



# Western News

NOVEMBER 17, 2016  
Volume 43, Number 6

For and about WMU faculty and staff

## Take dining survey for chance to win

Dining Services invites employees to take the National Association of College and University Food Services survey online for a chance to win prizes including an Apple Watch, Fitbit Flex and Dining Dollars gift cards. Take the survey by Nov. 21 at [wmich.edu/dining/survey](http://wmich.edu/dining/survey).

## PSSO schedules annual fundraiser

The Professional Support Staff Organization is selling popcorn from Kalamazoo Kettlecorn as part of its annual fundraiser. Orders are due Wednesday, Nov. 23. Pickup will be Friday, Dec. 9, in the Bernhard Center. This fundraiser helps support PSSO functions and events throughout the year. An order form is available at [wmich.edu/pssso](http://wmich.edu/pssso). Direct questions to Paige Warner at [paige.warner@wmich.edu](mailto:paige.warner@wmich.edu).

## Volunteer bell ringers needed Dec. 3

A WMU Day at the Kettles is planned for Saturday, Dec. 3, offering students, alumni, and faculty and staff members a special opportunity to give this holiday season. Consider volunteering as a ringer during the Salvation Army's Red Kettle campaign, while demonstrating school spirit.

For WMU Day at the Kettles, volunteers are encouraged to wear WMU apparel and are welcome to show their school spirit by singing the WMU Fight and Alma Mater while ringing. Additionally, the Salvation Army offers groups the opportunity to decorate the kettle used to collect donations.

There are many openings available for ringing shifts of two or more hours between 9 a.m. and 9 p.m. at multiple locations throughout Kalamazoo County and in the nearby Plainwell-Otsego area. Individuals and groups may register by contacting Penny Allen at [penny\\_allen@usc.salvationarmy.org](mailto:penny_allen@usc.salvationarmy.org) or (269) 743-0834.

## Nominations due soon for award

Nominations for the Global Engagement Award are due Friday, Dec. 2. The honor recognizes contributions to the global engagement of WMU and its students and faculty and staff members; enhancement of knowledge and understanding of global affairs; and communities and stakeholders locally or abroad.

The contributions can be in the realm of teaching and other instructional activities, research and creative activities, service, and outreach. For nomination criteria and a form, visit [wmich.edu/global/globalaward](http://wmich.edu/global/globalaward).

## Dunn issues post-election message

In a post-election message to the campus community, President John M. Dunn asks that, regardless of political persuasion and candidate of choice, everyone accepts the election outcome in the Bronco spirit of civility, respect and courtesy. Read his message at [wmich.edu/president/election-results](http://wmich.edu/president/election-results).

## WMU experts help millions to get clean water

Paper technology with the potential to provide clean drinking water to millions at a cost of just pennies a day has been successfully produced on a pilot scale at WMU this fall and may be on its way to becoming an international tool to prevent disease.



An example of how the filter can be used (Photo courtesy of Folia Water)

Paper filtering technology developed in university research labs was brought to WMU by Folia Water of Pittsburgh to test the feasibility of scaling the technology to major production. The technology is based on centuries-old knowledge about the antimicrobial properties of silver, and it involves the production of paper with silver nanoparticles embedded in it.

The paper will be packaged in "Safe Water Books," with instructions in the local language. Each "page" is a recyclable, biodegradable water filter capable of killing viruses and bacteria in the water that passes through it. After the successful trial run in WMU's celebrated paper pilot plants, the paper rolls produced are being converted into books and readied for distribution.

"Those rolls are already sold, and we'll be shipping books as soon as they are converted," says Cantwell Carson, Folia's chief technical officer, who attended the WMU trials. "The WMU

Continued on page 4

## Long celebration of Dunn presidency starts in January

A spring season filled with events designed to celebrate the successful tenure of WMU President John M. Dunn will begin in January and provide the entire WMU community opportunities to say thank you and farewell to the University's eighth president.

Dunn, whose trademarks have been his accessibility and focus on student success, has agreed to a series of activities that will put him in close contact with people around the state and nation as well as raise funds to solidify the future for some signature causes important to him and his wife, Linda.

Starting Jan. 17, Dunn will visit alumni gatherings in Colorado, Arizona, California, Florida and Washington, D.C.; embark on a Feb. 27 through March 3 Farewell Bus Tour of Michigan that will take him to more than a dozen cities around the state; and be feted at an April 7 Miller Auditorium celebration for the campus and community.

Farewell activities to celebrate the Duns will include a May gala at the WMU Homer Stryker M.D. School of Medicine; visits to legislators and editorial boards; and a special

Continued on page 4



President Dunn during a visit to the new medical school's Upjohn campus (Photo by Mike Lanka)

## WMU saluted again in rankings of veteran-friendly institutions

The University has again been singled out as being among the best institutions in the nation for military veterans pursuing higher education.



In a pre-Veterans Day announcement, *Military Times* placed WMU on its 2017 "Best for Vets" list of colleges and universities, coming in at 108 on its list of the top 130 institutions. WMU is the only Michigan school to have appeared on all eight years of the publication's annual list of top colleges in the United States considered "the best fit for service members, military veterans and their families." The only other public university in Michigan to make the 2017 list was Central Michigan University.

Best for Vets: Colleges 2017 is an editorially independent news project that evaluates

the many factors that help make colleges and universities a good fit for service members, military veterans and their families. More than 500 colleges took part in this year's detailed survey.

The rankings are published in full in the issues of *Army Times*, *Navy Times*, *Air Force Times* and *Marine Corps Times* on newsstands this month, as well as on each of the magazines' websites and at [militarytimes.com](http://militarytimes.com).

This is the second accolade WMU has received this month for its services to vets. WMU and the WMU Thomas M. Cooley Law School received "gold-level status" from the Michigan Veterans Affairs Agency based on their commitment to providing on-campus, veteran-centric services to student veterans.

# Around campus and beyond

## Administrator to speak at breakfast

WMU's continuing evolution will be the topic of the upcoming Mercantile Bank of Michigan Breakfast Speaker Series. Tim Terrentine, vice president for development and alumni relations, will talk on "For This Time: An Exciting Moment in WMU History" at 8 a.m. Friday, Nov. 18, in 2150 Schneider Hall. The free event begins with breakfast at 7:30 a.m. Reservations are required and can be made by calling (269) 387-5964 or at [wmich.edu/business/mercantile-rsvp](http://wmich.edu/business/mercantile-rsvp).

## Event series spotlights other nations

Events related to WMU's extended International Education Week are wrapping up. Still to come are cultural activities related to China Friday, Nov. 18; India Wednesday, Nov. 23; and the American Thanksgiving Thursday, Dec. 1. Visit [wmich.edu/news/2016/11/36352](http://wmich.edu/news/2016/11/36352).

## Race/walk postponed one day

Due to ESPN College Game Day logistics, the Turkey Trot has been rescheduled to Sunday, Nov. 20, at 8:30 a.m. For details, visit [wmich.edu/rec/turkeytrot](http://wmich.edu/rec/turkeytrot).

## Cyber attacks topic of talk

"Defending Enterprise Systems from Cyber Attacks" will be presented by Matt DeVoe and Walter Grech Sr. from Zoetis at 2:30 p.m. Monday, Nov. 21. The presentation, part of the Custer Office Environment Lecture Series, will be held in D201 Floyd Hall.

## Fed official to give Sichel lecture

Pia M. Orrenius, vice president and senior economist at the Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas, will speak on "The Economic and Fiscal Impacts of Immigration: Implications for Policy" at noon Wednesday, Nov. 30, in 2028 Brown Hall. A free, light lunch reception will follow.

## APA holiday gathering scheduled

Administrative Professional Association members and nonmembers and Professional Support Staff Organization members as well as their guests have until Wednesday, Nov. 30, to register for the APA holiday gathering from 5 to 9 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 14, in the Bell's Brewery Eccentric Café. For costs and other details, visit [mywmu.com/apaparty](http://mywmu.com/apaparty).

## Engineering students strut their stuff

Engineering students will show off their senior projects at the 59th Conference on Senior Engineering and Design from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 6, in Floyd Hall. For more information, visit [wmich.edu/engineer/about/seniors](http://wmich.edu/engineer/about/seniors).

## Meals with Santa return for 2016

The Fetzer Center is offering two chances to enjoy its food while children meet with Santa. Reservations are required and can be made between 8:30 and 10:00 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 3, for breakfast and 11 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 4, for lunch. For costs and other details, visit [wmich.edu/fetzer/santa](http://wmich.edu/fetzer/santa).

## Community forum focuses on public trust in state government

A post-election, community conversation on the topic "Where Do We Go From Here?" will be hosted by WMU and the Center for Michigan at 4:30 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 30, in the Fetzer Center.

John M. Dunn, WMU president, and John Bewow, Center for Michigan president, will give introductory remarks at the 90-minute program, which will include information about vote-recording technology and small-

group discussions on where state government should be headed in the coming months and years. The event is open to the public free of charge, but reservations are required.

Through a format developed by the Center for Michigan, participants will have the opportunity to share their views on public trust in state government. The Center for Michigan is a nonprofit, nonpartisan "think-and-do tank" that collects ideas and shares them with policymakers in Lansing and with the public.

The event is being co-sponsored by WMU's offices of Government Affairs, University Relations and Community Outreach. Seating is limited.

Those wishing to attend can reserve a spot by sending an email to [rsvp@lamcreative.com](mailto:rsvp@lamcreative.com) or by calling (269) 345-1913.

## Retirement reception

C. Richard Spates, psychology, will be honored for his 29 years of service during a retirement reception from 4 to 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 7, at the Oaklands.

## 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.

## Chef medals at culinary Olympics

Thomas Giles, Dining Services, has brought home two bronze medals from the world's most elite culinary competition. He earned the honors during the 2016 Internationale Kochkunst Ausstellung (International Culinary Exhibition) held Oct. 22-25.



Giles

Commonly known as the IKA/culinary Olympics, the competition is staged every four years in Erfurt, Germany.

"I've dreamed of doing the competition for 30 years. It's the pinnacle of what you do, and especially if you medal, it's so rewarding," Giles says. "This was definitely the toughest competition I've ever participated in. I was humbled to be part of this phenomenal display of culinary passion and perfection."

Giles competed as part of Michigan's four-person Great Lakes Culinary Team, and he was the only member of the group not from the Detroit area. The four were among some 2,000 chefs from more than 50 countries who participated.

The WMU staffer earned a bronze medal in the Culinary Artistry Category for a chocolate carving of Abraham Lincoln and a bronze in the Culinary Art Category for his five-course tasting menu. One teammate picked up a third bronze, also in culinary art.

## Emeritus calls for closure on atrocities

Paul Maier, emeritus in history, has just published a newly edited version of "Foxe's Book of Martyrs." The compilation of the deaths of Catholic and Protestant martyrs



Maier

was written by John Foxe, who was born in England 500 years ago this year.

Foxe's near-impossible attempt to record the names and circumstances of all Christian martyrs made him the author of a 3,000-page, 16th-century bestseller, the longest single book ever written, outpacing even the version of the Bible in use during that period.

Maier's work in bringing the Foxe book to light again this year left him profoundly troubled by the sheer numbers—3,721—of people tortured and burned alive by both sides of a religious divide in the 16th century.

The horrific violence and bloodshed Foxe documented led Maier to petition both Pope Francis and the Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby, last summer, asking them to take the dramatic step of asking for the world's forgiveness for the wrongs carried out in the name of their respective religious organizations so long ago.

The religious violence occurred during the period known as The Reformation. Maier sees the timing—the 500th anniversary of the Reformation and Foxe's original publication—as a perfect time for Christendom to set an example for the world by recognizing mistakes and affirming the courage of thousands of Christians murdered by other Christians—martyred for their faith.

He has not received a response from either of the church leaders he has petitioned, but he is hopeful that the anniversary of the Reformation will raise the profile of the issues he has brought forward.

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WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY

# Researcher finds little connection between violence, video games

Everybody “knows” violent video games desensitize youths to violence, increasing their violent tendencies.

But a WMU researcher has found that’s really not the case. In fact, three studies he has conducted over the past several years show very little connection between the two.

Whitney DeCamp, sociology and Kercher Center for Social Research, set out to answer a question that has clouded the picture of violent video games for decades. Do violent video games really make people violent, or do violent people just gravitate toward violent video games? His research shows it’s the latter.

DeCamp conducted his most recent study with psychologist Christopher Ferguson from Stetson University in Florida. He also has worked with Rebecca Sevin, a WMU sociology doctoral student, on research examining beneficial effects of video games.

Their findings have been published in a

number of leading scientific journals and online, including in the *Journal of Youth and Adolescence* and *Sociological Research Online*.

DeCamp says it seems nearly every highly publicized shooting comes with another slam against violent video games, and those claims are often perpetuated by the news media, politicians and other scholars. But these criticisms are vastly overstated.

“The young males in my research—they were in grades eight and 11—I found that just by itself, even without any controls, violent video games were a poor predictor of violent behavior,” DeCamp says. “Even in the best model it only explained about 3 percent of the variation in violent behavior.”

Even that 3 percent shrank when DeCamp accounted for other factors. He also found similar results among girls.

DeCamp found that what was going on in the home was a better predictor of violent behavior.

DeCamp adds that his research with Sevin has suggested that playing violent video games can even have a beneficial impact.

“Youths who play these games,” he says, “often are more interested in computer science or more comfortable with technology and computers.”



DeCamp

## Seita Scholars initiative showcased at national event

WMU’s Seita Scholars Program was featured Nov. 13 in Austin, Texas, during the annual national meeting of the Association of Public and Land-grant Universities.

Chris Harris-Wimsatt, Seita program director, co-presented during a “Turning Points: From Setback to Success” session sponsored by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.

Harris-Wimsatt and two others presented TED-like talks that focused on initiatives that led to student academic success—but only after serious initial problems. The speakers were chosen through a national competitive video application process.

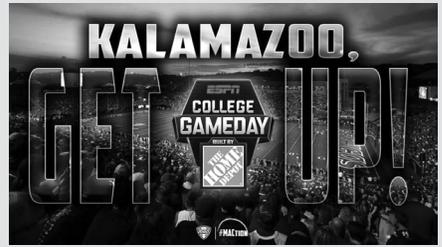
Harris-Wimsatt helped an audience of about 350 higher education leaders understand both the challenges and ultimate success of the nationally acclaimed Seita program.



Harris-Wimsatt

### GETTING READY FOR SATURDAY

ESPN’s College GameDay is coming to Kalamazoo Saturday, Nov. 19, to do a pregame broadcast on the football team. The three-hour TV program is scheduled to air live at 9 a.m. from the Sangren Pedestrian Mall, with the area opening to fans two to three hours prior to the start of the show. The home football game versus the University at Buffalo will kick off at 3:30 p.m. in Waldo Stadium, and will be televised nationally on ESPNU. The football Broncos are No. 14 in the AP Top 25 and No. 21 in the USA Today Amway Coaches Poll and College Football Playoff rankings. WMU is one of just two undefeated teams left in the Division I Football Bowl Subdivision. WMU is the second Mid-American Conference school ever to be featured on College GameDay. Gear up for the game during a pep rally with Head Coach P.J. Fleck and the team from 5:30 to 7 p.m. Friday, Nov. 18, at Bronson Park in downtown Kalamazoo. The free event will feature live music, a food truck rally along South Street, appearances by Buster Bronco and WMU Cheer and Dance, photo stations, and special areas to make signs for GameDay. Visit [mywmu.com/gameday](http://mywmu.com/gameday) for more information about this weekend’s events, including watch parties.



## Political science professors field election calls

As Election Day approached, WMU political science professors were busy fielding calls both locally and from other parts of the world from media outlets interested in their perspectives on the presidential race.

Jim Butterfield was on television in Vietnam, while Mahendra Lawoti, who is from Nepal, was interviewed by Nepali media. Professors were especially busy providing

comment for local news media on election night. John Clark did analysis for Channel 3, and Peter Wielhouwer for FOX17. Clark also has been interviewed via email about the election by the *Singapore Straits Times*.

All of that comes in addition to the many interviews the department’s faculty members did on local radio stations both before and after the election.

## Forty-one longtime employees to be inducted this month into 25 Year Club

A total of 41 people will be inducted into the 25 Year Club during a gala honoring WMU’s longtime employees.

The by-invitation event includes dinner and begins at 5:30 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 29, in the Bernhard Center. An annual gala, it honors employees who have built their careers at WMU.

In addition to the induction ceremony, WMU will honor two faculty members for 50 years of service to the University. They are Richard W. Malott, psychology, and James VanDePolder, engineering design, manufacturing and management systems.

This year’s 25 Year Club inductees are: Donald L. Alexander, economics; Lisa E. Baker, psychology; John Barton, landscape services; Christine J. Blum, building custodial and support services; Linda J. Borish, history; Jody A. Brylinsky, associate provost for institutional effectiveness; Jeffrey M. Carr, maintenance services; Kim Cho, Haenicke Institute for Global Education;

Timothy R. Cobbs, maintenance services;

Deborah L. Cronkright, Bernhard Center Dining Services; Douglas V. Davidson, sociology; James M. Davis, building custodial and support services; Janice Evans, building custodial and support services; David Franklin Florida II, electrical and computer engineering; Jerry W. Fulbright Jr., landscape services; Mario A. Galbreath, information technology; George J. Haus, education and literacy studies;

Lynda L. Hunt, development and alumni relations; Carol L.J. Hustoles, finance and commercial law (and retired vice president for legal affairs and general counsel); Calvin Jones, building custodial and support services; Senora Jones, building custodial and support services; Stephen L. Kettner, information technology; Janet M. Keyes, Burnham Dining Service; Matthew A. Knewtson, theatre;

R.V. Krishnamurthy, geosciences; Stephen B. Malcolm, biological sciences; Donald M.

Meyer, economics; Patty Mikowski, Unified Clinics; Kathy L. Mitchell, university ombudsman; Stephanie Page, Fetzer Center; John Parks, telecommunications; Randy A. Randt, building custodial and support services; Joyce A. Simonds, Bernhard Center Dining Service;

Carol Sundberg, Unified Clinics and Center for Disability Services; Mercedes Tasende, Spanish; Rebecca I. Thiel, maintenance services; Arthur Ward, maintenance services; Martha B. Warfield, vice president for diversity and inclusion; Alice Wheatley, Burnham Dining Service; Derrick Williams, Burnham Dining Service; and David A. Wyman, landscape services.

### Obituary

**Elizabeth DeYoung**, a former custodian, died July 4. She was 100. DeYoung joined the staff in 1967 and retired in 1981 after 14 years of service.

## On Campus with Laura Weber



RISKY BUSINESS  
(Photo by Deanne Puca)

Laura Weber, a risk analyst for WMU's business services, has a long tradition at the University, starting as a student employee in what is now Facilities Management more than 30 years ago and moving into her current role in the early 1990s.

She works with risk management and insurance, identifying the sources of risk as well as safety practices and solutions. This includes involvement in insurance for WMU buildings and property, claims, and training programs for employees across campus.

Weber also works with budget and administrative issues in her office, and she meets with a property insurance inspector once a year to go through campus buildings and addresses the recommendations made.

"The favorite part of my job is the variety. I'm never bored. I get to work with a great boss every day, as well as work with many people and groups on and off campus," she says, adding that the fall and spring are busier because policies are renewed at those times.

Weber is a liaison for WMU with companies and the community, answering questions, completing insurance applications, and assisting with contracts and agreements regarding campus policies and safety.

She also acts as one of WMU's representatives with MUSIC—Michigan Universities Self-Insurance Corporation—of which WMU is a member. This group includes other Michigan public institutions that identify loss trends and safety solutions unique to the university setting. Weber is vice chair for MUSIC's claims and loss control committee and also is on a subcommittee that puts together a yearly symposium for the corporation.

She says she initially wanted to be a special education teacher, but changed her major to organizational communication at WMU and eventually earned her bachelor's degree with a minor in psychology. Many of her family members also are Broncos, including her husband, mother and a brother, all of whom are graduates, and her father, who attended the University. Her husband, Don, is director of information technology for the College of Arts and Sciences.

Weber has two children, a daughter, Lauren, and son, Jason. Born in Pontiac, Michigan, she and her family now live in Portage, Michigan. She enjoys walking and spending time with friends and family, including Friday movie nights at home with her husband, children, dog and two cats. Weber played sports in high school and college and enjoys watching sports to this day.

## Two evaluation researchers receive \$1.6 million grant renewal from NSF

Lori A. Wingate, director of research for the Evaluation Center, and Arlen Gullickson, emeritus researcher in the center, were recently awarded a \$1.6 million grant from the National Science Foundation to operate an evaluation support center for NSF's Advanced Technological Education—ATE—Program.

Wingate serves as principal investigator for the project and Gullickson as co-principal investigator.

This new award follows a \$2.2 million grant made in 2012 and \$2.1 million grant in 2008. The support center, called EvaluATE, offers webinars, tools and resource materials, and workshops on evaluation. The center's offerings are designed for ATE project personnel and evaluators, but are available to the general public.

In fact, the center's webinars have attracted participants from far beyond the ATE program, including individuals from federal agencies; state, county, tribal and municipal governments; inter-

national consulting firms; ivy league universities; and various organizations from 14 different countries and 49 states.

The ATE program was created by NSF in response to the Scientific and Advanced-Technology Act of 1992, which called for establishing

"a national advanced technician training program, utilizing the resources of the nation's two-year associate-degree-granting colleges."

The program focuses on high-technology fields such as advanced manufacturing technologies, biotechnology, energy and environmental technologies, engineering technologies, information technologies, and nanotechnology.



Wingate



Gullickson

Continued from page 1

### Celebration of Dunn presidency

fundraising effort to benefit four causes of particular interest to the Dunns—the Student Emergency Fund, the Seita Scholars program, the Bronco Marching Band and the University Art Collection.

"President Dunn has built a tremendous legacy on campus, in Kalamazoo and around the state and nation," says Kenneth Miller, chair of the WMU Board of Trustees. "We want members of all the communities we serve to have a chance to play a part in celebrating, with us, the accomplishments that have changed WMU forever and left their mark nationwide."

Continued from page 1

### WMU experts help millions to get clean water

paper plant has played a critical role in the development of our company and our technology."

WMU Pilot Plants Manager Lon E. Pschigoda says his facility's role in development of the filters was made possible by the caliber of its equipment and the technical expertise of its staff. This fall's trial involved several attempts to embed the silver using different plant techniques.

"By utilizing our pilot paper machine, Folia was able to combine several steps in the production process into one continuous process," Pschigoda says. "The flexibility

of the equipment and the ingenuity of the operators at our pilot plant helped this trial become a success."

Folia's technology could provide clean and safe water to 1.8 billion at-risk people worldwide. Each filter page can last for weeks and each book for about a year. A page can clean up to 100 liters of water at a cost of less than a penny per day with no heat or electricity or need for a pump.

The Folia Filter technology was originally developed by Theresa Dankovich, a Folia co-founder who serves as the company's chairwoman and chief scientist.

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