New program for injured employees

A new Early Return To Work program went into effect March 30. Injured employees will be placed in restricted-duty positions within their departments, allowing them to return to work sooner and reducing disruptions in worker income. Refer questions about the program to Michael Shelden at michael.shelden@wmich.edu or 387-4636.

Bronco Mall shops holding sales

Today is the last day to buy everything from demo computers to overstocked and discontinued clothing in Textbook Alley. Many items are being sold at clearance prices from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. The WMU Cards & Gifts store is closing its doors for good at the end of the month. All greeting cards and selected gift items are being sold at half price until then. Once the store is closed, cards and gifts will be available for purchase in the WMU Bookstore.

Application deadline extended

The deadline for submitting applications to the 2009-10 Visiting Scholars and Artists Program has been extended to 5 p.m. Friday, April 10. Applications should be sent to Vonceal Phillips in the provost’s office by campus mail to 3074 Seibert Administration Building or fax to 387-2377.

Four commencement ceremonies set

WMU will grant degrees to nearly 2,500 students during four commencement ceremonies Saturday, April 25, in Miller Auditorium.

The ceremonies will be at 9 a.m. for the College of Arts and Sciences, noon for the College of Education and Extended University Programs, 3 p.m. for the College of Aviation and Haworth College of Business, and 6 p.m. for the colleges of Engineering and Applied Sciences, Fine Arts, and Health and Human Services.

Transportation survey available online

Employees and students are encouraged to take the WMU Transportation Survey as part of a Green House Gas Emissions Inventory for the University. The seven-question survey takes less than one minute to complete.

The survey will provide a more robust analysis as WMU considers signing the Association of College and University Presidents’ Climate Commitment. The survey is available online through the sustainability website at www.wmich.edu/sustainability or the “Campus Announcements” channel of GoWMU.

Last Western News for spring semester

This is the last issue of Western News for the spring semester. Western News will resume its regular publication schedule Thursday, May 7, after the start of the Summer I Session. The publication dates for the rest of Summer I are May 21 and June 4 and 18.

Registration open for WMU Day at the Capitol

Online registration is under way for WMU’s second annual WMU Day at the Capitol, which will take place from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Wednesday, May 27, on the front lawn of the state Capitol in Lansing.

The event will feature interactive and hands-on exhibits as well as performances showcasing the talents and success of WMU students, faculty and staff.

WMU T-shirts, optional bus transportation from Kalamazoo and box lunches will be available for participants who register by Friday, May 8. Participants may still register after May 8, but they will not be guaranteed a T-shirt, box lunch or bus seat.

Last year’s inaugural event drew more than 700 participants.

“We made a strong impression on the Legislature last year, and with 46 new legislators this year, we are continuing to raise awareness about WMU,” says Greg Rose, vice president for institutional advancement and legislative affairs.

Twenty-six proposals were chosen for the 2009 event, including projects and displays from a wide variety of WMU departments and programs.

Featured will be a 2004 Prius converted to a plug-in hybrid that is charged by a wind turbine on campus. The vehicle, converted by John Patten, industrial and manufacturing engineering, can drive up to 40 miles on electricity before using any gas. Another engineering success, WMU’s solar car, Sunseeker, which competed in nine collegiate solar races since 1990 and twice placed in the top six, also will be available to view.

Other displays and events include:

• Nursing students and physician assistants, who will take blood pressure and dispense information about hypertension;
• Nursing students and physician assistants, who will take blood pressure and dispense information about hypertension;
• Student project awards funds to local charities

WMU students studying nonprofit leadership have given $15,000 to local charities through a program started this past fall for a select group of universities nationwide.

The WMU grants were part of the StudentGiving program to advance philanthropic education efforts at colleges, which is funded by the Campus Compact and Fidelity Charitable Gift Fund.

WMU was one of just 10 universities to receive funds to disperse as a way of giving students hands-on experience in identifying community needs, setting criteria for grants and administering funds.

The program engages students in strategic grant-making activities within the context of community-based learning and partnership with local nonprofit organizations. WMU distributed grants to:

• The Specialized Language Development Center, $5,000 for its Language Links Program, which provides two hours per week of individual, specialized instruction to economically disadvantaged children who are significantly below grade level in reading but who do not qualify or receive special education services;
• The Eastside Neighborhood Association, $2,725 for a community garden that will provide gardening expertise, gardening tools on loan, and fresh produce to families in that neighborhood;
• The YMCA, $2,500 for a speaker event at the Kalamazoo Summit on Racism, which

Second Polar Plunge exceeds fund-raising goal for Special Olympics

For the second time in as many years, WMU has surpassed its fund-raising goal for the law Enforcement Torch Run Polar Plunge, which benefits Special Olympics Michigan. This year, the University sought to raise $10,000 and garnered nearly $11,000 in 2009, up from the goal of $3,000 and some $7,000 was raised. Numerous members of the WMU community, including President John M. Dunn (left photo) took part in the March 28 event by jumping into the icy waters of a makeshift glacial pool in Lawson Ice Arena. Also participating along with Dunn were, from left (right photo), WMU mascot Buster Bronco and Kalamazoo Mayor Bobby Hopewell. (Photos by Mike Lanka)
Outreach executive to discuss BTR Park's success

Bob Miller, associate vice president for community outreach, will discuss the success of the University’s Business, Technology and Research Park Friday, April 24.

Miller’s talk, titled “A Community Success Story,” begins at 8 a.m. in the Dean’s Conference Room in Schneider Hall. The event will honor two hands-on workshops in 210 Bernhard Center. “Dismantling Interpretive Communities in Literature Classes: Students as Producers of Responsible Interpretations,” will be from 10:30 to 11:45 a.m. “Writing about Literature in an Authentic Academic Community” will be from 12:30 to 1:45 p.m.

Ethics Center film series continues

“Though Shalt Not Bear False Witness,” produced for Polish television, will be shown at 6:30 p.m. Monday, April 13, in 1025 Brown as part of the Center for the Study of Ethics in Society Film Series. A discussion will follow the free event at 7:30 p.m. led by Lynwood Bartley, emeritus in communication.

Engineering projects spotlighted

A three-wheeled vehicle that exceeds the efficiency of most electric vehicles will be among the 69 projects presented Tuesday, April 14, at the 44th Conference on Senior Engineering and Design. Students will demonstrate their projects from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the College of Engineering and Applied Sciences Building.

Speaker to discuss Islamic politics

The 2008-09 Samuel I. Clark Lecture will be presented by Roxanne L. Euben of Wellesley College. She will speak on “The Politics of Jihad in Islamist Thought” at 7 p.m. Wednesday, April 15, in the Fetzer Center’s Kinsh Auditorium.

Euben also will discuss post-9/11 challenges to doing research on Islam and Muslim political thought as well as her book, “Journey to the Other Shore: Muslim and Western Travelers in Search of Knowledge,” at noon Thursday, April 16, in the Political Science Library on the third floor of Friedmann.

Aviation states research colloquium

Faculty, staff and students are invited to attend a research colloquium from 7 to 8:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 15, in 1001 Wood that will highlight the current studies taking place in the College of Aviation. Communications and security training post 9/11 will be among the topics discussed.

Exchange

For sale—Lakefront home on Minkler Lake, just six miles south of Allegan and one mile east of M-40. Two bedrooms, 2.5 bathrooms, oak kitchen with appliances included, forced air heat with air conditioning, two-car garage on double lot with 140 feet of sandy beach. A large pole barn sits on a 100-by-200-foot access lot across from the driveway. Asking $265,000. Contact Lin at 673-4147 or 330-9092.

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registered WMU staff member has been named this year's recipient of the YWCA of Kalamazoo's Lifetime Woman of Achievement Award.

Martha Warfield, associate vice president for diversity and inclusion, will be presented with the award during the 25th annual YWCA Women of Achievement Award Celebration at 5:15 p.m. Thursday, May 14, in the Radisson Plaza Hotel in downtown Kalamazoo.

The lifetime achievement award is given to area women who demonstrate a lifetime of outstanding contributions to the well-being of the local community, state or nation and have a record of accomplishment, leadership and positive role modeling in their volunteer or professional activities. An independent selection committee determines recipients.

Warfield has shown a dedication to both educational and mental health through a varied professional life that spans careers as a social worker, teacher, researcher, probation officer, counselor, entrepreneur and higher education administrator. She has been widely involved in community affairs, and in 2008 received the Humanitarian of the Year Award from the Metropolitan Kalamazoo Branch of the NAACP. In addition, she received WMU's Distinguished Service Award in 2000.

Warfield joined WMU's staff and the Division of Student Affairs in 1992 as a licensed psychologist and associate professor in the University Counseling and Testing Center. She was director of the Division of Multicultural Affairs from 1993 until her promotion to assistant vice president for student affairs in 2002. She was tapped in 2004 to head a presidential initiative on diversity and named in 2007 to her current position as leader of campus diversity efforts.

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Tree walk to be part of Arbor Day celebration

The unveiling of a campus tree walk will be part of WMU's Arbor Day Tree-Planting Celebration at 10:30 a.m. Friday, April 17. Members of the public as well as the WMU community are invited to attend the event, which will be held at the flag poles on the West Campus Promenade by the Lee H. Peters Library.

The public is also invited to a tree-planting ceremony in WMU's Kleinstueck Preserve at 1 p.m. April 17. This event is being organized by the Kazoob School, 1401 Cherry St. in Kalamazoo. The school is located across the street from the preserve. Those attending the event should park along Cherry Street near the school.

Arbor Day is a nationally celebrated observance that encourages tree planting and care. The official day for this year's observance is April 24.

WMU's landscape services department has been celebrating Arbor Day continuously since 2006. By holding its 2009 observance April 17—before spring finals week begins and the 2008-09 academic year ends—WMU hopes more members of the campus community will be able to attend.

“We’re looking forward to people turning out and investing a small portion of their day to reflect on the importance of trees,” says Durrell Junkins, a grounds supervisor in landscape services. “This year’s program will be especially exciting. We’ll not only be planting a tree and explaining a little about Arbor Day, but we’ll also be sharing some of the interesting accomplishments that we continue to build on for all to enjoy.”

During the event, WMU also will formally recognize the Tree Campus USA designation that it received this past January from the National Arbor Day Foundation and publicly unveil its first campus tree walk, called the Wood Hall Tree Tour. A tour map with descriptions of the featured trees will be available at the Arbor Day celebration. All of the trees on the tour are labeled, so people can pick up a map and take a self-guided tour after the Arbor Day celebration. The tour map and descriptions are available online by going to www.pp.wmich.edu/trees and clicking “Tree Tours.”

Football schedule confirmed

The Mid-American Conference and WMU have confirmed the 2009 Bronco football schedule, including the University's Homecoming game Saturday, Oct. 24.

WMU will play three Big Ten opponents in a single season for the first time in history. With the exception of its Tuesday, Nov. 24, contest, all of the Broncos' regular-season games will be held on Saturdays this year. Times will be announced later.

For 2009, games will be held Sept. 5, at the University of Michigan; Sept. 12, at Indiana University; Sept. 19, the University of Miami (ComUniverCity Night); Sept. 26, Hofstra University; Oct. 3, at Northern Illinois University; Oct. 10, at University of Toledo; Oct. 17, Central Michigan University; Oct. 24, Buffalo (Homecoming); Oct. 31, at Kent State University; Nov. 7, at Michigan State University; Nov. 14, at Eastern Michigan University; and Nov. 24, Ball State University.

Go to www.wmubroncos.com for more information or to order tickets.

10 Years—Carey F. Baker Jr., physical plant-landscape services; Carol E. Bakant, Sindecuse Health Center; Nancy Lou Cardozzi, Sindecuse Health Center; Linda M. Comrie, Graduate College; Sharon L. Conolly, physical plant-building, custodial and support services; Alicia A. Eby, Sindecuse Health Center; Celeste A. Glascock, Human Resources; James F. Haun, physical plant-building, custodial and support services; William C. Johnson, physical plant-building, custodial and support services; Rose A. Hathaway, campus facility development, and Peter Thannhauser, Galen J. Alessi, psychology. 30 Years—Lori S. Grob, logistical services; Sharon Stoken, physical plant-building, custodial and support services; and Dennis L. VanDenzerg, information technology. 25 Years—Richard T. Boyd, physical plant-power plant; Linda Emmons, physical plant-building, custodial and support services; David R. Miller, physical plant-maintenance services; Leva M. Sverns, Sindecuse Health Center; and Kevin L. Villadon, physical plant-maintenance services. 15 Years—Joseph W. Petro Jr., industrial and manufacturing engineering.

Register by April 15 for free Medieval Congress admission

Kalamazoo County residents and members of the WMU community may attend the 44th International Congress on Medieval Studies for free if they register online or in person at the Miller Auditorium ticket office by April 15.

The Medieval Congress is one of the world's largest annual gatherings of people interested in the Middle Ages. This year's event will take place Thursday through Saturday, May 7-9.

County residents and WMU community members who do not take advantage of the free online and in-person registration options may register after April 15, but they will be assessed a $50 late fee. Those without Internet access may register by mail or fax for a nominal handling fee.

Go to www.wmich.edu/medievalcongress to register or obtain more information about WMU's Medieval Congress. For information about registering by mail or fax, call 387-8745.

EUP team wins national award

The Extended University Programs marketing and communications team has won a national publications award.

The EUP course catalog of branch campus and e-learning offerings earned a Bronze Award in the Print Publication: General Catalog or Tabloid category of the University Continuing Education Association's 2009 Marketing and Publications Awards program.

The schedule book is published three times per year by the marketing and communications team, which is directed by Amy Routhier. The publication is managed by Megan Anderson, coordinator of marketing and communications, and designed by Kalamazoo-area graphic designer Sandy Wachowski of Husky Graphics.

Wawfield
On Campus with Cindy VanderWoude

Keeping tabs on membership and payroll at the University Recreation Center is a full-time job for Cindy VanderWoude, membership coordinator. The position gives her the opportunity to work with a broad variety of people on campus and in the community.

“It’s nice to be around students. Over the years, this University has changed and really grown. It’s a great atmosphere,” she says.

Starting in the Office of Admissions almost 23 years ago, she also has worked in the Office of Residence Life. VanderWoude moved to her current position in University Recreation in 2000.

She tirelessly campaigns to remind faculty and staff that membership to the recreation center is free except for paying taxes on the membership, which amounts to about $5 a month.

“We’re constantly pitching to faculty and staff that one of their benefits is the membership,” she says. “And the SRC is only open to faculty, staff, students and alumni and not the general community.”

Participation at the recreation center has increased during the past year, as people have focused on low-cost activities closer to home with the downturn in the economy. VanderWoude adds.

In addition to membership, she enjoys a variety of other duties. These include processing new student employee paperwork when they are hired and payroll for the department, making sure 200 students who work in a variety of positions receive their paychecks.

A native of Geneseo, Ill., VanderWoude lives in Kalamazoo with her husband, Scott, and her rescued chocolate Labrador retriever, Latte.

In her spare time, VanderWoude is an independent consultant for Tastefully Simple, a gourmet food company.

She enjoys sports, especially playing volleyball and watching the Detroit Tigers. She loves being involved with the community as a member of the Kalamazoo Jaycees and is looking forward to volunteering for the SPCE of Southwest Michigan to help care for homeless pets.

HR offering new faculty, staff training program

Human Resources has established a new faculty and staff training program called “Getting Back to the Basics” that will start in May and continue through August.

The free program features HR staff and other WMU experts providing a series of learning opportunities for employees on a variety of topics.

Each session will be held in the Fetzer Center, feature a question-and-answer period, and include light refreshments. Pre-registration is required for all sessions.

The first session is set for 10 a.m. Wednesday, May 6, and is titled “Performance Management Review Workshop.” This training session is a special two-hour introduction to the “Getting Back to the Basics” program. It is designed for supervisors completing performance management year-end reviews and will provide an overview of the performance management process, as well as specifics on how to get the most out of the process.

Supervisors are encouraged to spend the second workshop hour completing performance evaluation forms for the 2008-09 review period or creating outlines and notes with the assistance of HR staff members.

Registration details will be posted on the HR Web site at www.wmich.edu/hr the week of April 20.

For more information about “Getting Back to the Basics,” continue checking the HR Web site or contact Nichelle Moses at nichelle.moses@wmich.edu or 387-3650.

Student project awards funds

Seeks to eliminate institutional racism;
• Family and Children’s Services, $2,150 for its Parenting Education Classes for birth parents and relatives whose children have been or are at risk of being removed from the family home due to abuse or neglect; and
• New Genesis, $2,350 for its 5-Star After School Program for children who work to improve their skills in reading and math and their parents to learn how to support their children’s academic achievement. Prior to awarding the grants, WMU students researched local issues and prioritized projects that combated institutional racism or secured basic human rights to food, housing and transportation through advocacy.

Leadership colloquium set

Faculty, staff and students are invited to learn about leadership opportunities in academia during a colloquium from 3 to 4:30 p.m. Thursday, April 16, in the Fetzer Center.

A reception and poster session highlighting WMU’s 2008-09 Academic Leadership Academy projects will follow in Fetzer’s lobby.

During the colloquium, a panel will discuss leadership opportunities at all higher education levels. RSVP to atis-facdev@wmich.edu or to Andrea Beach at andrea.beach@wmich.edu or 387-4196. For more information, go to http://atis.wmich.edu/facdev or contact Beach.

WMU Day at the Capitol continued from page 1

• A replica of a Cirrus SR-20 plane;
• Findings from an archeological dig at Fort St. Joseph, an 18th century trading post in Niles, Mich. ;
• A full-size racecar built by the Formula Society of Automotive Engineers; and
• Entertainment by music theatre performance students on the Capitol steps.

Go to www.wmich.edu/wmuday to register for 2009 WMU Day at the Capitol. For more information, contact Donna Marks at donna.marks@wmich.edu or 387-2072.

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