



# Western News

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Volume 44, Number 11

For and about WMU faculty and staff

## Trustees to meet in Grand Rapids

The next meeting of the WMU Board of Trustees will be at 11 a.m. Wednesday, March 14, at WMU-Grand Rapids' Beltline location. Information about the agenda will be posted online at [wmich.edu/news](http://wmich.edu/news) closer to the meeting date.

## Nominations sought for key awards

The campus community is invited to nominate eligible faculty and staff members for the 2018-19 Emerging Scholar Award, Distinguished Teaching Award and Distinguished Service Award. The nomination deadline for these campuswide awards is Monday, April 2.

Award eligibility, criteria and nomination guidelines are available from the faculty development office at [wmich.edu/faculty-development/awards](http://wmich.edu/faculty-development/awards). Direct questions to Tonya Dean at [tonya.dean@wmich.edu](mailto:tonya.dean@wmich.edu) or (269) 387-0397.

## Consider activating SRC membership

Benefits-eligible faculty and nonbargaining staff are eligible to join the Student Recreation Center and pay nothing more than the taxes on \$270. By joining now, their membership will run through Jan. 6, 2019. Retirees and their spouses also may join by activating their memberships.

To do so, go to [wmich.edu/rec](http://wmich.edu/rec) and click on the facility access icon in the blue bar at the bottom of the page. Click on the benefits-eligible faculty/staff membership form or emeriti/retiree membership form. Complete the form and submit. Then use the SRC Monday through Sunday anytime the building is open. Call Cindy VanderWoude at (269) 387-3115 to get more details, arrange for a presentation in a WMU office or schedule a tour to check out recent facility updates.

## Help APA honor staff colleagues

The Administrative Professional Association seeks nominations by Thursday, March 15, for its Outstanding Professional Award, Outstanding New Professional Award and the Tony Griffin Service Award. Find the eligibility criteria and the online nomination form at [wmich.edu/apa/awards](http://wmich.edu/apa/awards).

## Hall earns international accolade

ASHRAE, a global society of building engineers, has given its 2018 Award of Engineering Excellence to WMU for the renovation of Heritage Hall. The honor has been bestowed upon international building projects only five times during the past 30 years.

In January, ASHRAE presented the award to Jonathan Rumohr and Jesse Hendershot—two engineers from the West Michigan-based architecture and engineering firm TowerPinkster—for their work in renovating the hall.

## Medical school granted full accreditation

In the final step of a journey that began some seven years ago, the Liaison Committee on Medical Education Feb. 13 granted full accreditation to the WMU Homer Stryker M.D. School of Medicine for five years.



Five is the maximum number of years for which a new school receiving its initial full accreditation can be accredited by LCME, the national accrediting body for educational programs leading to the medical doctor degree.

WMU's medical school, or WMed as it is commonly known, is set to graduate its first class Sunday, May 13, during a ceremony in Miller Auditorium.

Most state licensing boards require that U.S. medical schools granting the M.D. degree be accredited by the LCME as a condition of licensure of the school's graduates. U.S. medical schools also must have LCME accreditation to ensure that their students can take the U.S. Medical Licensing Examination. In addition, graduates of LCME-accredited schools are eligible for residency programs accredited by the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education.

Hal B. Jenson, WMed's founding dean, shared the school's latest accreditation news recently with its Board of Directors, faculty, residents, staff and students, and expressed his appreciation for the work of numerous stakeholders that made the important milestone possible.

"The granting of full accreditation by the LCME is a key step in our journey as an institu-

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## Volunteer by Feb. 23 for Success@WMU task force

Project directors, an advisory committee, a series of task forces and a firm timetable are all now in place to begin implementation of Success@WMU, one of two campuswide transformational initiatives announced by WMU President Edward Montgomery in January (see Page 3 for related stories).

Success@WMU is a large-scale campus commitment to build on past WMU success with learning communities. The initiative ensures that all new undergraduate students have access to a learning community led by a peer leader assisted by faculty and staff. The learning communities are intended to not only help welcome and orient new students, but also aid them in building skills and making the connections essential for success in college.

With a firm goal of having the initiative ready to offer to some 5,500 new students for fall 2018, Administrative Lead Keith Hearit and Project Co-director Monica Liggins-Abrams are coordinating the work of a 13-member advisory group and 10 different task forces charged with quickly developing elements of the overall initiative.

More complete information and a link to the task force nomination form are available at [wmich.edu/president](http://wmich.edu/president) by clicking Transformational Initiative Fund, then Success@WMU. Nominations must be made no later than Friday, Feb. 23.

"We're using a flat organization structure," Hearit says. "The work will be done at the task-force level, with each group charged with a discrete purpose, utilizing existing

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## Project makes researching archived WMU news nearly painless

University Libraries has been madly digitizing a wealth of WMU's historical publications through ScholarWorks at WMU, a cloud-based institutional repository offered on the Digital Commons platform by Berkeley Electronic Press.

ScholarWorks at WMU serves as a digital showcase of the research, scholarly and creative output of members of the campus community. The archiving project consists of ScholarWorks and a SelectedWorks Author Gallery and is administered by University Libraries. The repository became fully operational in 2012 at [scholarworks.wmich.edu](http://scholarworks.wmich.edu). Since then, libraries staff have archived digital copies of most of WMU's major news-related periodicals. Users now have access to searchable PDFs of these materials and can browse by collection, discipline and author. The Western Michigan University collection is particularly helpful for history buffs, as it contains a wealth of items, some of which date back to just after the institution's founding.



In addition to copies of the *Western News* from 1972 to today, the collection includes the *Emeriti News*, *Kalamazoo Normal Record*, *The Westerner*, University yearbooks, and various

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# Around campus and beyond

## Free concerts part of conference

The WMU Concert Band and University Symphonic Band will both perform Friday, Feb. 23, in Miller Auditorium as part of the College Band Directors National Association North Central Division Conference. The event features collegiate ensembles from across the northern United States performing today through Saturday, Feb. 24.

Friday, the WMU Concert Band will perform at 10:15 a.m. and the University Symphonic Band at 8:30 p.m. All concerts are taking place in Miller Auditorium and are free and open to the public. For more information, visit [wmucbdna.com](http://wmucbdna.com) or call (269) 387-4667.

## Workshop slated for researchers

WMU researchers can learn more about what federal agencies value most in evaluating proposals during a free Broader Impacts 101 workshop. Laurie Van Egeren, a member of the National Alliance for Broader Impacts steering committee, will present from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. Thursday, March 1, in the President's Dining Room at the Bernhard Center. Registration is required. For details or to register, visit [wmich.edu/research/broader-impacts](http://wmich.edu/research/broader-impacts).

## Festival brings singers to WMU

One of the largest, oldest and most successful high school choral festivals in the United States will be held on campus Thursday, March 15. The 80th annual

Southwestern Michigan Vocal Festival will draw participants from 19 southwest Michigan high schools and culminate in a 7 p.m. performance in Miller Auditorium.

The concert is free and open to the public, and will feature the 900-voice Festival Chorus nearly filling the first level of the auditorium. For additional upcoming music concerts and festivals, visit [wmich.edu/music/events](http://wmich.edu/music/events).

## Films examine inequality, solutions

Stories of inequality in people's everyday lives and solutions that can help unite the country are themes of a free film festival underway on campus. Featured are three films from the "America Divided Series," produced by Norman Lear, Common and Shonda Rhimes.

Two films have yet to be shown: "Something in the Water," Monday, March 19, and "A House Divided," Wednesday, April 11. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. in the Bernhard Center's North Ballroom, with films and post-engagement activities running from 7 to 9 p.m.

## Sustainable business expert to talk

Developing methods to account for the positive effects of individual and corporate sustainability efforts—and not just the harms being caused—is the topic of a free lecture Thursday, March 15. Gregory Norris from Harvard University will present the talk from 7 to 8:30 p.m. in 1910 Sangren Hall.

## Dance emerita honored for advocacy

Wendy Cornish, emerita in dance, is the recipient of this year's Partners in Dance Community Dance Advocacy Award.



Cornish

The award, presented at a reception Feb. 2, celebrates an individual who has demonstrated significant accomplishment in advancing and supporting dance in the greater Kalamazoo area through volunteerism, philanthropy, artistic achievement, teaching and administrative leadership.

Cornish, who retired from WMU in 2003, has been an advocate and champion of dance for more than 50 years, including 37 years as professor and chair of dance at WMU.

She was instrumental in shaping the department's vision and curricular approach, evolving classes originally housed in the department of physical education to an independent program within the College of Fine Arts. She also was instrumental in the development of several regional and national organizations, in many cases, serving them for decades.

## Faculty member's gift funds internships

David Houghton, political science, is one of many faculty members who have started a fund to benefit students. The David G.



Houghton

Houghton Internship Endowment was established to support the Capital and Local Internship Program and expand its scope by placing students in internships throughout Washington, D.C.

The former department chair was instrumental in starting the program with the help of the Lee Honors College. Between 1990 and 2012, the program gave more than 880 interns practical work experience in state and local government.

His dream of expanding the program to include Washington has been made possible through the endowment. To add to the fund, make a donation at [bit.ly/2CAwesS](http://bit.ly/2CAwesS).

## Grad assistant earns two awards

Justine Morneau, facilities graduate assistant for University Recreation, earned the Robert "Bob" England Outstanding



Morneau

Student Award from the Michigan Intramural Sports Association late last year. In addition, Morneau will be one of only 12 graduate students across the country to receive the National William N. Wasson Student Leadership & Academic Award in March from the National School for Recreational Sports Management.

The Bad Axe, Michigan, student is enrolled in the Master of Arts in educational leadership program with a concentration in higher education and student affairs leadership. She earned that concentration's 2017 Outstanding 1st-Year Student Award in the area of diversity and inclusion and expects to graduate this April.

In her graduate assistant role at WMU, she assists in overseeing the Student Recreation Center and its student staff.

## Food Marketing Conference to focus on the customer

The University's acclaimed Food Marketing Conference is set for Monday and Tuesday, March 19-20, and is expected to draw up to 800 industry executives to DeVos Place in Grand Rapids, Michigan.

The event will explore this year's conference theme, "Retail Reinvention: Making the Customer Hero." Registration is ongoing at [foodmarketingconference.com](http://foodmarketingconference.com). The

Amway Grand hotel offers a conference rate until Friday, Feb. 23, subject to availability.

The conference will feature keynote speakers and informational sessions covering topics from the future of brick-and-mortar shopping and the millennial impact on the industry to cybersecurity and analytics.

Now in its 53rd year, the WMU Food Marketing Conference brings leading industry experts from around the country to West Michigan to share the latest developments in the industry. The conference is a non-profit event that supports scholarships and programs for unique educational experiences for WMU food marketing students.

## Retirement receptions

Kenneth Fifelski, construction, will be honored for 44 years of service to WMU during a retirement reception from 2 to 5 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 28, in 1221 Heritage Hall.

Leisa Perry, administrative assistant in the College of Aviation, will be honored during a retirement reception from 4 to 6 p.m. Monday, April 16, in the Fetzer Center atrium.

## 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.

## Western News

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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 spring are **Jan. 11 and 25, Feb. 8 and 22, March 15 and 29, and April 12.** 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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WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY

# Several faculty, staff members receive Spring Convocation awards

Faculty and staff members across campus will be recognized for their teaching, research, diversity and engagement efforts Friday, Feb. 23, during the “Spring Convocation: Recognition of Discovery, Diversity and Global Engagement” event.

The annual spring gathering will feature symposia, scholarly presentations and award presentations by four units. This year’s awards will go to 15 employees.

## Extended University Programs

- Innovative Teaching Awards—Lori Brown, aviation sciences, and Chad and Autumn Edwards, communication.

- Community Engagement Awards—Nancy Hock, occupational therapy, and Matt Reeves, geological and environmental sciences.

## Office of Diversity and Inclusion

- Excellence in Diversity Award—Donna Talbot, educational leadership, research and technology
- Trailblazers for Diversity Award—Marcy Peake, education and human development as well as family and consumer sciences.
- Rising Star in Diversity Award—Dawnielle Simmons, graduate student and co-creator of the Student Assembly for Racial

Equity and Cultural Inclusion registered student organization.

## Haenicke Institute for Global Education

- Global Engagement Awards: Jennifer Harrison, social work, and Barbara Caras-Tomczak, Haworth College of Business

## Office of the Vice President for Research

- Distinguished Research and Creative Scholarship Awards—Wendy Beane, biological sciences; Elena Litvinova, physics; Fahad Saeed, computer science; Patricia Reeves, educational leadership, research and technology; and Jianping Shen, educational leadership, research and technology.

# Little Theatre selected to be site for esports arena

*Editor’s note: Also see the related transformational initiative story on Page 1 of this issue.*

After weeks of reviewing possible campus locations for the new esports@WMU arena, the Little Theatre on the East Campus has been selected as site that will be home to the effort that is one of two Transformational Initiatives set to launch in fall 2018.



An eight-member project team has spent recent weeks visiting and reviewing campus locations with the goal of finding a location that can be readily renovated into an arena in which students can compete and spectators have a comfortable place to watch competitions, says Scott Puckett, project manager.

Built in 1942 and renovated in 1997, the Little Theatre seats 192 and has a traditional stage and auditorium-style seating. While most colleges and universities have built esports facilities along the traditional computer lab model, Puckett says, the opportunity to use the Little Theatre will give WMU an esports venue focused on interaction and hosting competitions.

With the location decision made, Puckett says the next steps will be to form small working groups to focus on the design and functionality of the Little Theatre stage, electrical and construction needs and creation of a website for the project. Project plans call for the esports arena to be equipped with a minimum of 22 stations that can be used for competitions and skill development

at the club-sport level.

The intent is for the University to open its gaming facility at the start of the fall 2018 semester and make it available for a variety of competitive events, including to community groups organizing video gaming events. The facility is also expected to allow for the development of academic programming designed to meet the career demands of what is expected to be a \$1.5 billion U.S. industry by 2020.

Project team members have already begun reaching out to groups on campus to promote the new facility. They visited the Feb. 10 meeting of the League of Legends Registered Student Association and had a booth at the Feb. 19 admitted student gathering on campus.

# Nominate colleagues for semiannual staff award

Nominations for the spring 2018 round of WMU’s semiannual Make a Difference awards are due Wednesday, Feb. 28.



Make a Difference is a campuswide peer-to-peer program that recognizes staff members for their accomplishments and daily investment of energy and creativity. Every fall and spring, semiannual awards are presented to a maximum of 15 people. Those selected for the accolade receive a monetary prize and are eligible to receive the annual Make a Difference Award.

For more information, visit [wmich.edu/makeadifference](http://wmich.edu/makeadifference). Nomination instructions and forms as well as lists of previous winners are available year-round on this webpage.

# University summit to focus on student success issues

*Editor’s note: Also see the related transformational initiative story on Page 1 of this issue.*

An afternoon of innovation, collaboration and inspiration has been planned for the spring 2018 Student Success Summit, set for noon to 4:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 7, in the Bernhard Center’s South Ballroom.

Those planning to attend are required to register by Monday, March 5, at [wmich.edu/changeresearch/broncosfirst](http://wmich.edu/changeresearch/broncosfirst) by clicking Student Success Summit.

Faculty and staff members are invited to attend the semiannual summit, which this



A 2017 summit session (Photo by Mike Lanka)

semester will mark the campus launch of the Success@WMU Transformational Initiative. Attendees will be able to network and participate in facilitated discussions with the goal of moving toward increasing student success and retention in a collaborative way.

The event is being hosted by Broncos FIRST and Success@WMU. It will feature opening remarks by Interim Provost Sue Stapleton and closing remarks by President Edward Montgomery. In addition, a panel of national experts will discuss topics including academic engagement, peer mentoring, black male student retention and mental health as well as facilitate interest-based discussion groups. Lunch will be provided.

The scheduled panel members are Betsy Barefoot, a senior fellow at the John Gardner Institute; Phaedra White Abbot, director of the Discovery Scholars Program at the University of Texas at Austin; Robert Simmons III, president of the Service Year Alliance; and Margaret Price, program director and associate professor of disability studies and English at Ohio State University.

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

**Shirley Bach**, emerita in philosophy and internationally recognized authority on biomedical ethics, died Feb. 13. She was 86. Bach joined the faculty in 1961 and retired in 1997 after 37 years of service.

**John T. Miller**, emeritus in health, physical education and recreation and a former assistant football coach, died Feb. 7. He was 79. Miller joined the faculty in 1963 and retired in 1996 after 33 years of service.

**Doris A. Ray**, formerly an office associate in health, physical education and recreation and administrative secretary for the McGinnis Reading Center and Clinic, died Feb. 11. She was 79. Ray came to WMU in 1965 and retired in 2006 after 41 years of service.

**Clara Van Eck**, formerly an accounting clerk for what is now Extended University Programs, died Jan. 29. She was 96. Van Eck joined the staff in 1971 and retired in 1984 after 13 years of service. A memorial service will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday, May 12, in the Langeland Family Funeral Homes Westside Chapel, 3926 S. 9th St. in Kalamazoo.



Bach



Miller

# On Campus with the Beebes and Zackerys



## ALL IN THE FAMILY

From left: Jessica, Cindy, Darlene and Shayla  
(Photo by Jeanne Baron)

Many Bronco couples are blood relatives rather than spouses. That's true of Cindy and Jessica Beebe and Darlene and Shayla Zackery, two mother-daughter pairs of custodians.

Although no one in the quartet works together in the same buildings, they share the same bubbly personalities as well as a uniform sense of unit camaraderie and pride in the work they do for the University.

Darlene has been at WMU the longest—31 years this month. She's stationed in Floyd Hall while her daughter, Shayla, prefers to float, working wherever needs arise.

"I like the people in building custodial and support services," says Darlene, who's been at the hall since it opened. "I really enjoy my job. If I didn't, I wouldn't have been here 31 years!"

Shayla came to WMU after budget cuts eliminated her job at Michigan Works.

"I wanted to know what my mom had been doing for so much of her life and

what all the Bronco positivity and hoopla was about," she says, as her fellow custodians flash knowing smiles.

Now, Shayla is on track to celebrate her fourth year on the staff. That will happen this summer at about the same time she'll earn a bachelor's degree from WMU in university studies with a minor in business.

Comparatively speaking, Cindy and Jessica are foals as a Bronco couple. Cindy was hired a decade ago, and Jessica, the youngest of the group, has only been a staff member for a year. She says the University providing free tuition to full-time benefits-eligible employees is a big reason she wanted to follow in her mom's footsteps.

Financial reasons also played a role in Cindy discovering her niche on campus. A cook at Bronson Methodist Hospital, she started her employment in Dining Services. But having young kids, Cindy couldn't afford to work only during the academic year. Luckily, she picked up summer work as a custodian after only one year.

"I liked the people so much I decided to bid over to building custodial and support services," she explains, amid the jovial laughs and hugs of her three compatriots. "And I've had positive experiences ever since."

Darlene notes that she followed a similar path, only quicker. She was a cook at a local restaurant before coming to Dining Services and moving to her current unit after a mere five weeks.

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## Medical school granted full accreditation

tion and represents a ringing confirmation that the M.D. degree program at WMed is sound and meets nationally accepted standards of educational quality," Jenson said. "We all should be very gratified with this accomplishment. Together, we make WMed an outstanding place to learn, teach, care for patients, work and innovate."

WMed began preparing for LCME accredi-

tation in 2011 as the medical school was still in the planning stages. LCME granted preliminary accreditation in 2012 and provisional accreditation in 2016.

The process for full accreditation included the submission in July 2017 of more than 2,800 pages of required documentation and a comprehensive, three-day survey visit this October.

Continued from Page 1

## Efforts underway for Success@WMU to rollout in fall

expertise and leadership from around the campus community."

Hearit says volunteers from the campus community are sought to work at the task-force level. The task forces already in place are charged with the following areas of focus:

- Examining existing peer mentoring programs to develop requirements and activities;
- Developing the role of peer leaders and a curriculum to shape interactions with new students;
- Hiring 100 to 150 peer leaders by the end of spring semester;
- Adapting Success@WMU for transfer students to include multiple interaction types;
- Examining in-course learning assistant models and program integration for adaptation to Success@WMU;

• Developing peer mentor training that will culminate in a week-long training program in August;

• Developing a faculty and staff Signature program that will include Signature themes;

• Crafting a plan for research, assessment and learning outcomes for the initiative and its elements;

• Developing branding, marketing and communication strategies for consistent messaging; and

• Adapting Success@WMU for international students in a way that encourages interaction with domestic students.

Task force nominations may be made for oneself or others, but service requires a time commitment of two to five hours per week. Those selected for a task force will receive an invitation and more specific information.

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## Researching archived WMU

institutional magazines and newsletters covering a wide range of years. It also contains such historical records as Board of Trustees meeting minutes and copies of the annual "WMU Fact Book."

Meanwhile, issues of the *Western Herald* from 1916 to 2009 are available online through the Digital Reel interface at [wmich.edu/library/collections/digital/western-herald-archive](http://wmich.edu/library/collections/digital/western-herald-archive).

Sharon Carlson, Archives and Regional History Collections, notes that researchers and others no longer have to browse through microfilm to search back issues of the newspaper. But she also notes that in case it's needed, the original newspaper and microfilm are still being preserved in the Zhang Legacy Collections Center.

"We're always looking for more materials to enter into ScholarWorks," says Maira Bundza, ScholarWorks librarian. "So if anyone has materials that seem to belong in our institutional repository or see gaps in our collection, please contact me."

Now that much of the University's historical publications are well on the way to being preserved, Bundza adds that University Libraries is starting to archive portions of the WMU website through Archive-It. Progress to date on that initiative can be viewed at [archive-it.org/organizations/1020](http://archive-it.org/organizations/1020).

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