

# Reporter

The University of Michigan-Dearborn

October 23, 2006

## Town hall meeting on stem-cell research

Gov. Jennifer Granholm will join Chancellor Daniel Little and researchers, policy makers and activists in a discussion of "The Promise of Stem Cell Research" at 1 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 24 in Lecture Hall B in the Social Sciences Building.

The panel discussion is sponsored by UM-Dearborn, the Genetic Policy Institute and Michigan Citizens for Stem Cell Research and Cures and is free and open to the public.

In addition to Granholm and Little, other speakers include Bryan Cybul of the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation; James F. Eliason of Asterand; Eve Herold, of the Genetic Policy Institute and author of *The Stem Cell Wars*; Danny Heumann of the Daniel Heumann Fund for Spinal Cord Research; Rep. Andy Meisner; and Bernard Siegel, executive director of the Genetic Policy Institute.

For more information, contact the Office of Government Relations at 593-5140.

## Teachers Academy on shift from MEAP to ACT

The state of Michigan will be moving from using the MEAP to the ACT as the assessment for high school students. Teachers can learn strategies for preparing students for the ACT during a one-day workshop at the School of Education on Thursday, Nov. 9.

Former teacher and administrator James Harris and Michael McKinney, a consultant for elementary and secondary services for the ACT Corporation, will present "From the MEAP to the ACT: Implications for the Classroom" as part of the Teachers Academy workshop series at the School of Education.

The workshop, which will take place in Dining Rooms B and C of the Fairlane Center South Building, is geared toward students, teachers and school administrators.

Harris and McKinney will discuss topics such as ACT Plus Writing; an update on the Michigan Merit Exam; strategies to prepare students for ACT Plus Writing; and the implications of the ACT Plus Writing for content area teachers.

Harris has worked with the ACT Corporation as a member of the ACT Council for many years. He specializes in school assessment. McKinney, a consultant with ACT Corporation since 1996, has worked with teachers and school administrators to inform them about the essential components of the new ACT instrument for schools in Michigan. He provides teachers with instructional strategies that align with assessment.

The deadline to register for the workshop is Oct. 30. Workshop cost is \$100 for the general public and \$60 for UM-Dearborn alumni and students. A box lunch is available for an additional \$5.

After Oct. 30, the cost of the workshop is \$125 for the public and \$75 for UM-Dearborn students and alumni.

The workshop also may be taken for one undergraduate or graduate credit hour. Please contact Judy Garfield at 593-5285 for more information on tuition cost and registration procedures for academic credit.

For more information on the workshop, contact Mary Fulmer at 593-3893.

## Changing of the guard



More than 100 supporters of the Armenian Research Center attended a ceremony Oct. 14 marking the end of Prof. Dennis Papazian's leadership of the Center and the appointment of Prof. Ara Sanjian to be the new director. The ceremony included a dedication of the Center's new quarters in the Administrative Services Building, with a ribbon-cutting by, from left, Papazian and Sanjian being joined by Susan W. Martin, provost and vice chancellor for academic affairs, and Berge Der Matoian, grand commander of the Knights of Vartan, who flew in from California for the ceremony. The Knights of Vartan are a charitable fraternal association who have been long-time supporters of the Armenian Research Center.

## Science building dedication this week

The shiny astronomical dome, 12 feet in diameter, that tops off the new Science Learning and Research Center, is only one of the truly distinctive features of the building.

Among other spaces, the building includes a 100-seat lecture hall with flexible seating that will encourage group work, labs that allow students to work with each other and with faculty members on projects, and support spaces providing scientific instrumentation that can be used in several different disciplines.

The SLRC opened for classes this semester and will be formally dedicated in a ceremony at 2 p.m. Friday, Oct. 27 in the atrium of the building. The dedication ceremony will be followed by a colloquium featuring Morris White, associate professor of pediatrics at the Harvard University Medical School, who received his bachelor's degree from UM-Dearborn in 1977.

White's presentation, on "Nutrient homeostasis and its relation to obesity, diabetes and longevity," will be followed by tours of the building. In the evening, guests will be invited to tour the astronomical observatory and do some stargazing, if weather permits.

The new building will allow the campus to expand programs involving environmental, cellular and molecular studies and science education, according to Paul Zitzewitz, professor of physics and former chair of the Department of Natural Sciences who was involved in planning the project.

"The labs, classrooms and other spaces all are designed to help our students prepare to enter graduate or professional schools or into businesses or industries that need employees skilled in modern laboratory techniques in the natural sciences," Zitzewitz said.

When construction is complete, the dome on top of the building will house a 16-

inch telescope supported by a \$144,000 grant from the National Science Foundation. The third floor deck of the building also has five



Physics Prof. Don Bord (left) led a tour of the SLRC for a group of campus administrators earlier this month

other stations to mount telescopes.

The SLRC, designed by the architectural firm The Stubbins Associates, includes approximately 15,000 net square feet and cost approximately \$10 million, with 75 percent of the funding coming from the state of Michigan. The campus is funding the remaining 25 percent.

"The design of this building will serve to enhance our learning community in many ways, by allowing students to experience meaningful investigations in a community where faculty are committed to seeing students as partners in learning," according to physics Prof. Vaman Naik, chair of the Department of Natural Sciences.

A student gathering space on the building's second floor will be dedicated in memory of biology Prof. Linda Fisher, who died in 2002. Contributions from Fisher's colleagues and former students supported the naming of the room, as well as a scholarship fund in her name.



## Prof. Michael Foran honored for excellence in teaching accounting

Accounting and finance Prof. Michael Foran has been named the 2006 Accounting Educator of the Year by the Michigan Association of Certified Public Accountants (MACPA).

Foran was chosen for the award for excellence in teaching accounting and his many contributions to the CPA profession, according to a press release announcing his award.

Foran received the award at the MACPA Awards Dinner on Oct. 4 at the Townsend Hotel in Birmingham.

After serving as associate dean and chair of the Department of Accounting and Finance, Foran returned to teaching full-time this year. He has taught a wide variety of accounting courses including introductory through advanced courses in financial

accounting, contemporary financial accounting theory, CPA examination review and CMA examination review.



Foran

As project director of "Money Smart Week" for the last three years, Foran has been responsible for a

series of seminars devoted to combating financial illiteracy and providing education to consumers in southeastern Michigan. The project is sponsored by the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago—Detroit branch.

Foran is a member of the MACPA Educators Task Force. He served on the editorial review board for Issues in Accounting Education for three years, the American Accounting Association national meeting for two years and the American Accounting Association Midwest region for 13 years.

Foran has held dozens of positions on international, national, regional and local offices and committees for many professional organizations, including the executive council of the American Accounting Association and the board of directors of the Institute of Internal Auditing.

He has published more than 50 refereed journal articles and books and developed more than 25 seminar and paper presentations. He also served as moderator, chair, discussant or panel member for more than 20 national conferences and programs.

Foran received his bachelor's degree from the University of Arizona, a master's degree at the University of Illinois and his Ph.D. from the University of Washington.

The Michigan Association of Certified Public Accountants serves more than 16,000 CPAs and affiliated professionals throughout Michigan.

## 'Global Fest' Oct. 31

The Student Activities Office will host "Global Fest 2006: One World, One People" from 11 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Oct. 31 in Kochoff Hall.

The annual event celebrates the culturally rich and diverse population of the campus via cuisine and entertainment from across the globe.

## Michael Thomas wins RARE award

Michael Thomas, director of the Partners Plus program at UM-Dearborn and Henry Ford Community College, was one of eight people to be named a 2006 "Everyday Hero" by the RARE Foundation.

The honor recognizes individuals who make significant contributions in their field of work by serving as a positive role model and going above and beyond their work to benefit and inspire others.

As a RARE award winner, Thomas will receive a \$1,000 honorarium, a crystal trophy, recognition at the foundation's annual "Night of Heroes" dinner and will have his story documented in a character education program for youth called Everyday Heroes.

UM-Dearborn alumna Alina Johnson, who graduated recently from the School of Management with a bachelor's in business administration, nominated Thomas for the award. Johnson also is a magna cum laude graduate with an associate degree in business administration at Henry Ford Community College, where she met Thomas.

"He genuinely cares about each and every student he comes in contact with, which is very evident if you meet him," Johnson said. "As a Partners Plus mentor and participant, I have had opportunities that are immeasurable such as leadership opportunities, benefiting from tutoring, academic advising, student workshops and the like."

The Partners Plus program assists stu-

dents who start their education at community colleges hoping to enter degree programs at UM-Dearborn. The program helps develop students' critical thinking and professional leadership skills as they move toward a bachelor degree and offers academic advising, developmental workshops on a variety of topics, leadership training, mentoring, tutoring, financial literacy programs and scholarships.

Under Thomas' leadership during the past 10 years, the program has grown from serving 40 students a year to serving more than 400 in 2005. In 2000, Partners Plus received the Michigan Association of Collegiate Registrars Award for promoting and encouraging educational opportunities for minorities.

"Mike Thomas has created a culture of diversity and empowerment by demanding that students take charge of their lives and do their best to perform with excellence every day," according to the Everyday Heroes supplement published by the RARE Foundation and the Detroit News "Newspapers in Education" program. "He allows students to have input into every new element of the program and he immediately set out to kill the myth that being smart was bad for minorities."

RARE, which stands for Recognizing Achievement and Rewarding Excellence, was founded in 1998 by attorney Gil Cox, Jr. "to reinforce the values that truly matter in life," according to the foundation's Web site.

## Trade mission



Ray Metz, chief of staff in the chancellor's office (at left, back to the camera), led a campus tour last week for diplomats from the Slovak Republic visiting the Detroit area for talks about links with manufacturers in this region. Others in the photo are, from left, Miroslav Wlachovsky, deputy chief of mission at the Slovak embassy in Washington; Edward M. Zelenak, an attorney in Lincoln Park and honorary consul of the Slovak Republic; Tomas Bican, economic counselor at the Slovak embassy; and School of Management student Tomas Sustek, a native of the Slovak Republic.

## Junior faculty workshop on teaching portfolios

The Office of the Provost will sponsor a junior faculty workshop on "Developing a Teaching Portfolio for Promotion and Tenure" from 10 a.m. to noon on Wednesday, Nov. 8 in Room 1225 of the University Center.

Prof. Martin Hershock, chair of the Department of Social Sciences, will facilitate a discussion about what a faculty portfolio is, what should be included in a portfolio, what are the major divisions

within a portfolio, how to develop a statement of teaching philosophy, the difficulties of developing a portfolio and differences between a third-year portfolio and a portfolio for promotion.

Participants will receive a copy of The Teaching Portfolio by Peter Selden. Those interested in attending should RSVP no later than Monday, Oct. 30 to maggied@umd.umich.edu.

## Sponsored Research News

### 21st Century Jobs Fund grants: next round

The Michigan Economic Development Corporation has announced that awards for the 2006 21st Century Jobs Fund grants and contracts will be signed shortly. Out of 179 applications across the state of Michigan, 59 awards were made initially and 24 additional awards were made more recently.

The second round has been delayed and it is expected that the decision to hold another round and the timeline will be determined at the November meeting of the 19-member Strategic Economic Investment and Commercialization Board that oversees the fund. An announcement and call for proposals is expected in December or January and it appears that there will not be a letter-of-intent phase in the process.

If you are interested in submitting an application, monitor the MEDC Web site at <http://www.michigan.org/medc/ttc/21stCentury/Competition/> and also discuss your plans with Drew Buchanan (dbuchana@umd.umich.edu), director of the Office of Research and Sponsored Programs.

### Campus Grants program revised; deadline Nov. 16

The revised Campus Grant Guidelines were distributed to each faculty member a few weeks ago. The two major changes are:

1. Applications from tenured and tenure-track faculty members for travel funds from the Office of Research and Sponsored Programs will be reviewed by the Campus Grants Committee (Research Support Board of the Faculty Senate) and must be submitted by the deadline for consideration. As in the past, these travel funds support the presentation of a paper at an international conference or other unusually expensive conference or combination of conferences where unit support is insufficient to cover the costs.

2. All Campus Grant funding for research and scholarship will have the flexibility and maximum grant size as the Faculty Summer Research Grants that have been offered for several years. The maximum grant available is \$6,000 and these funds can be used for student support, travel, equipment, supplies or summer salary for the faculty member. There are two grant categories, one to support research and scholarship where limited external funding is available and the other to position the applicant for seeking external grant support.

Previous guidelines and application forms are obsolete. The new guidelines and revised application form are available on the Dearborn Research Web site in Microsoft Word format at: [http://www.research.umd.umich.edu/campus\\_grants.htm](http://www.research.umd.umich.edu/campus_grants.htm)

## Auto heritage talk on Russian auto industry: 'Cars, cars, and more cars'

Lewis Siegelbaum, professor of history at Michigan State University, will discuss "Cars, Cars, and More Cars: The Faustian Bargain of the Brezhnev Era" at 4:30 p.m. on Nov. 8 in Room 1030 of the CASL Building.

The lecture is part of the "Automotive Heritage: Culture, Politics and Society" series and is sponsored by UM-Dearborn's Center for the Study of Automotive Heritage.

Siegelbaum's research interests include modern Russia, Communism and modern Europe. His published work includes "Soviet Car

### Indirect cost return for fiscal year 2006

UM-Dearborn recovered a total of \$609,148 of indirect costs from external grants and contracts in fiscal year 2006. Of these funds, \$156,000 went into the general fund budget (along with tuition revenue and state appropriations) and \$111,289 was used to pay an Ann Arbor recharge fee for proposal processing and grant administration. The remainder of \$341,859 was distributed to principal investigators, departments, schools and colleges, and a central matching fund managed by the Office of Research and Sponsored Programs.

Once indirect costs are charged to grants and returned to the Dearborn campus, they become discretionary funds that can be used in a variety of ways to support research and scholarship.

### External awards received

Paul Richardson, associate professor of electrical and computer engineering, received \$570,890 additional funding from the U.S. Army Vetronics Institute for subject-matter expertise in the Vetronics areas to remotely control construction equipment for maneuver support.

Aaron Ahuvia, associate professor and international program director in the School of Management, received a \$250,000 grant from the U.S. Department of State for his project "Partnerships for Growth in Yemen." The project will support business development in Yemen, create new opportunities for U.S. businesses, and produce lasting relationships between Yemeni and American business people.

Yi Lu Murphey, professor of electrical and computer engineering, was awarded \$20,000 additional funding from TRW Inc. to investigate intelligent collision-warning systems for automobiles that will couple vision and machine learning.

P.K. Mallick, professor of mechanical engineering and director of interdisciplinary programs in the College of Engineering and Computer Science, received \$12,000 additional funding from the U.S. Department of Energy. This award will enable him to continue to upgrade the Center for Lightweighting Automotive Materials and Processing.

Chris Mi, assistant professor of electrical and computer engineering, received \$11,910 additional funding from the U.S. Army TACOM to continue his project to design, build and test a 10KW bi-directional DC-DC converter for hybrid electric vehicle applications.

## News Briefs

### Susan B. Anthony award nominations sought

UM-Dearborn's Commission for Women is seeking nominations for the 29th annual Susan B. Anthony Award, which will be presented at a dinner in March 2007.

The award will be presented to an individual whose life and deeds exemplify the dedicated efforts, fortitude, forcefulness and involvement of Susan B. Anthony.

The candidate for the award should be a member of the extended UM-Dearborn campus community who:

- Serves as a role model for women or girls, based on professional accomplishments and/or contributions on behalf of women on the Dearborn campus.
- Is directly involved in enhancing the status or well-being of women or girls.
- Is actively involved in the promotion of equal rights for women.

In addition to nominations, supporting documentation also is required. Nomination packages that were submitted for last year's award are still on file and do not need to be resubmitted unless there is pertinent or updated information the committee should consider. However, a new nomination form should be submitted.

Nominations must be submitted no later than Friday, Dec. 1 to Timothy McKenna, Room 2090, CASL Building or by e-mail at [mathman@umd.umich.edu](mailto:mathman@umd.umich.edu).

### Fair Lane Music Guild starts season Nov. 8

The Fair Lane Music Guild will hold four concerts during its 37th season of chamber music, which now includes weeknight concerts and café seating for dessert concerts.

The Fairlane Chamber Players will kick off the season with "Café Music," sponsored by the Drusilla Farwell Foundation, at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 8. Violinist Geoffrey Applegate, cellist Robert deMaine and pianist Pauline Martin will celebrate the Guild's inaugural dessert concert with "Café Music," a trio by Detroit-born composer Paul Schoenfeld, as well as more chamber music pieces.

All concerts are held at the Henry Ford Estate. Single tickets are \$15 for regular admission, \$14 for senior citizens and \$9 for students. Tickets can be purchased at the door 30 minutes prior to the performance. Season tickets are \$45 per person, \$40 for seniors and \$25 for students.

For more information, call 593-5330 or visit [www.umd.umich.edu/fair\\_lane\\_music\\_guild/](http://www.umd.umich.edu/fair_lane_music_guild/).

## Mission

The University of Michigan-Dearborn is an interactive, student-centered institution committed to excellence in teaching and learning.

We offer undergraduate, graduate, and professional education to a diverse, highly motivated, and talented student body. Our programs are responsive to the changing needs of society; relevant to the goals of our students and community partners; rich in opportunities for independent and collaborative study, research, and practical application; and reflective of the traditions of excellence, innovation, and leadership that distinguish the University of Michigan.

We accomplish this mission by:

- Providing a strong foundation in the liberal arts and sciences;
- Providing the knowledge and skills essential for career and personal success;
- Integrating teaching, research and service in ways that enhance the learning experience;
- Promoting internships and cooperative education;
- Providing a dynamic environment where innovation, openness, and creativity are fostered;
- Using advanced technologies to meet changing educational needs and establish links with the global community; and
- Forging partnerships with business, industry, educational institutions, and government agencies.

We strive to be the institution of choice in southeastern Michigan for individuals and organizations that value accessibility, flexibility, affordability, diversity, and preeminence in education.



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\*Includes discrimination based on gender identity and gender expression.

### Publication calendar

The next issue of the *Reporter* will be published on Nov. 6. News items must be delivered to the Office of University Relations, 1040 Administration Building, at least 10 days prior to the publication date.

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The University of Michigan-Dearborn does not necessarily endorse the views of speakers at events listed in the *Reporter*.

## New online graduate program for public administrators

This spring, UM-Dearborn will launch an Internet-based graduate program geared toward providing professional development opportunities for the more than 1,700 local government administrators in the state of Michigan.

UM-Dearborn's Local Government Management Initiative (LGMI) is a five-year partnership with the Michigan Municipal League (MML) and the Michigan Local Government Management Association (MLGMA). The program will be closely aligned with the International City Management Association's (ICMA) requirements for its voluntary credentialing program for city managers and assistant city managers, according to Public Administration Prof. Seth Hirshorn, who is overseeing the project.

"The Local Government Management Initiative will provide the educational support and opportunities necessary for the ICMA credentialing process by exploring the 18 competencies identified by ICMA as necessary for local government management," Hirshorn said.

The 14-course program will launch this spring with its first four courses on budgeting and finance, strategic planning, communications and media, and citizen participation. The remaining 10 courses will be added to the course schedule within the next year, Hirshorn said.

The courses are expected to be a hit among city administrators--especially those in communities with a population of less than 10,000--who are dealing with tight budgets and may not have the resources or time available for managers to attend conferences and other professional development opportunities.

"The LGMI online courses may be done at students own pace and on their own time," according to UM-Dearborn lecturer Brian Murphy, who serves as assistant city manager of Troy and who worked with Hirshorn to develop the LGMI. "For instance, they can work on a course at 2 a.m. while they're in pajamas, or while their kids are at the soccer game."

"The LGMI will address the financial and time constraints that have reduced opportunities for professional development for Michigan local government managers in recent years, according to Jack Duso, assistant city manager of Midland, who will serve as an advisor for the LGMI's citizen participation course in the spring. "The Michigan Local Government Management Association is very excited about this timely initiative that will ultimately benefit the citizens of Michigan communities through the professional development of their respective local government managers."

His colleague Randall Byrne, MLGMA president and Grand Blanc city manager,

agrees. "This important project makes the latest training technology available to Michigan's city, township and county managers," Byrne said. "In these difficult economic times, we will be able to get the needed training at a very reasonable cost. I view this project as an extremely valuable tool to advance our skills for the benefit of our citizens."

Colleen Layton, director of member resource services for the Michigan Municipal League, shares their enthusiasm for the project.

"The Michigan Municipal League is pleased to be a partner in bringing this online curriculum program to local government managers," Layton said. "This important learning tool will give managers an additional opportunity to conveniently access the course work necessary for the ICMA Voluntary Credentialing program. It will particularly benefit those who might not otherwise have

the ability to do so."

The LGMI courses won't be traditional academic online classes, but more clinical in nature, emphasizing practical knowledge and skills that have value in the city management community, Murphy said.

"This program will explore areas where people may not have experience, like issuing bonds or how to read and make use of audit reports," Murphy said. "They will be able to apply what they learn to their most recent audit report and present case studies as part of the course."

The LGMI is a five-year partnership among UM-Dearborn, the MLGMA and the MML. Hirshorn said he hopes there will be a market to continue and expand the initiative after that by offering more advanced courses and classes on specialized topics.

"Our expectation is that this program will outlive all of us," Hirshorn said.

## Back to school



"My education served me well," alumnus Dick Stephens told a class of first-year students last week. "The University has always done an excellent job of preparing students for the workplace."

Stephens was among the very first students enrolled at UM-Dearborn when the campus opened in 1959, and he was among the second group to graduate in June 1962.

He visited campus last week to speak to a first-year seminar titled "Not Just Animal House: Reading and Writing About College Life" taught by Liz Rohan, assistant professor of humanities. In an item printed in the alumni magazine, *Legacy*, earlier this year, Rohan invited alumni to contact her if they were willing to talk with current students about their experiences. Stephens saw the article and contacted Rohan to arrange the presentation.

"As part of this course about college life in American history and American culture, the students are gathering information about the history of UM-Dearborn as it is and has been shaped and experienced by its students," Rohan said.

In preparation for the class, Stephens prepared a PowerPoint slide show with scans of campus publications from the earliest days, including notes about fees. The current students gasped when he reported that his tuition was \$140 per semester, including a \$6 "activity" fee that covered admission to football games and other athletic events on the Ann Arbor campus.

Stephens lives in Tennessee, now retired after a 40-year career designing gas turbines, jet engines and turbofan engines at Vickers in Troy and Williams International in Walled Lake.

## News Brief

### 'Enough oil in 2030?'

Social sciences Prof. Michael Twomey will present "Will There Be Enough Oil in 2030" from noon to 2 p.m. on Tuesday, Oct. 31 at the Henry Ford Estate as part of the Provost's Roundtable and Discussion Series. A complimentary lunch will be served. The event is open to faculty and staff. No RSVP is necessary.

For more information, contact Maggie Martin at 593-5030.

## Kudos

**Dorothy McLeer**, program manager in the Environmental Interpretive Center, presented a workshop called "Tools for Non-formal Educators" at the Michigan Alliance for Environmental and Outdoor Education annual conference in Wayland, Mich., earlier this month. At the conference, McLeer also received an award in recognition of her "long-term service to the organization and significant contributions to the fields of environmental and outdoor education in Michigan."

**Melanie Grunow Sobocinski**, assistant professor of art history, is the author of "Visualizing Ceremony: The Design and Audience of the Ludi Saeculares Coinage of Domitian," published in the Oct. 2006 issue of *American Journal of Archaeology*.

(If you know of accomplishments by UM-Dearborn faculty and staff members that should be included in this column, please send information to tgallagh@umich.edu.)