



Western News

For and about WMU faculty and staff

MAY 24, 2012
Volume 38, Number 16

Staff awards deadline approaching

Members of the campus community have until Thursday, May 31, to submit supportive information to help select the four winners of this year's Make a Difference annual award. In the running are the 23 winners of this year's semiannual Make a Difference awards.

All 23 are now eligible to win one of the four annual awards, each of which comes with a \$1,200 pre-tax prize. Visit wmich.edu/hr/make-a-difference to find the candidates' names and instructions for submitting supportive information.

University common read launched

WMU has launched a campuswide common read program that starts this summer for all employees as well as all incoming and current students. The book chosen for University Common Read 2012-13 is "The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks," by Rebecca Skloot.

The award-winning, 384-page book has garnered attention from ethicists and the public at large. WMU students and faculty and staff members are invited to join in reading Skloot's book this summer or fall, individually or in groups.

A 90-minute session on the basics of leading a group book discussion has been scheduled for 1:30 to 3 p.m. Wednesdays, June 6 and Sept. 5, in Waldo Library's Meader Rare Book Room. To register for one of the training sessions, call (269) 387-5166.

New name approved for program

The WMU Board of Trustees has approved a new name for the holistic health care program in the College of Health and Human Services. The new name, integrative holistic health and wellness, better reflects the mission of the program as health care moves to a more integrative model.

The program, which offers a graduate certificate as well as a minor, is celebrating its 30th anniversary this year and was one of the first programs of its kind in the nation. The program is coordinated by Gay Walker.

Dates set for Fall Welcome events

Faculty and staff are asked to sign up to participate in a variety of Fall Welcome events. Online registration is open at wmich.edu/fye/fallwelcome/register for all events. Questions should be directed to adrienne.fraaza@wmich.edu or (269) 387-2332.

Deans, faculty and administrators are asked to save the morning of Wednesday, Aug. 29, for the fall Matriculation Ceremony and Pizza With the Profs. The 10:30 a.m. ceremony in Miller Auditorium will be immediately followed by Pizza With the Profs in Fountain Plaza.

Staff members are also encouraged to get involved during Welcome Week. Sign up to participate in the Western Success Series or Campus Resource Fair, or to volunteer at one of several student events.

U.S. News ranks seven health programs offered by WMU among best in nation

U.S. News & World Report's recently published rankings of graduate programs puts six WMU health programs among the best in the nation, with three of them—occupational therapy, physician assistant and speech-

language pathology—rated both the highest in Michigan and among the top 50 nationwide.

The 2013 edition of U.S. News & World Report's Best Grad Schools includes new rankings in seven health fields, including occupational therapy, speech-language pathology, audiology and social work. Rankings of other health fields, including physician assistant and rehabilitation counseling, are based on earlier surveys conducted in 2011. In all, six of WMU's programs in the health disciplines garnered top-50 ratings, while a seventh was included in the top-100 of such programs.

The latest rankings put both of WMU's programs in occupational therapy—one in Kalamazoo and one in Grand Rapids, Mich.—in the top 50, along with WMU's programs in speech-language pathology and audiology.

The occupational therapy program in Kalamazoo, which is 90 years old this year, came in at No. 21 in the nation out of 151 programs ranked, while the OT program in Grand Rapids, which was established in 2009, was ranked No. 36.

The speech-language pathology program came in at No. 35 out of 229 ranked programs, while the doctoral program in audiology was No. 45 out of 64 programs. Social work finished in the top 100, landing at No. 66 out of 200 ranked programs.

Other WMU health programs are in fields last surveyed in 2011. Results of those earlier surveys were included in the 2013 edition as well.

The physician assistant program was ranked No. 38 out of 123 programs nationally—the highest ranking among PA programs in Michigan. The rehabilitation counseling/teaching program established in 1963 as the first program of its kind in the nation, was No. 45 out of 96 ranked programs.

Faculty Senate announces 2012-14 leadership roster

WMU's Faculty Senate has elected its 2012-14 Executive Board.

Except for the immediate past president, members of the board will serve two-year terms beginning this month. The new officers are:

- President, William G. Rantz, aviation science
- Vice president, C. Dennis Simpson, physician assistant and director of the Specialty Program in Alcohol and Drug Abuse
- Past president, Peter W. Krawutschke, foreign languages
- Director, Osama Abudayyeh, civil and construction engineering and the engineering college's associate dean for research and graduate programs

- Director, Suzan F. Ayers, human performance and health education

- Director, Richard A. Gershon, communication and co-director of the telecommunications and information management program

- Director, Alan Rea, business information systems
- Director, Delores D. Walcott, interdisciplinary health programs

The Faculty Senate shares in governing WMU by formulating, reviewing and providing advice on policies and other matters of institutional concern. In addition to its governing members on the Executive Board, the organization's membership includes faculty senators and representatives from departments across campus as well as some administrators.



Rantz



Simpson



Krawutschke



Abudayyeh



Ayers



Gershon



Rea



Walcott

Ohio family gives WMU newly raised funds to support finding cure for rare disorder

Former Fairborn, Ohio, city councilman Frank Cervone knows he's dying from multiple system atrophy—MSA—but before he does, Cervone wants to do all he can to make sure the disease's days are numbered.

Cervone and his family traveled to WMU May 11 to present a check to a University research team that has spent much of the past decade focusing its efforts on finding a cure for the rare neurological degenerative disorder. The \$3,350 check they presented was raised in March in what is believed to be the first-ever MSA awareness race, which drew more than 200 runners to Fairborn.

Race organizer Doug Brandt of the Dayton Barefoot Runners group accompanied the Cervone family to Michigan. Brandt says he and others expect the race to grow yearly, so in future years, they can bring a larger check to support the work being done at WMU.

Charles Ide, biological sciences, is leading the work, which uses gene expression techniques to study MSA and is being done in collaboration with researchers at Vanderbilt University's medical school and the New York Brain Bank at Columbia University. Ide and other members of his team met with the Cervone family and previewed for them information in three papers on MSA that they will present at the annual meeting of the Society for Neuroscience later this year in New Orleans.

"The MSA project is the Holy Grail for our work over the past few years," says Ide, whose longtime research has focused on applying genomic-based methods to a variety of human health problems related to the ecosystem and other factors. "We're trying to help people who suffer debilitation equivalent to that seen in the worst neurological diseases and who retain full understanding of what is happening to them."

MSA afflicts about 100,000 people and

is called an "orphan disease" because only a small percentage of the population suffers from the extremely debilitating condition and its treatment is not a high priority for either federal agencies or pharmaceutical companies.

The cause of MSA

is unknown and no specific risk factors have yet been identified.

Ide says his team's current research is focused on some similarities found in the brain cells of both multiple sclerosis patients and MSA patients.

"We're trying to rush this for MSA patients," Ide says. "There could be a drug that is already in use for MS that will be effective on MSA."

Cervone's wife, Susan, says they did their homework before selecting WMU as the recipient of this year's race funds.

"We narrowed it down to two universities, and the response we got from WMU was just so much more personal," she says.



Ide, left, with Cervone (Photo by Cheri Bales)

LGBT Student Services appoints new coordinator

Jennifer Hsu has been appointed coordinator for Lesbian, Bisexual, Gay and Transgender Student Services in the Office of Diversity and Inclusion.

Effective April 9, Hsu replaced Sarah Stangl, who is now an advisor in the College of Education and Human Development.

Previously, Hsu was executive director of



Hsu

the OutCenter of Berrien County in Benton Harbor, Mich. She comes to WMU with a strong professional background in social justice advocacy with a focus on the intersections of race, gender, faith, sexual orientation and sexual identity. She also has a background in fundraising and budget development.

WMUK offers program guide

It's now easier than ever to stay up to date on local program offerings by WMUK 102.1 FM, the University's public radio station.

The station's "Next Week on WMUK" weekly email guide to upcoming features in news, arts, music and other programming is available free of charge.

To request being added to the guide's email list, visit the station's website at wmuk.org and click the envelope located near the upper left corner of the page.

Jobs

Current job opportunities at WMU are announced daily on the Human Resources Web site at 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.

Dean tapped to serve Michiganders

Anthony J. Vizzini, dean of the College of Engineering and Applied Sciences, has been named to the State Board of Profes-



Vizzini

sional Engineers by Gov. Rick Snyder. Vizzini will serve a four-year term as one of the five professional engineers on the board.

Michigan's Professional Board of Engineers is housed in the

Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs, which is charged with promoting business growth and job creation in Michigan by streamlining and eliminating unnecessary or burdensome regulations. The board regulates the practice of the state's more than 20,000 professional engineers.

Vizzini, WMU's engineering dean since 2009, is a fellow of the American Society for Composites, and is serving this year as president of the Society for the Advancement of Material and Process Engineering.

Emeritus appointed to state council

Ronald J. Winter, emeritus in human performance and health education, has been appointed to the Governor's Council on



Winter

Physical Fitness, Health and Sports by Gov. Rick Snyder. Winter will serve a two-year term that expires in 2014.

He is among four appointments and four re-appointments to the

15-member council, which is designed to increase physical activity and health improvements in Michigan.

Winter, of Kalamazoo, retired in 2008 after 38 years of service to the University. He served as the director of campus recreational activities and an associate professor. A former NCAA football and basketball official, he began serving as a National Football League referee after working from 1995 until 1998 as a line judge.

Prof inducted into jazz hall of fame

Stephen L. Zegree has been recognized as an outstanding educator by *DownBeat* magazine and inducted into its Jazz Education Hall



Zegree

of Fame. Zegree's induction was announced in the magazine's June issue, which hit newsstands this month.

Zegree, the WMU Bobby McFerrin Professor of Jazz and director of the award-winning jazz vocal ensemble Gold Company, was lauded in a feature article as a pianist and choral director who "seems to run in five directions at once."

A professor of music, he has announced that he will join the faculty of the Jacobs School of Music at Indiana University this coming fall as the Pam and Jack Burks Professor of Music and director of the Singing Hoosiers.

Internationally known as a vocal jazz conductor and educator, Zegree is also active as a pianist, conductor, clinician, arranger and adjudicator. His students are among today's leaders on Broadway and in jazz and pop performance, recording studio production, education and many other fields.



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WESTERN NEWS (USPS 362-210) is published by the Office of University Relations, Walwood Hall, Western Michigan University, 1903 W. Michigan Ave., Kalamazoo, MI 49008-5433, every other week during the fall and spring semesters and Summer I session. Periodicals postage paid at Kalamazoo, MI 49008-5165.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to *Western News*, Office of University Relations, Western Michigan University, 1903 W. Michigan Ave., Kalamazoo, MI 49008-5433.

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. Spring publication dates are **May 10 and 24 and June 7 and 21**. Items may be submitted to Jeanne Baron at jeanne.baron@wmich.edu, (269) 387-8422 or Campus Mail Stop 5433.

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WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY

Campuswide initiative encourages bystanders to get involved

Giving members of the campus community the confidence to step forward and help when they see bad behavior is the goal of a new initiative at WMU.

The program is being launched by the Division of Student Affairs' Bystander Initiative Committee to counteract the Bystander Effect, which holds that the greater the number of people present during an emergency, the less likely it is that any of them will actually intervene.

Faculty, staff and administrators who would be interested in participating in the Bystander Initiative are invited to learn more by contacting Christine Iaderosa, committee co-chair and coordinator of Theatre for Community Health in the Sindecuse Health Center's Office of Health Promotion and Education.

"People often see someone in need of assistance, yet don't get involved. They believe they can't make a difference or that someone else will intervene," she says. "We hope to educate our community about when and how

to intervene safely. If we can galvanize the campus population to stand up and help in varied situations, from dangerous drinking to dehumanizing behaviors, we can make WMU a safer and more secure place for all."

The Bystander Initiative campaign, dubbed Western HEROES, gets its name from what it calls on people to do:

- Notice when something is *happening*;
- *Evaluate* the situation to see if assistance is needed;
- Assume *responsibility* to step in and help;
- Obtain the *education* necessary to know what to do; and
- *Step up* and make a difference.

The program will kick off this summer with posters and a video depicting various members of the campus community as everyday heroes. The posters will be put up around campus in mid-August as student leaders return to campus, and the film will be shown to students in late August during Fall Welcome.

Campaign organizers are seeking addi-

tional people who are willing to be featured on the posters and in the video, as well as people willing to facilitate workshops that are being planned this fall to educate the campus community about effective intervention techniques.

Some of the WMU employees featured in the initial part of the campaign include Diane K. Anderson, vice president of student affairs; Carol Eddy, director of the Sindecuse Health Center; Carolyn "Cari" K. Robertson, director of the Office of Health Promotion and Education; Laura Darrah, assistant director of residence life; Jeremy C. Ynclan, assistant director of student conduct; Nicole C. Milla, assistant director of Student Activities and Leadership Programs; and Jennifer L. Bailey, University Recreation's coordinator of fitness programs.

For more information about participating in the Bystander Initiative, contact Christine Iaderosa at christine.iaderosa@wmich.edu or (269) 387-3126.

New head coach announced

Shane Clipfell, previously associate head coach of women's basketball at Michigan State University, has been named the sixth head coach of WMU's women's basketball program.

Clipfell has strong ties in the state of Michigan and the Mid-American Conference and has worked at every level of women's basketball.



Clipfell

He has been at MSU for the past five years, but began as an assistant at Eastern Michigan University during the 1998-99 season. Prior to that, he spent five seasons at Glen Oaks Community College, including three as head coach, and 11 years as the varsity head coach at Colon (Mich.) High School.

Thousands to attend orientation

More than 8,000 people, including beginning students and their families as well as transfer students, will be attending orientation sessions on campus this summer.

Employees encountering these new Broncos and their families are asked to take a minute to welcome them to campus and answer any questions they may have.

Up to 3,500 incoming freshmen and 4,500 of their parents and other family members will be on campus for one of the 12 New Student Orientation sessions that begin Monday, June 4, and run through Friday, June 29. Registration has already closed for some of these sessions, which take place over a day and a half in various campus venues. The deadline to register for unclosed sessions is Friday, June 1.

Some 700 transfer students will take part in four half-day Transfer Transition Program sessions from 8 to 11:40 a.m. in the Bernhard Center. The three remaining sessions are set for Friday, June 22, July 20 and Aug. 10. The registration deadline is one week prior to the program the registrant plans to attend.

For details about New Student Orientation, visit wmich.edu/fye/orientation or contact program coordinator Steve Booher. For details about the Transfer Transition Program, visit wmich.edu/transfer/services or contact program coordinator Steve Miller.

Six employees receive 2011-12 awards from APA/PSSO

Six WMU staff members received 2012 awards from the Administrative Professional Association and Professional Support Staff Organization during the annual APA/PSSO Awards and Spring Luncheon May 17. Receiving awards, from left, were: Kristin E. Kenz, maintenance services, revolving APA Spirit Award; Lynda L. Hunt, Development and Alumni Relations, Tony Griffin Service Award; Kathy Purnell, research, APA Outstanding New Professional Award; Wayne H. Pushie, maintenance services, Outstanding Professional Award; Paige Warner, First-Year Experience Programs, PSSO Service Award; and Patricia A. Wilcox, payroll and disbursements, PSSO Service Award. The event, which had a casino theme this year, brings together members of the APA and PSSO non-bargaining groups to socialize as well as to recognize the hard work and dedication of WMU staffers. (Photo by Tammy Boneburg)



College of Aviation to induct third class of honorees

Three aviation professionals who have made a lasting impact in their fields will be inducted into the College of Aviation Hall of Honor for 2011.

This third class of Hall of Honor inductees will be celebrated during an induction ceremony and dinner Friday, June 15. The deadline for the required advance registration has been extended to Friday, June 8.

The event costs \$25 and starts with a social hour at 6 p.m. in the Aviation Maintenance Education Hangar on the College of Aviation campus at the W.K. Kellogg Airport in Battle Creek, Mich. For a registration form or more information, visit wmich.edu/

aviation or call (269) 964-5768.

The new inductees are:

- Sidney Adams of Battle Creek, Mich., a retired Veterans Affairs executive and former adjunct professor in the WMU College of Aviation who now serves on the college's Advisory Board.
- Patrick Schiffer of Plainwell, Mich., who is being inducted posthumously and was a retired WMU assistant professor and 1960 WMU alumnus.
- Col. Richard Sperling of Pleasant Hill, Calif., a Distinguished Service Cross recipient for his extraordinary heroism during the Vietnam War and a 1965 WMU alumnus.

Obituaries

Ida Mae Cutshaw, a retired staff member, died May 10. She was 75. Cutshaw was a finance clerk in accounting. She joined the staff in 1979 and retired in 1995 after 16 years of service.

Memorial gifts may be made to Kairos Dwelling or a charity of choice. Visit langelands.com to make a memorial guestbook entry.

Charles H. Ludlow, trustee emeritus, died May 8 in Kalamazoo. He was 89. Ludlow retired as vice president and treasurer of the Upjohn Co. in 1984 after 34 years. He and his wife, Marion, funded one of the University's prestigious Medallion Scholarships.

Ludlow was a member of the WMU Board



Ludlow

of Trustees from 1967 to 1987, serving as chair twice and vice chairman five times.

He also supported the University in a variety of other leadership roles, including chairing the 1985 presidential search

committee and serving as executive director of the 1997 presidential search. A former member of the WMU Foundation, he was named 1991 Volunteer of the Year.

Memorial donations may be directed to the charity of choice. Visit langelands.com to make a memorial guestbook entry.

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On Campus with Kevin West



HARMONIZING SCHEDULES
(Photo by Deanne Puca)

Kevin West started his career at WMU two decades ago as a student employee in the School of Music, a career path that included working as a stage manager for the first Gilmore International Keyboard Festival.

Now the school's director of concerts, West is responsible for scheduling the school's numerous concerts and guest artist, faculty and student recitals; producing two festivals that bring hundreds of high school students to campus annually; and serving as the on-site coordinator for the Gilmore and the Michigan Youth Arts festivals.

After graduating with his undergraduate degree in 1991, West worked in the private sector until returning to WMU three years later as concerts assistant. From 1994 to 2010, he also worked as registrar for Seminar, the University's high school summer music camp offered to high school students. He's been the camp's director since 2010, the year he was named to his current position, replacing his mentor, Carl Doubleday, who retired.

During the past year, the music school has been transitioning from a paper-based calendar system to an electronic one, West says. It's the challenges of balancing that schedule, along with working with a variety of students, faculty, staff and external performers and presenters that makes his job rewarding, he adds.

"I meet and interact with a lot of people," West says. "What is so attractive to me about the University is that I feel we can give everyone the support they need, but they also have all the opportunities of a major research university."

West lives in Texas Township with his partner, Mike, and their two dogs. He grew up on a farm in Webberville, Mich., and has lived in the Kalamazoo area for 18 years. He earned a bachelor's in business administration and a master's in public administration from WMU.

As an undergraduate student, West was a member of both instrumental and choral ensembles in the School of Music. He enjoys watching movies and is active in his church, Milwood United Methodist, both as a member of the fine arts committee and as a tenor in the church choir.

University relations promotes one, hires two

Tonya R. Durlach, university relations, has been promoted to director of electronic communication.

In addition, two people with long-time WMU ties have been hired to help expand the University's editorial and marketing functions. Paula M. Davis was named editor of the *WMU Magazine*, effective May 21,

and Christopher A. Hunt was named marketing communication manager, effective June 4.

Durlach, assistant director of electronic communication since 2008, is responsible for content on WMU's website, mass email, social media and other forms of electronic communication. She replaces Thom Myers, who is set to retire in December and will devote his remaining time at the University to implementing WMU's new Web content management system.

Davis, a longtime Kalamazoo resident, previously spent 13 years at the *Kalamazoo Gazette*. For seven of those years, she covered higher education and wrote extensively about WMU. She will edit the University's recently reprised quarterly magazine and do editorial work on a number of other publication projects.

Hunt, a Kalamazoo native, earned a bachelor's degree in advertising and promotion from WMU in 2003. He has worked at several advertising companies in Michigan and Florida. He will become an integral part of the University's overall marketing efforts, charged with overseeing market research and helping to guide the creation and production of print, electronic and Web-based marketing materials for recruitment and raising the institutional profile.



Durlach



Davis



Hunt

BRCC invests \$250,000 in breakthrough research

The Biosciences Research and Commercialization Center has invested \$250,000 in a Kalamazoo company that is doing early-stage work on a revolutionary approach to treat and restore function to people who have suffered major damage to their peripheral or central nervous systems.

The BRCC award to Axonia Medical is part of \$2 million in seed financing the company assembled to advance technology its founders believe can transform medical care for people who suffer a debilitating nervous system injury, such as stroke, and spinal cord, traumatic brain and peripheral nerve injuries.

"The technology Axonia is developing is precisely the kind of innovative, early-stage work our center is designed to support," says Stephen J. Haakenson, BRCC executive director. "This is technology developed in a university setting that has great potential in the marketplace to address unmet medical needs."

Axonia is a Kalamazoo startup that is leveraging groundbreaking discoveries on nervous system growth and repair by Douglas H. Smith at the University of Pennsylvania. Smith is scientific co-founder of Axonia.

The company's products are expected to bridge lost nervous tissues and jump-start regenerative mechanisms that will allow levels of functional recovery not now possible. The company was an early participant in a Penn program called UPstart that focuses on the transfer of technology from higher education to the commercial arena.

Flying high—Area public school students learned about aerospace and aviation careers during Project Aerospace Expo Day held at the College of Aviation in Battle Creek, Mich., May 19. Sponsored by WMU and the Organization of Black Aerospace Professionals, the event prompted Martha B. Warfield, left, associate vice president for diversity and inclusion, to bring her granddaughters, including Nia Warfield, right. The two had a chance to sit in the cockpit of WMU's Boeing 727. (Photo by Cheryl P. Roland)

