor

WMU is seeking homestay opportunities for visiting international teachers and students arriving from Japan in August.

A stipend of \$450 a month will be paid to each hosting family for the duration of the guest's stay, which can range from four weeks to one year. Families are assigned a visitor and required to provide a private bedroom and two meals daily. The guest pays for all other personal expenses.

A simple, online application process is utilized for host family selection. To apply, interested families may send an email to [findyournest@gmail.com](mailto:findyournest@gmail.com) or call Barb Curley, host family coordinator with Lodge & Learn in Portage, Michigan, at (269) 217-9094.



**BUILT BY HAND**—The Kalamazoo Valley Museum is featuring a Lego model of East Hall in connection with a traveling Lego exhibit that closes Sept. 11 and a weekly Lego exhibit challenge it will hold June 29-Aug. 10. The model was built by David Kohrman, a doctoral student in history and the son of 2015 retiree George Kohrman. It shows how WMU's original building, now named Heritage Hall, looked when it was first called "The Acropolis of Kalamazoo." Kohrman reproduces old Kalamazoo buildings with Legos as a hobby. Visit [kvm.kvcc.edu](http://kvm.kvcc.edu) for Lego event details. (Photo courtesy of development and alumni relations)

## First multimedia arts technology students graduate

The first graduates of WMU's multimedia arts technology program received their diplomas April 30 and are set to embark on new careers in high-tech, professional music production.

The students worked feverishly last month on capstone projects that put an exclamation mark on their academic careers. Projects undertaken by those who graduated range from full-length albums of original music to a new computerized enhancement tool that trains the human ear to better recognize and identify frequencies.

The program started with 20 students in fall 2014, with 20 more added each year after

that. Demand for the new program has been very high, says Richard Johnson, music, who helps run the program with his music school colleagues David Loberg Code, Christopher Biggs and John Campos.

"When we're each year looking to admit around 20 students and we are interviewing over 60, there's a lot of interest going on," Johnson says.

The program revolves around five foundational pillars: audio engineering, computer-generated audio technology, live sound reinforcement, computer programming and multimedia technology. Students do not have to be traditional music students.

### Obituaries—[wmich.edu/news/obituaries](http://wmich.edu/news/obituaries)

**Ursula Barrett**, a former head salad maker in the Burnhams Dining Service, died May 8. She was 76. Barrett joined the staff in 1980 and retired in 2006 after almost 26 years of service. Survivors include her son, Dan Barrett, a first cook in Davis Dining Services.

**Bernadine "Penny" Carlson**, emeritus in English, died May 17. She was 97. She joined the faculty in 1953 and retired in 1986 after almost 33 years of service.

**Arthur W. Parker Jr.**, a former press operator in what was Brink Printing Services, died May 7. He was 83. Parker joined the staff in 1966 and retired in 1994 after 28 years of service.



Barrett



Carlson



Parker



Scheffers



Smith

**Dorene Lois Scheffers**, a former receptionist for graduate admissions, died April 17. She was 77. Scheffers joined the staff in 1984 and retired in 1998 after 14 years of service.

**Robert L. Smith**, emeritus in communication, died April 11 at age 82. The photo that accompanied his obituary notice in the previous issue of *Western News* was of another faculty member named Robert Smith. The correct photo appears in this issue.

# On Campus with Renee Pearl



ENGAGING THE WMU COMMUNITY  
(Photo by Deanne Puca)

Renee Pearl is proud of WMU's new Heritage Hall on East Campus. The past two years, she has spent significant time on behalf of the Office of Development and Alumni Relations to renovate and reopen the building as the home for the WMU Alumni Center.

She's been involved with everything from the vision for the historic structure to its necessary construction work to its ultimate grand reopening to the community. That's meant she's had a hand in determining what type of space is needed, how to use the space, what furniture is needed, all the displays in the building, and fundraising and grand opening activities as well as helping to move her office from Walwood Hall to Heritage Hall.

"Now that we have a new home, our focus as an office is on what types of programming and activities we want to do, including how we are welcoming alumni back to campus. With the new building, there are so many activities and events that we could be doing that we haven't even realized yet, and that is very exciting," Pearl says.

Heritage Hall is now a destination for campus visitors since its opening this past fall. And Pearl enthusiastically will accommodate an impromptu tour, identifying the significance of the fixtures and colors and knowing where to get a glimpse of the best views of the city.

"It's fun to have people want to come to see us in the new building," she says. "It has been an amazing project to be a part of; the transformation is incredible. It's rewarding to see alumni and friends come back and use the building the way we imagined."

Pearl joined WMU in 2009 and now is the director of engagement in development and alumni relations. In this role, she works directly with President John M. Dunn and other University leaders, WMU Alumni Association and WMU Foundation board members, alumni, and friends to build support for the University's philanthropic and engagement initiatives.

"My job is to bring alumni and donors to campus and help them have a great experience at our University," she says.

A 15-year veteran of higher education advancement, Pearl worked in development and alumni relations positions at Washington University in St. Louis and the University of California, Davis prior to moving to Kalamazoo.

She and her husband, Chris, live in Portage. A California native, she enjoys gardening and cooking. Pearl is active in her church, St. Catherine of Siena, and serves on the board of the Kalamazoo Symphony Orchestra.

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## First-year law classes offered in Kalamazoo

while also providing law school employees access to WMU's recreation facilities, athletic events and library. It further offers all WMU students and employees access privileges with the law school's vast library system across its four campuses.

Prior agreements cover facilities use, courses and programs as well as parking at the respective campuses. Under these agreements, the law school began to offer select upper-level law classes in Kalamazoo this past January.

LeDuc and Dunn have praised the agreements for enhancing educational opportunity for students in West Michigan

while creating new teaching, research and service opportunities for the institutions' faculty and staff, among them:

- accelerated programs that save WMU students time and tuition dollars;
- cross-listing courses to allow WMU graduate students to take law classes and law students to take graduate courses for credits toward their respective degree programs;
- dual-listed courses team taught by faculty of both schools;
- collaboration on legal clinics such as the WMU Cooley Innocence Project; and
- WMU courses taught at the Law School's campuses.

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## Famed composer Legrand awarded honorary degree

The citation praised Legrand's artistic and scholarly achievements as significant, calling his body of work "an exceptional model of WMU ideals and aspirations for students, faculty and alumni."

Legrand told those attending the event that he was honored to be able to accept the award.

"You may call me 'doctor' from now on," he said. "I'm extremely happy and I will try to go on with my life doing better than I have done so far."

Following the degree presentation, a short video was shown to Legrand and those attending. The piece carried congratulatory

messages from such colleagues as Tony Bennett, Jerry Lewis, Barbara Streisand, Quincy Jones and John Williams.

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## Interim dean, other key appointments announced

general manager of WMUK-FM, effective July 1. Prior to his current role, Williams was an award-winning news and public affairs director and morning news host at WESM-FM. He replaces Gordon Bolar, who is retiring June 30.

In addition, Lee Penyak took over May

**ON THE BIG SCREEN**—Moviegoers started assembling early May 20 to be part of WMU's first "Now Showing... On Prospect Hill" open-air film screening. Some 200 people turned out for the free, family-friendly event that featured a movie on an oversized screen on



Heritage Hall's Grand Lawn. Those attending had the chance to enjoy snacks as well as self-guided tours of Heritage Hall. Based on feedback from attendees, development and alumni relations plans to make "Now Showing" a full summer series in 2017. (Photo courtesy of development and alumni relations)