New LEED certifications boost total to seven

WMU is starting the new year with a total of seven campus buildings recognized for meeting the stringent requirements of LEED—Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design—the national benchmark for the design, construction and operation of high-performance green buildings.

Late in December, WMU facilities officials learned that Brown Hall and the Chemistry Building had successfully met LEED standards for existing building—EB—certification, widely considered among the most difficult certifications to earn. Earlier in the fall, all four buildings of the Phase I Western View student housing complex earned LEED new-construction—NC—certification.

“These certifications represent thousands of hours of work aimed at ensuring and documenting lower operating costs and reduced impact on the environment over the life of these buildings,” says President John M. Dunn. “The U.S. Green Building Council’s designations acknowledge our commitment to energy efficiency and our determination to use the resources entrusted to us in the most effective ways possible.”

The six newly certified buildings are:

- The Chemistry Building
- Brown Hall
- The Center for Fostering Success
- The College of Arts and Sciences Auditorium
- The Bernhard Center
- The Chemistry Building

The event will be set up to resemble a college fair and will include information about steps already taken to implement the three-year plan as well as provide information about how individuals and campus units can join in the implementation effort.

The strategic plan was formally adopted when the WMU Board of Trustees approved it in December 2011. Its three basic pillars describe a campus that is learner centered, discovery driven and globally engaged. In recent weeks, a set of institutional effectiveness measures was adopted and is being used to assess progress toward the plan’s goals.

Visit wmich.edu/strategic for more information.

Trustees amend Dunn’s contract, increase his 2012-13 salary

The WMU Board of Trustees put its stamp of approval on the leadership of President John M. Dunn, amending his contract during its Dec. 5 meeting and increasing his pay at a rate matching increases for other campus employees.

Dunn’s contract now runs through June 30, 2016, and his 2012-13 salary will be $373,440. The new salary figure includes a 1 percent raise retroactive to July 1 and an additional 1 percent raise that becomes effective this month.

Following the board meeting, Dunn confirmed he will continue a giving tradition he has followed since taking WMU’s helm in July 2007. Whenever he receives a salary increase, he donates it back for student scholarships—to the tune of the cumulative total of his pay increases since his $345,000 starting salary. That means this year, he is donating $28,440 for student scholarships.

In 2011, the board extended Dunn’s contract for two years. That necessitated amending and updating his earlier contract—steps the board approved at the Dec. 5 meeting. The new contract includes an extension and increase in Dunn’s deferred compensation as well as provisions for a one-year term as president emeritus and a two-year non-compete clause.

The 2011 evaluation did not include a salary increase because budgetary constraints that year had kept WMU from providing salary increases to any employees except those with previous contractual commitments.
Still time to apply for faculty scholars funding

The deadline to apply for the Support for Faculty Scholars Award is Thursday, Jan. 31. This internal funding opportunity aims to advance the University’s research mission. Among its key goals is to support creative activities and research that may not lead to external funding but that enhance and sustain the scholarly reputation of WMU and the faculty principal investigator.

The award is for up to $2,000 with no commitment for external proposal submission. A three-page, 1,500-word application is required by the deadline. Visit wmich.edu/research and click Funding Sources, then Internal Funding Opportunities for an application, guidelines, and a list of previously funded projects. Questions may be directed to Diana Berkshire Heart at diana.berkshire@wmich.edu or (269) 387-8275.

Rules apply to social media accounts

All University Facebook pages and Twitter accounts are subject to WMU’s social media guidelines and should be approved by the Office of University Relations. Contact cara.barnes@wmich.edu for details about WMU’s social media policy.

Jobs

Current job opportunities at WMU are announced daily on the Human Resources website 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.
Joffrey ballet master directing students; appears in documentary

WMU students will be performing in January and February under the direction of a Joffrey ballet master who is featured in a recent documentary by an alumnus of the University.

Guest artist Willy Shives will direct dance students in performances of the Joffrey Ballet piece “Viva Vivaldi” at 8 p.m. Thursday through Saturday, Jan. 31-Feb. 2, and 2 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 3, in Shaw Theatre. Shives is one of the many dancers featured in Bob Hercules’ film, “Joffrey: Mavericks of American Dance,” which has its national PBS premiere Dec. 28 on the network’s “American Masters” program.

The documentary tells the origin story of the revolutionary dance company the Joffrey Ballet, and covers the ballet’s 56-year history to present day. Hercules’ film chronicles the company’s modest start with a handful of touring dancers to its rise as one of the world’s preeminent ballet companies. Led by visionaries Robert Joffrey and Gerald Arpino, the company helped transform the world of American dance.

“Viva Vivaldi” is a work of Arpino, Joffrey’s legendary artistic director, and Shives learned the ballet from Arpino himself. Shives, who has served as a guest artist at WMU twice before, began auditioning and teaching WMU students during the fall semester.

“He is a wonderful artist who is very generous with his knowledge....” says Sharon Garber, dance. “We are just thrilled.”

The Joffrey company became known for ballet that was classical at its core but also influenced by modern movement and unorthodox artistic choices.

“They were very liberated because they weren’t beholden to those older European and Russian traditions in dance,” Hercules, a 1979 WMU graduate, veteran filmmaker and co-owner of Chicago-based Media Process Group, told the WMU Magazine for a recent article about his documentary.

Narrated by actor Mandy Patinkin, the film was first shown to a sold-out audience in the Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts in New York City last year. It features excerpts from some of the Joffrey’s most famous works.

“It was a tremendous experience to make this film,” Hercules says. “It’s one of those things where you pinch yourself and say, ‘Did that really happen?’”

To read the entire WMU Magazine story online, visit wmich.edu/magazine and click the Winter 2012 issue. Visit the film’s website, joffreyrecruiting.com, for more information.

NPR counterterrorism correspondent to speak as part of great decisions program

WMU is again partnering with the World Affairs Council of Western Michigan in Grand Rapids to present a free timely talk on international issues as part of the council’s 2013 Great Decisions Discussion Series.

Locally, WMU will be offering a live lecture by NPR correspondent Nina Temple-Raston at 11 a.m. Monday, Feb. 4, in the Fetzer Center’s Putney Auditorium. Her talk, “The New Threat Assessment: Defending America on a Budget,” will address the nation’s new and emerging challenges in dealing with terrorism and counterinsurgency.

Spring 2013 staff award nominations due Feb. 28

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

Make a Difference is a campuswide peer-to-peer program that recognizes staff members for their accomplishments and daily investments of energy and creativity. It features semiannual awards presented to employees who provide exceptional service to the University.

Every fall and spring, semiannual awards are presented to a maximum of 15 people. Those selected for the accolade receive a $300 pre-tax prize and certificate, are recognized at a special reception, and may be nominated for one of four annual Make a Difference awards that carry a $1,200 pre-tax prize.

Employees may receive the semiannual award more than once, but are limited to one such award per academic year. The annual award, which may only be received once, is given to each year’s four most outstanding semiannual award winners.

Nominations for Make a Difference awards are accepted for individuals from the following employee groups: American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees; Michigan State Employees Association; Police Officers Association; and Staff Compensation System.

Nomination forms and instructions are available year round at wmich.edu/makeadifference/nominations.

Obituaries

Editor’s Note: Visit wmich.edu/news/obituaries for full obituaries.

Dorothy J. McGinnis, emerita in education and professional development, died Jan. 11. She was 92. McGinnis, nationally known for her innovations in the diagnosis and treatment of reading problems, joined the faculty in 1944 and retired early in 1986 after 41 years of service.

John P. Mulligan, a former residence hall custodian, died Nov. 8. He was 89. Mulligan joined the staff in 1976 and retired in 1986 after 10 years of service.

Willie G. Page, a custodian in Facilities Management, died Dec. 21. He was 80. Page joined the staff in 1981 and retired in 1998 after 17 years of service.
New LEED certifications boost total to seven

Western View’s Phase I (LEED-NC) is one of the buildings to recently receive LEED gold certification. The new additions to the LEED-certified building portfolio include开头


data-driven decision-making, integration into WMU’s award-winning stormwater retention system.

However, the facilities also have their own unique combination of features.

• water-efficient fixtures
• optimized energy performance with electrical and HVAC equipment
• construction waste management procedures and use of recycled and local materials
• low-emitting paints and flooring materials
• thermal insulation and use of daylight to lower energy consumption

Six other buildings are now going through the lengthy certification process. If successful, they should bring WMU's number of LEED-certified buildings to 13 by early 2014. The buildings are Sangren Hall, the Lee Honors College, the Zhang Legacy Collections Center and the two new residential buildings and community center being constructed in Western View's Phase II.

Free financial aid event is Feb. 10

Area college-bound high school students and their families will be on campus Sunday, Feb. 10, participating in College Goal Sunday from 2 to 4 p.m. in Schneider Hall.

The program is one of more than three dozen such events being held at sites around the state to help high school seniors fill out their Free Application for Federal Student Aid and submit it in time to ensure eligibility for maximum benefit.

A complete list of items needed, along with additional details on the event and how to win a $1,000 scholarship, an iPad Mini or one of 10 $25 Amazon gift cards is online at micollegegoal.org.

New Issues announces prize winner, Michigan poetry anthology

The editors of WMU's New Issues Press have selected Ralph Angel as the winner of the publication’s 2013 Green Rose Prize for his manuscript “Your Moon.”

The prize is awarded to an author who has previously published at least one full-length book of poems.

Angel is the Edith R. White Distinguished Professor of English and Creative Writing at the University of Redlands and a graduate writing faculty member at the Vermont College of Fine Arts.

He has written five books of poetry and won numerous prestigious awards. For the Green Rose Prize, he will receive $2,000 and have his manuscript published in spring 2014.

New Issues also has announced that it has received a $15,000 grant from the Michigan Council for the Arts and Cultural Affairs to support the production of its anthology “Poetry in Michigan/Michigan in Poetry,” coming this fall.

Titles for New Issues publications are designed by senior graphic design students, under the supervision of staff members Tricia Hennessy and Paul Sizer, in the Frostic School of Art's Design Center.

New Issues Press also has announced that it has received the $25,000 Mosaic Grant for its ongoing publication of Michigan poetry.

On Campus with Helen Beck

Service is anything but a cliché for Helen Beck, coordinator of the Learning Resource Center in the College of Health and Human Services.

Beck welcomes students and faculty to the center by creating a warm environment where they can meet and be creative. That's one of many reasons she received CHHS' Outstanding Customer Service Award last year and why students helped the college create a student emergency fund in 2008 administered by the WMU Foundation that is named in her honor.

"Efforts like that really touch my heart. We're here to help each other and not compete," Beck says. "We're all here helping each other, so most days you go home feeling very good."

The resource center has 38 computers and includes a wide range of books, journals, videos, DVDs and other resources. Beck is responsible for everything from updating catalog items, keeping the software and technology up to date, and proctoring exams for students with disabilities to training and supervising work study students and establishing policies.

"It's a great place to work with wonderful people," she says. "I have the privilege of interacting on a daily basis with students and faculty from every department in the college. Everyone treats each other with respect and dignity regardless of status in life."

Beck came to WMU in 2000 and served as an office assistant in social work for 10 years before taking on her current role in 2010. She combines her academic background in graphic design with photography to produce materials for special CHHS events and create art pieces that she's出售 overseas.

On Campus with Helen Beck
- A guest op-ed by Yishai Kabaker ’10 also in the Daily is positive and thoughtful in regards to the possible issue of divestment (in this case, related to Israel/Palestine). If the possibility of divestment does become any sort of issue on campus, this might be an idea that gains a steady hand and can hopefully deflect what could very easily turn into a religious and ethnic flame war on campus. (See a response op-ed to Kabaker here). - In an apparent attempt to galvanize some class pride, there will be a “Battle of the Classes” in which students of the four undergraduate classes will compete ag