



# Western News

For and about WMU faculty and staff

NOVEMBER 3, 2011  
Volume 38, Number 5

## Grant proposal deadline extended

Applications are due by Sunday, Nov. 13, for a total of up to \$75,000 in Student Sustainability Grants to support student research, activities and initiatives that will foster a culture of sustainability at WMU.

All WMU students enrolled on the main campus are eligible to apply. Visit [www.wmich.edu/sustainability/student/scholarships.html](http://www.wmich.edu/sustainability/student/scholarships.html) for complete information and an application. Direct questions to Matt Hollander at [wmu-sustainability@wmich.edu](mailto:wmu-sustainability@wmich.edu) or (269) 387-0941.

## Archer to present business college talk



Archer

Dennis W. Archer, chair of the WMU Board of Trustees, will be featured in the next Haworth College of Business Distinguished Speaker Series talk.

Archer, chairman and CEO of Dennis W. Archer PLLC in Detroit, will speak on "Education and Leadership + Respect for Ethics and Diversity = A Successful Global Competitor" at 5 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 17, in Schneider Hall. Those planning to attend should register by Friday, Nov. 11, at [shawna.cassada@wmich.edu](mailto:shawna.cassada@wmich.edu) or (269) 387-6059.

Archer was a resident fellow at the Institute of Politics at the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University in 2010. He has served as mayor of Detroit, a Michigan Supreme Court justice, head of organizations such as the American Bar Association and National League of Cities, and associate professor of law.

## PSSO holding annual fundraiser

The Professional Support Staff Organization is again holding its annual poinsettia sale fundraiser. Orders for 2011 are being accepted through Wednesday, Nov. 23.

Poinsettias are \$10 each and are available in seven colors: red, white, pink, burgundy, marble, jingle bells and Monet. Visit [www.wmich.edu/pssso](http://www.wmich.edu/pssso) to download an order form.

Payment must accompany all orders. Checks should be made payable to PSSO. Poinsettias will be available for pick up between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 1, in 105 Bernhard Center. Plants not picked up by the 3 p.m. deadline will be donated.

Send completed order forms with payment to: Paige Warner, First-Year Experience Programs, Mail Stop 5263. Questions may be directed to Warner.

## Financial planners visiting campus

TIAA-CREF representatives will be on campus Nov. 15-17 and Dec. 13 and 15-16. To schedule investment or retirement planning consultations, visit [www.tiaa-cref.org](http://www.tiaa-cref.org) and click Consultations and Seminars under Services. If you are unable to register online, call the scheduling group at (800) 732-8353.

## Registrar candidates to make presentations

Two finalists for the position of registrar will be on campus this month to meet with members of the WMU community and make public presentations.

Susan O'Flaherty, senior advisor to the U.S. Department of Education, will be on campus Monday and Tuesday, Nov. 7-8. Her presentation is set for 2 p.m. Nov. 7. Jerry Montag, registrar at Grand Valley State University, will be on campus Wednesday and Thursday, Nov. 16-17. His presentation is set for 2 p.m. Nov. 16. Both candidates will make their presentations in the Fetzer Center's Putney Auditorium.

O'Flaherty has worked since 2004 at the Department of Education, where she oversees the Direct Loan Division, disbursing about \$400 billion in student loans annually. Previously, she served WMU for eight years as director of financial aid and scholarships and as executive director of student services. The latter position included oversight of the Registrar's Office.

Her background also includes financial aid positions at the University of Colorado-Boulder, California Polytechnic State University, Adelphi University and the University of Bridgeport.

Montag has served in his present position at GVSU since late 2006. Prior to that, he served two years as the registrar at Oklahoma State University and four years as registrar at Rice University.

His background also includes positions as director of admissions and records at the University of Arkansas-Little Rock and Metropolitan Community College in Omaha, Neb., as well as registrar at Florida International University and the Florida Institute of Technology.

Visit [www.wmich.edu/provost/registrar](http://www.wmich.edu/provost/registrar) to review both candidates' vitae.

### SUCCESSFUL PARTNERSHIP

President John M. Dunn recently had a chance to renew his friendship with Prof. Lujiang Wang, chair of the University Council of Beijing Language and Culture University. Wang was at WMU for its Confucius Institute grand opening two years ago, and she and Dunn reconnected at the 2011 World University Confucius Institute conference Oct. 20-21 in Milan, Italy. Dunn represented WMU at the international meeting along with Timothy Light, emeritus in comparative religion. Both took part in conference panels, and Dunn made a presentation on WMU's Confucius Institute accomplishments to date. The Beijing Language and Culture University, is WMU's formal partner in that initiative. (Photo courtesy of Confucius Institute Conference.)



## \$30,000 fellowships open to professionals, new grads

WMU will host two West Michigan informational meetings Wednesday and Thursday, Nov. 9-10, for technical professionals interested in earning a \$30,000 stipend to return to school for a master's degree and a chance to launch a new career as a mathematics or science teacher.

The University is one of six Michigan schools now seeking its second class in the W.K. Kellogg Foundation's Woodrow Wilson Michigan Teaching Fellowship Program.

Part of a national education reform effort, the graduate fellowship program offers a stipend and a chance to spend a transformative year earning a master's degree and teaching in a high-need middle or high school classroom.

The fellowship program is aimed at mid-career professionals and new graduates who hold bachelor's degrees in science, technology, engineering or mathematics.

Representatives from the Woodrow Wilson Foundation will be on hand to answer questions about the program and application process during informational meetings slated for:

- Wednesday, Nov. 9, at 6:30 p.m. in 203 of the Kendall Center (the WMU-Battle Creek facility), 50 W. Jackson St. in Battle Creek, Mich., and
- Thursday, Nov. 10, at 6:30 p.m. in 2030 of the Fetzer Center on the main campus.

Now in its second year, the program this year will offer up to 15 fellowships at WMU and a similar number at each of five other Michigan universities. Jan. 10 is the deadline to apply to begin the program in late spring 2012.

Visit [www.wvteachingfellowship.org/faq/michigan.php](http://www.wvteachingfellowship.org/faq/michigan.php) for more information.

# Around campus and beyond

## One-woman show headed to WMU

"Pigeon," a one-woman theatrical production by pianist, singer, musicologist and composer Claudia Stevens will be presented for free at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 8, in the Dalton Center Recital Hall. The show is about famed scientist, environmentalist and animal rights champion Dame Miriam Rothschild.

The play spotlights Rothschild, the well-known British naturalist, chemist, inventor and environmental activist. It celebrates the precious nature of all life, using drama, music and audience interaction to explore the problem of suffering and human indifference.

## Annual health expo slated for Nov. 9

WMU's Health and Wellness Expo '11 will take place from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Wednesday, Nov. 9, in the Student Recreation Center's indoor tennis courts. This free event for members of the University community, including retirees, allows attendees to learn about the health and wellness resources available to them at WMU and in the community.

The Sindecuse Health Center will be holding a flu and meningitis vaccination clinic during the expo, which also will feature chair massages, exercise equipment demonstrations, giveaways and a wealth of information about everything from dental health, nutrition and diets to ergonomics, safety and financial wellness.

Free parking will be allowed in Lot 13 and the Ellsworth Parking Structure only.

## Emeritus returns to present reading

The Emeriti Council will feature Arnie Johnston, chair and professor emeritus in English, and Debby Percy during its next Wednesday II program at 2 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 9, in Walwood Hall's Emeriti Lounge. In "Reading, Writing and Love," the duo will read prose, poetry and plays from their latest publications, and include a few songs for good measure.

## Scholar to address 'health care mess'

A visiting scholar in mathematics, hospital administration and economics will offer a unique perspective of what went wrong with health care reform when he speaks at 3 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 9, in 2028 Brown Hall. The talk, "Our Own Worst Enemies: How We and Our Government Created, Extended and Exacerbated the Health Care Mess," will be presented by Charles Phelps, formerly with the University of Rochester.

## Religious tolerance focus of talk

A presentation titled, "Towards Tolerance: Religious Pluralism in America," is being offered from 6 to 8 p.m. Wednesday and Thursday, Nov. 16-17, in the Trimpe Building's Multicultural Center. The presentation is part of the Real Talk Diversity Series as well as the Comparative Religion Lecture Series.

## Emeritus edits Middle English book

Clifford Davidson, emeritus in English and medieval studies, has edited a new book, "The York Corpus Christi Plays."



Davidson

The book is part of the TEAMS Middle English Texts Series published by WMU's Medieval Institute Publications.

It examines the more than 13,000 lines of verse known as the York Corpus Christi Plays, which form the only complete play cycle verifiably associated with the feast of Corpus Christi that is extant and was performed at a specific location in England. The work is of particular interest for its completeness as medieval religious street theatre.

Davidson has written, edited, co-written or co-edited more than three dozen books. He retired from WMU in 2003 and received the University's Distinguished Scholar award in 1985. At WMU, he co-edited the international journal, *Comparative Drama*, for 33 years and founded and for 27 years directed the Early Drama, Art, and Music Project, serving for many years as its lead editor.

## CTAC staffers obtain certification

Amy Mack and Denise Wheatley, Southwest Michigan Children's Trauma Assessment Center, have been certified by the University of Wisconsin-Madison as trainers in the field of fetal alcohol spectrum disorders.



Mack



Wheatley

The certificate recognizes successful completion of a comprehensive "train the trainer" clinical certificate program to help medical, health and human service professionals effectively identify, refer and provide services for individuals and families affected by prenatal alcohol exposure. Program participants acquire skills to plan, provide and evaluate fetal alcohol spectrum disorders-related education.

## Social worker co-writes new book

Susan Weinger, social work, has co-written a new book that looks at the double horror of the Holocaust and sexual abuse of children.



Weinger

Weinger wrote the book, "Hell within Hell: Sexually Abused Child Holocaust Survivors," with Rachel Lev-Wiesel, professor and chair of the Graduate School of Creative Art Therapies at the University of Haifa.

Deafening silence generally surrounds the sexual abuse perpetrated against child survivors of the Holocaust by their saviors and captors. In the book, child Holocaust survivors, who endured both traumas, bravely tell their stories to prevent this crucial aspect of the Holocaust from being buried and left virtually unknown to the world.

Weinger joined the WMU faculty in 1993. A Fulbright Scholar Award winner, she focuses her teaching, research and service activities on gender issues, poverty and multicultural sensitivity.

## WMU's open enrollment period is under way

The open enrollment period for WMU health insurance, life insurance and Flexible Spending Accounts began Oct. 31 and will continue through 5 p.m. Friday, Nov. 18.

Open enrollment for health insurance is available for WMU retirees, benefits-eligible non-bargaining employees, and employees who are members of the American Association of University Professors, American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, Michigan State Employees Association, and Police Officers Association.

During open enrollment, employees and retirees have the option of adding eligible dependents to their health insurance.

Insurance elections made during the 2011 open enrollment period are effective Jan. 1. Visit [www.wmich.edu/hr/open-enrollment](http://www.wmich.edu/hr/open-enrollment) to review the detailed information mailed to employees and retirees in October.

Employees who wish to participate in an FSA in 2012 must enroll or re-enroll during this year's open-enrollment period.

FSAs offer an opportunity to use pre-tax dollars to pay for dependent-care expenses or qualified medical expenses that are not covered by insurance. Current as well as new participants must submit an FSA enrollment form to Human Resources by the deadline.

That form is part of the BASIC Flex enrollment booklet and is available online at [www.wmich.edu/hr/open-enrollment](http://www.wmich.edu/hr/open-enrollment) and in print from the Human Resources office, 1300 Seibert Administration Building.

## Jobs

Current job opportunities at WMU are announced daily on the Human Resources Web site at [www.wmich.edu/hr/careers-at-wmu.html](http://www.wmich.edu/hr/careers-at-wmu.html). 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. Fall publication dates are **Sept. 8 and 22, Oct. 6 and 20, and Nov. 3 and 17.** Items may be submitted to Jeanne Baron at [jeanne.baron@wmich.edu](mailto:jeanne.baron@wmich.edu), (269) 387-8422 or Campus Mail Stop 5433.

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WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY



# Events set for International Education Week, Russian Festival

Numerous countries and cultures will be highlighted during WMU's International Education Week, set for Monday through Saturday, Nov. 14-19.

"International Education: Inspiring Students Locally to Succeed Globally" is this year's theme for the week, which precedes the 2011 Kalamazoo Russian Festival being held Saturday, Nov. 19, at WMU.

The week is a joint initiative of the U.S. departments of State and Education. The local observance is being organized by the Haenicke Institute. Nearly all events planned are free and open to the public.

They include country-themed mini fairs such as Kenyan Night Tuesday, Nov. 15; Dominican Night Thursday, Nov. 17; Japan Festival and Malaysian Night Friday, Nov. 18; and the Indian Student Association's ISA-Legally Desi 2011 extravaganza in Miller Auditorium Saturday, Nov. 19.

Other events scheduled include a China Quiz Bowl, during which people may team up with native Chinese speakers and win prizes; a Tai Chi Hour, during which registrants may experience this ancient Chinese martial art; a geography trivia bowl; and displays and activities that offer a window to China.

Visit [www.wmich.edu/news](http://www.wmich.edu/news) for more

information about this year's schedule.

Additional exciting and educational activities are planned to celebrate the 16th annual Kalamazoo Russian Festival from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 19, in the Fetzer Center. More than 1,000 guests, performers and vendors from Russia, the Russian Embassy in Washington D.C., and throughout the Midwest are expected to attend.

Along with crafts, food and children's activities, the festival will feature artistic and cultural exhibits; lectures, readings and

performances by WMU faculty members as well as guest speakers and artists; a silent auction; and two exhibition halls full of vendors.

Two on-campus events will lead up to the festival: a recital at 8:15 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 15, in the Dalton Center Recital Hall by renowned baritone Carl Ratner and pianist Vera Danchenko-Stern, and a poetry reading incorporating photos of Russia at 7 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 17, in Brown Hall by Judith Rypma, English. Visit [www.russianfestival.org](http://www.russianfestival.org) for details.

**IT SHALL RETURN**—WMU's iconic trolley replica that has stood in front of the Bernhard Center since 2003 was moved Oct. 11 so it can be repaired. The replica, created by engineering students in honor of the University's centennial celebration, has suffered considerable water damage. A new group of students will inspect and fix the trolley under the direction of Fred Sitkins, industrial and manufacturing engineering. Plans call for the replica to be back in front of Bernhard this spring after undergoing some design and materials changes to improve its weather resistance. (Photo courtesy of Facilities Management)



## Service

The following faculty and staff members are recognized for 35, 30, 25, 20, 15, 10 and five years of service during November.

**35 Years**—Charles J. Dineen, maintenance services, and Diana L. Sawyer, maintenance services.

**30 Years**—William L. Jones, building custodial and support services.

**25 Years**—Shirley J. Campbell, University Libraries; Doreen Cooks, Burnham Dining Service; Lucile M. Johnson, building custodial and support services; Carol J. Patterson, Logistical Services; Stacy L. Vallier, intercollegiate athletics; and Cindy A. VanderWoude, University Recreation.

**20 Years**—Chad H. Avery, landscape services; Timothy R. Cobbs, maintenance services; David Franklin Florida II, electrical and computer engineering; and Randy A. Randt, building custodial and support services.

**15 Years**—James M. Burgess, College of Aviation; Shirley Franklin, Center for

Disability Services; Edward L. Maring, maintenance services; Kay Rafferty, Center for Disability Services; Carmen Rivera, Burnham Dining Service; Dianne Town, Valley I Dining Service; and Lisa Lynn York, student financial aid and scholarships.

**10 Years**—Brian Earl Beridon, building custodial and support services; Erika Ann Carr, multicultural affairs; Napoleon Hall, maintenance services; Siobhan Keenan, communication; and Gerald M. Schulz, maintenance services.

**Five Years**—Cheri E. Bales, College of Arts and Sciences; Kimberly M. Feenstra, psychology; Nikki Jo Fitzgerald, public safety; Jessica D. Hutchinson, Institutional Research; Kristin I. Keirns, intercollegiate athletics; Lisa M. Marshall, Sindecuse Health Center; James P. Mayo, information technology; Eleonora Philopoulos, construction; Chad Stratton, maintenance services; Vicki L. Thompson, admissions; and Ronald H. Uldriks, power plant.

## 'Dancing' fundraiser scheduled

The University's annual fundraiser Dancing with the WMU/Kazoo Stars returns to Miller Auditorium at 8 p.m. Friday, Nov. 4, with a Latin dance focus.

The WMU dance department and Partners in Dance hope to raise \$15,000 for dance scholarships. The event features local celebrities competing to see who is the best ballroom dancer and includes live music, dance instruction, entertainment and refreshments.

This year's celebrity dancers include Susan B. Anthony, WMU alumna and international opera diva; Andy Dominianni, news anchor at WWMT TV3; Lori Moore, morning host at AM 590 WKZO; and WMU's Nick Andreadis, dean of the Lee Honors College, and Greg Rosine, vice president of government affairs and university relations.

To make a reservation to attend, contact the Department of Dance at (269) 387-5830. The cost is \$75, of which \$50 is tax-deductible.

## Obituaries

**Fern Berner** died Oct. 11. She was 84. Berner joined the staff in 1972 and retired in 1993 as a clerk in Printing Services. Memorials may be made to Hospice Care of Southwest Michigan.



Breisach

**Herma E. Breisach** died Oct. 25. She was 85. Breisach joined the faculty in 1967 and within a year, became head of University Libraries' serials department. She retired in 1989 as an emerita in University Libraries. Survivors include her husband of 66 years, Ernst A. Breisach, emeritus in history.

Visitation will be held from 5 to 8 p.m. Friday, Nov. 4, in St. Luke's Episcopal Church, 247 W. Lovell St., Kalamazoo. Funeral ser-

vices will take place at 1 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 5, in St. Luke's. Memorial gifts may be made to Hospice Care of Southwest Michigan.

**Marian Marks-Custer** died Oct. 30. She was 87. Marks-Custer joined the staff in 1968 and retired in 1989 as a custodian in building custodial and support services.

**Evelyn Ann Erickson** died Oct. 13. She was 83. Erickson joined the staff in 1978 and retired in 1989 as coordinator for the Merze Tate Center in the College of Education and Human Development.

Memorial gifts may be directed to Alzheimer's Disease Research, 22512 Gateway Center Dr., P.O. Box 1950, Clarksburg, MD 20871; Hospice Care of Southwest Michigan; or the Westwood United Methodist Church.

**Howard Wolpe** died Oct. 25. He was 71. Wolpe was a member of the political science



Wolpe

faculty from 1967 to 1972 and was named WMU's first distinguished visiting professor in 1993.

After leaving WMU, he served four years in the Michigan House of Representatives and 16 years in the U.S. House, where he was credited with helping pass the federal anti-apartheid act in 1986.

Wolpe was named Presidential Special Envoy to Africa's Great Lakes Region under President Bill Clinton, and later served in the U.S. Department of State as Special Advisor to the Secretary for Africa's Great Lakes Region. He also served as director for the Africa Program of the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars.

## On Campus with Mindi Bagnall



CURATING AND CREATING  
(Photo by Deanne Puca)

Mindi Bagnall, registrar of art exhibitions in the Frostic School of Art and curator of the WMU University Art Collection, is responsible for keeping WMU's artwork updated and maintained.

Bagnall handles everything from paintings in Waldo library and the Seibert Administration Building to the outdoor sculptures installed around campus. Her experience and eye as an artist helps her match the right art for workspaces and common areas, not only beautifying these areas but also providing interesting and educational displays.

Another part of Bagnall's job is working with students in the DeVries Student Art Gallery and making sure they have a positive exhibition experience.

"The best part of my job is the variety and that I get to work with the students," she says. "My work day is always different from one day to the next, and I enjoy being a part of the students' professional development."

Bagnall earned both her bachelor of fine arts and master of fine arts degrees from WMU. She attended the University as an art student in the early 1980s before moving to California and then Pennsylvania. She returned to Kalamazoo in 2000 to complete her bachelor's degree and then stayed to earn her master's in painting.

In 2007, Bagnall was hired to teach foundation art classes at WMU and to be the curator of the University Art Collection. She also began teaching classes at Kalamazoo Valley Community College. She moved into her current job as coordinator of art exhibitions in 2009 and still teaches one class at KVCC.

Bagnall spends her free time working on her own artwork at her studio in the Park Trades Center in downtown Kalamazoo. It is open during the Kalamazoo Art Hop, the first Friday of the month, from 5 to 9 p.m.

This year, Bagnall participated in the Grand Rapids ArtPrize. Her installation, titled "World Wide Web," consisted of five small wooden houses trapped in large spider webs built from a variety of electrical cords. The webs are a commentary on our increasing dependence on technology in our daily lives.

Bagnall lives in Portage and has two teenage daughters who she frequently uses as models for her artwork.

## Deadline for MLK activity proposals is Nov. 18

Those interested in staging an event as part of activities celebrating Martin Luther King Jr.'s life and legacy are asked to submit an application to have their event become a sponsored MLK program.

The deadline to apply for funding grants as well as publicity assistance to support projects honoring King is 5 p.m. Friday, Nov. 18. Programs can be funded up to \$500, but proposals must contain a detailed budget. Faculty, staff, students and other program organizers are expected to volunteer their services.

This year's Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration is being held throughout the spring semester beginning Friday, Jan. 13. The annual celebration is held in cooperation with the Northside Ministerial Alliance, Kalamazoo College and the city of Kalamazoo.

Previous activities have included lecture, film presentations, panel discussions, book readings, a brown bag lunch series and a poetry slam.

Members of the WMU community seeking funding will be notified if their proposal has been approved for assistance. Whether seeking funding or not, those planning to hold MLK-related events during the spring semester are asked to submit proposals for each of their events so that they can be included in the University's publicity for the 2012 celebration.

Visit the MLK website at [www.wmich.edu/mlk](http://www.wmich.edu/mlk) for an application form for proposals, along with submission guidelines.

For more information, call the Office of Diversity and Inclusion at (269) 387-6313.

## Campus Aerobathon event to benefit local United Way

Spend a day pumping your abdominals, getting your kicks or just climbing the walls to benefit the United Way. Any or all of those activities await at the WMU Aerobathon from 12:30 to 5 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 5, in the first floor gym of the Student Recreation Center.

Tickets are available at the SRC service desk and cost \$5 in advance or \$7 on the day of the aerobic marathon. All proceeds will go to the WMU United Way Giving Campaign.

The workout schedule includes: 12:30 to 1:15 p.m., TurboSport; 1:15 to 2:15 p.m., Amazing Abs; 2:15 to 3:15 p.m., Zumba; 3:15 to 4:15 p.m., TurboKick; and 4:15 to 5 p.m., Cyclefit or Butts and Guts. The climbing wall also will be open from 1:30 to 4:30 p.m.

To date, WMU's campus drive has generated more than \$242,100 of its \$300,000 goal. On-campus fundraising will continue through Friday, Nov. 11. Contact [www.wmu-united-way@wmich.edu](mailto:www.wmu-united-way@wmich.edu) for information on making a gift. Contributions can be made as one-time donations by cash, check or credit card, or as pledges, payable by payroll deduction, credit card or direct billing from United Way.



**GREAT SERVICE**—Jan Hahn, center, Center for Gerontology, was one of eight faculty and staff members who took part in a service learning opportunity in October that put new bikes in the hands of Edison Environmental Science Academy students. The students were being honored for making positive contributions to their school. Hahn worked with teens from Lakeside Academy to assemble a bike for fourth-grader Jeremiah Witherspoon, left, who also is pictured with fourth-grader Daniel Richardson. The event was coordinated by WMU's Office of Service Learning and was cosponsored by the Kalamazoo Community Foundation, Pedal Bicycles and Meijer, with support from Safe Kids, Barnes & Noble, Zoo City Cycle and Sport, Open Roads, Kalamazoo Lend-a-Hand and Party City. All the WMU personnel involved worked with two-person teams from Lakeside to assemble the bikes and then present them to the Edison students. (Photo by Cheryl Roland)