

Reporter

The University of Michigan-Dearborn

April 9, 2007

Writer, scholar will speak at commencement

Daniel Howes, business columnist and associate business editor of *The Detroit News*, and Charles Tilly, the Joseph L. Bittenwieser Professor of Social Science at Columbia University, will be the featured speakers at commencement ceremonies on Sunday, April 29.

Howes will speak at the morning ceremony, which begins at 10:30 a.m., for graduates of the



Howes

School of Management and College of Engineering and Computer Science. Tilly will speak in the afternoon ceremony, which begins at 2:30 p.m., for graduates of the School of Education and College of Arts, Sciences, and Letters. Both

ceremonies will be held in the Fieldhouse.

As a columnist for *The News*, Howes has reported from some 20 countries on three continents. From 1999 to January 2003, he was based in Germany as *The News'* European correspondent and automotive columnist. Before heading to Europe, Howes was the paper's senior automotive writer and an investigative and projects reporter on the newspaper's business desk.

Howes came to Detroit in 1993 from *The Roanoke Times* in Virginia, where he covered business, politics and higher education. He is the winner of many journalism awards, including multiple International Wheel Awards for column writing and he's a four-time winner of Northwestern University's Medill award for general markets coverage. He is a regular contributor to WJR-AM in Detroit, and appears often on radio and television in the United States and overseas.



Tilly

Anative of Canton, Ohio, he earned

a bachelor's degree in history at The College of Wooster and a master's in international affairs at Columbia University. Howes was a fellow at the Knight Center for Specialized Journalism.

Tilly's research focuses on large-scale social change and its relationship to contentious politics, especially in Europe since 1500. A member of the National Academy of Sciences, the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, the American Philosophical Society, and the Ordre des Palmes Académiques, he has received numerous international prizes and honorary degrees.

Tilly authored, co-authored, edited, or co-edited 50 published books and monographs. He also has published 600 to 700 scholarly articles, reviews, essays, comments, chapters in edited collections, and prefaces.

His most recent books include *Why?* (Princeton University Press, 2006), the *Oxford Handbook of Contextual Political Analysis* (co-edited and co-authored with Robert Goodin, Oxford University Press, 2006), *Contentious Politics* (co-authored with Sidney Tarrow, Paradigm Publishers, 2006), and *Regimes and Repertoires* (University of Chicago Press, 2006).

Looking ahead



Physics Prof. Donald Bord (right) worked with Ian Huss, a representative of DFM Engineering, last week on connecting the elements that will control the mechanical operation of the new telescope being installed in the dome on top of the Science Learning and Research Center.

The 16-inch Cassegrain telescope, which was designed and manufactured by DFM Engineering in Colorado, was delivered to campus in late March and should be fully operational in the next couple of days. It can be seen at the far right in this photo.

"We have completed the assembly of the telescope, as well as all the system checks that could be done without actually looking at stars," Bord said last week. "Now that we know everything's working, we'll string the wires through the conduits into the lab and re-assemble the telescope control unit at its permanent location in the room below the dome."

The next steps, including the precise alignment and collimation of the instrument, will depend on the weather and clear skies, "when we'll be able to use the night sky as our laboratory," Bord said.

Purchase of the telescope was supported by a grant from the National Science Foundation.

Campus to host annual meeting of Michigan mathematics associations

UM-Dearborn will host the 83rd annual meeting of the Michigan section of the Mathematical Association of America and the Michigan Mathematical Association of Two-Year Colleges on May 4 and May 5.

The event will take place in the campus's Fairlane Center North Building.

"In its long history of annual conferences, this is the first time that our department is hosting the meeting," according to mathematics Prof. Margret Höft. "I spent four years on the executive committee of the organization and when we were trying to decide where to hold the 83rd meeting, everyone simply looked at me, since it was clearly our turn. For many years the campus did not have the facilities to host this meeting, but now we do, and I am happy that we can welcome our colleagues from Michigan and midwestern states to our campus."

The program for this year's conference is an interesting mix of talks devoted to mathematics, its applications and the teaching of mathematics featuring several internationally-

known speakers, according to Höft.

Speakers include Joe Gallian of the University of Minnesota-Duluth, who is the current president of the Mathematical Association of America. He will speak about "The Mathematics of Identification Numbers" and discuss some of the common bar-coding and check-digits schemes that are used for identifying and error-checking consumer products.

Doris Schattschneider of Moravian College is the author of several books on the work of the artist M.C. Escher, and will discuss Escher's combinatorial patterns that lead to questions of interest to mathematicians and computer scientists.

Ron Solomon of the Ohio State University will speak about the 110-year effort to classify all finite simple groups. His paper on this topic won the 2006 Conant Prize from the American Mathematical Society for an outstanding expository article.

For more information on the conference, or to register online, visit <http://www.casl.umd.umich.edu/maa2007>.



'Choice theory' workshop for teachers May 3

Gerald LeCureux, adjunct lecturer of education at UM-Dearborn, and retired teacher and coach David Clark will present "Understanding Choice Theory: Eliminating or Reducing Behavioral Problems in Your School or Classroom" from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Thursday, May 3 as part of the Teachers Academy series at the School of Education.

The talk will take place at the Fairlane Center. The workshop is geared toward teachers, counselors, administrators, social workers, school psychologists and youth workers.

LeCureux served as a middle- and high-school teacher, counselor and administrator. In 1994, he received a national Milken Educator Award in Los Angeles.

Clark has developed and used reality therapy and choice theory strategies in his own classroom. He also has led responsibility training workshops in more than 150 schools.

The deadline to register for the workshop is April 16. Cost is \$100 for the general public and \$60 for UM-Dearborn alumni and students. After April 16, the cost 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. Please contact Judy Garfield, academic services secretary, at 593-5285 for more information on tuition and registration procedures for academic credit.

For more information about the program, contact Yvonne DeCarlo at 593-1181.

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN-DEARBORN

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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 April 23. 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, 4901 Evergreen, Dearborn, MI 48128-1491.

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

Experience engineering



High school juniors and seniors got a chance to explore what it's like to be engineers and computer programmers during a day of competition called "Engineering/Computer Science Experience" at the campus's Institute for Advanced Vehicle Systems on March 17.

Nearly 70 students attended the second annual event, which introduces students to the engineering and computer science fields through a problem-solving competition. In the photo above, taken by John Gambotto, students worked to modify their design of a robotic car during the competition. Some students won partial scholarships to UM-Dearborn and cash prizes.

News Briefs

Clothing drive this week

The Commission for Women, Women in Leadership and Learning, and Male Mentors for Adolescent Potential and Progress are hosting a spring/summer clothing drive this week to collect apparel for the Detroit location of Covenant House, a nonprofit agency providing shelter and other services to homeless, runaway and throw-away youth.

Through Friday, April 16, the groups are seeking donations of gently-used professional interview-appropriate apparel as well as casual clothing to assist young women and men re-entering the job market. Children's clothing also will be accepted, as well as personal items such as panty hose and personal hygiene products.

Donations can be dropped off in the bins at the University Center near Copy Express; 1130AB, Government Relations; FCS near the information desk; and the CASL Building, second floor near the elevator.

Art tours set for April 28

The Art Museum Project and the Fine Art Associates will host an art tour of "After Lewis and Clark: The Forces of Change, 1806-1871" at the Flint Institute of Arts on Saturday, April 28.

Participants will meet in the Mardigian Library parking lot at 9:45 a.m. to arrange carpools to Flint.

After touring the "After Lewis and Clark" exhibition, participants will visit "Cultural Reflections: Inuit Art from the Collections of the Dennis Museum Center" at the Marshall M. Fredericks Sculpture Museum.

Registration is required by April 23. Cost is \$30 for Fine Art Associates, \$40 for the general public and \$10 for UM-Dearborn students.

For more information, contact Kenneth Gross, director of the Art Museum Project, at 593-5058.

Campus to celebrate 'Earth Day'

Individuals, families and organized groups are invited to participate in a number of hands-on Earth-themed activities from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday, April 21 at the Environmental Interpretive Center.

The "Earth Day Festival: Our Water, Our Earth, Ours to Protect" is free and open to the public. The program is sponsored by Friends of the Rouge and the Environmental Interpretive Center.

Activities that day will include "Pedaling with the Current," a family-friendly bicycle tour along the Rouge River from 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Participants should bring their bicycles for a leisurely tour along the Rouge River Gateway Greenways Trail, which runs through the campuses of Henry Ford Community College and UM-Dearborn.

In addition, volunteers are needed to help remove invasive plants that are crowding out native wildflowers and tree seedlings in the campus's Natural Areas. Garlic mustard is an invasive plant which can threaten showy spring blooms, according to Rick Simek, program

supervisor at the EIC. The Garlic Mustard removal activity is ideal for groups that are looking to obtain service project hours, and groups of all sizes are welcome to attend and should bring work gloves, he said.

Other activities scheduled that day include "Rouge Aquatic Life," which will allow visitors to observe insects and other aquatic creatures through microscopes; "Ecosystem in a Cup," which will allow participants to make and observe a self-supporting living system; "Trip of a Drip Walk," where participants will walk a moderate amount at a leisurely pace as they follow different drainage paths that connect to the Rouge River; "Animals of the Watershed," where participants can view live animals, courtesy of the Marshlands Museum at Lake Erie Metropark; and face painting featuring plants and animals found along the Rouge River.

For a full schedule of events and more information about the program, visit <http://www.umd.umich.edu/dept/na/newsletter.pdf> or call 583-6371.

News Brief

Guild presents 'Music for Violin and Cello' April 25

The Fair Lane Music Guild will host its final concert of the season on Wednesday, April 25 when Gabriel Bolkosky and Mary Ann Ramos will present "Music for Violin and Cello" at 7:30 p.m. at the Henry Ford Estate.

The event is sponsored by the Rowan Family Fund.

Violinist Gabriel Bolkosky and cellist Mary Ann Ramos show the versatility in a program of music including Ravel's Sonata for Violin and Cello. Bolkosky and Ramos are members of the Ann Arbor-based Phoenix Ensemble, a

nonprofit group that serves artists and the educational community with annual events like the PhoenixPhest amateur chamber-music festival, the Oblivion Project tango series and the Ives American Music Festival.

Season tickets are \$45/person, \$40 for senior citizens and \$25 for students. Single concert tickets are \$15/\$14/\$9 per person.

For more information about season tickets or individual concert ticket sales, contact the Fair Lane Music Guild at 593-5330, or visit www.umd.umich.edu/fair_lane_music_guild.

Sponsored Research News

Site visit for human subjects protection June 4-7

If faculty members or students do research that involves interaction or intervention with, or obtaining personal or private information from, a living person, then it is possible you may be contacted for an interview or focus group discussion. The organization that accredits universities' human subjects protection programs is the Association for the Accreditation of Human Research Protection Programs, Inc. or AAHRPP for short. As part of U-M's application for accreditation from AAHRPP, a site visit has been scheduled for June 4 through June 7. It is expected that one or more reviewers will visit the Dearborn campus on one of those days and reviewers may ask to talk with faculty researchers or students.

More information, including a schedule for the site visit, will be available later this month. An e-mail will be sent to Dearborn faculty members when more information is available. Those interested in learning more about the site visit, human subjects protection in general, or specific University policies and procedures, go to http://www.research.umd.umich.edu/human_subjects.htm or contact us directly by phone at 593-5468 or by e-mail at irb-Dearborn@umd.umich.edu.

Do you use human subjects in research?

This is a reminder to all faculty, staff and students that any research, whether funded by a grant or not, that involves interaction or intervention with, or obtaining personal or private information from, a living person, falls under the University's human-subjects protection policies. The Dearborn campus has its own Institutional Review Board (IRB) for reviewing applications for approval and this is the only body under University policy that has the authority to approve research involving humans by Dearborn faculty or students.

Examples of research covered by these policies include a questionnaire asking about an individual's health or attitudes; a study of heart rate or blood pressure using a simple monitor attached to a volunteer; focus groups discussing individuals' experience with legal, health or education systems; and measuring a person's reading speed under various lighting conditions. These examples are provided to show the range of activities covered by U-M policies and to point out that the policies cover research outside a typical medical school or hospital setting.

All applications for approval must be submitted in U-M's eResearch system, a Web-based application and tracking system developed specifically for these applications. The URL for eResearch is <http://eresearch.umich.edu/>.

Research involving U.S. census data or other publicly-available data sets without personal identifiers is not IRB-regulated nor is the observation of behavior in a public setting. Certain studies falling within the domain of journalism and individual case studies also are outside the purview of the IRB and these policies. Questions about research in the "gray areas," about eResearch, or about the University's human subjects policies can be directed to Deb Schneider in the Dearborn research office at 593-5468 or via e-mail at irb-Dearborn@umd.umich.edu.

A word about proposal deadlines

Electronic proposal submission systems (or "e-proposal systems," e.g., Grants.gov,

National Science Foundation's Fastlane) have many advantages. These systems save paper, allow for tracking and status-checking, ensure reliable transmission of the proposal (no dropped or damaged pages), and reduce a significant amount of time that used to be needed to deliver a paper copy of the final proposal from faculty members to the Office of Research and Sponsored Programs and from the Office of Research and Sponsored Programs to DRDA (Division of Research Development and Administration, Ann Arbor's research office).

There is a "dark side" to these e-proposal systems, however. The most serious issue and cause for greatest concern is the delusion that people get that, once he or she has transmitted the proposal to Office of Research and Sponsored Programs or to DRDA, the proposal can then be immediately transmitted "at the speed of light" to the granting agency via the Internet. Under this mistaken notion, the principal investigator can allow the lead time between the deadline and the handing-over of the proposal to DRDA to become so short that there is insufficient time for the necessary administrative processing that remains to be done before the proposal can be submitted to the granting agency. Not enough processing time can result in limited administrative review of the proposal, an important step that can fix simple yet critical oversights in the proposal. It is not uncommon for the e-proposal system to block submission due to errors in the application (including a missing required document, one too many pages in a section, or a single missing field on one of the forms). If the applicant has not allowed time for correction of the proposal before the deadline, it could mean the proposal doesn't get submitted on time.

Here are the two key steps in submitting a proposal and a reasonable and necessary target time for each:

1. Signed Proposal Approval Form (PAF): One week before the deadline, send the signed PAF to the Dearborn Research Office, along with a finalized budget and draft of the proposal summary or project narrative.

2. Completed proposal ready for submission: Four working days before the deadline, the final proposal should be uploaded to the DRDA dropbox or to the sponsor's e-proposal server, ready for release by DRDA.

Don't let your efforts developing a grant proposal go to waste by waiting to the last minute to submit a proposal. Work with the Dearborn Research Office as soon as possible to plan ahead and get some of the administrative details completed

early. Then leave time at the end to allow for one or two exchanges between you and the Research Office or DRDA to fix those errors that can prevent a proposal from being submitted on time.

For more information, or to let the Dearborn Research Office know a grant proposal will be submitted, call 593-5468 or e-mail dbn-research@umd.umich.edu.

Awards received

Judith Flowers, research associate in mathematics and statistics, received \$116,716 from Saginaw Valley State University and the Michigan Department of Education for her project, "Mathematics and Science Partnership: Fostering Instructional Leadership." This grant supports pre-service and in-service training of mathematics teachers.

Heather O'Mahen Willis, assistant professor in behavioral sciences, received \$84,814 from the National Institute of Health to support her role in a \$615,600 collaborative research project in the Department of Psychiatry on the Ann Arbor campus titled "Improving Psychosocial Treatment for Perinatal Depression."

Subrata Sengupta, dean of the College of Engineering and Computer Science, received \$70,000 from Ford Motor Company to continue the Special American Business Internship Program that brings foreign engineers and scientists to southeast Michigan to work alongside Ford engineers as well as interact with Dearborn faculty members and students.

Paul Richardson, associate professor of electrical and computer engineering, received \$42,186 from the U.S. Army Tank Automotive Command (TACOM) to conduct the Winter 2007 Vetronics Institute workshops held at TACOM. Researchers from other institutions who do research in the area of vehicle electronics attend these workshops that are offered two or three times a year.

Michael Thomas, director of the Partners Plus Program, was awarded \$24,840 from the Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Growth to fund the GEAR UP/College Day Program at UM-Dearborn.

Hong-Tae Kang, assistant professor of mechanical engineering, received a \$9,000 grant from the Office of the Vice President for Research for his project "Numerical Simulation for Spot Friction Welding Processes of Magnesium Alloys."

Georgina Hickey, associate professor in social sciences, received \$2,500 from the Michigan Campus Compact for her project "Academic Service-Learning Faculty Fellows Development Program."

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.

News Brief

EIC offers gardening programs for children

The Environmental Interpretive Center is offering hands-on gardening programs for children ages 4 to 9 this summer.

In the "Sprouts" program, children ages 7 to 9 will sow and tend a garden plot. Other activities include gardening games, crafts, science experiments, composting and a visit to the campus honeybee hives.

In the "Kinder-gardening" program, children ages 4 to 6 and their parents will share a common garden plot with other families and plant vegetables and flowers.

"Kinder-gardeners" will meet from 9 a.m. to 10:15 a.m. on Saturdays from May 19 through Aug. 18.

"Sprouts" will meet from 10:45 a.m. to noon on Saturdays from May 19 through Aug. 18.

Both programs will end with a Harvest Day celebration, where participants will incorporate everything they learned during the planting season and eat some of the garden produce.

Carrie Cassidy, a UM-Dearborn student naturalist, will lead this year's programs.

The fee for either program is \$35 per child. Registration forms can be printed at <http://www.umd.umich.edu/dept/na/kidsgarden.htm>. Registration ends on May 5.

To register, or for more information, call Cassidy at (248) 207-3351.



'Students come back changed'

Seven members of the campus community were among 14 Detroit area volunteers

who spent their spring break doing community service in Lake Charles, La. as part of the long-term recovery efforts to rebuild the Gulf Coast area devastated by the 2005 hurricanes.

Student activities supervisor Randy Dillard made the trip to Louisiana March 10-17 with seniors Kawthar Ali, Natalie Brookins, Theresa Kowalczyk and Ryan Schreiber, junior Adam Harris and sophomore Kristen Lewis.

The endeavor was part of a United Way

for Southeastern Michigan program called Alternative Spring Break 2007, in which students engage in community service during spring break. This year's program, sponsored by FedEx and GameStop/EB Games, had volunteers clearing debris, restoring local schools and nature trails, and repairing some of the more than 1,700 homes that still had roofs covered with temporary tarps to prevent further damage.

"Experiences like Alternative Spring Break that take individuals out of their comfort zones can be a transformative process for young adults," Dillard said. "Students come back changed with a different worldview of how they fit into the grand scheme of things. We hope this sparks something in them so that when they return home they will start to develop a lifelong commitment to improving and making a difference in their own communities."

MTV, the program's media sponsor, filmed a documentary about this year's effort called "The Amazing Break," which aired the weekend of March 23.



From left, Kristen Lewis, Adam Harris, Kawthar Ali, Randy Dillard, Theresa Kowalczyk and Ryan Schreiber. Not pictured is Natalie Brookins.

High-schoolers invited to 'Maize and Blue Day'

UM-Dearborn will host a free "Maize and Blue Day" event for prospective high school sophomores and juniors from 1:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. Sunday April 22.

The event will give participants the opportunity to attend a college class, learn about the more than 80 degree programs at UM-Dearborn, and talk with faculty, alumni and students. Attendees also will tour campus and learn about university resources during an informational fair. Prospective students may bring family and friends to the event.

"Maize and Blue Day is an open house that showcases the best that the University of Michigan-Dearborn has to offer," said Christopher W. Tremblay, director of admissions and orientation.

Space is limited. To register, or for more information, contact David M. Stephens at dmstephe@umd.umich.edu or visit www.umd.umich.edu/maizeandblue to register online.

Kudos

Suzanne Bergeron, associate professor of social sciences and director of the Women's and Gender Studies Program, was recently invited to join the editorial board of the *International Feminist Journal of Politics*, "a cross-cultural and international forum to foster debate and dialogue at the intersection of international relations, politics and women's studies," according to the journal's Web site. "It features research on women, gender relations and sexuality from the perspectives of international relations, globalization studies, international political economy, development studies, and political theory."

Patricia Jones, CASL co-op director, presented a talk titled "Is the Student the Only Benefactor?" at the national conference for the Cooperative Education and Internship Association in Dallas last month. Jones also was elected to the board of directors for the association at the meeting and will begin a two-year term as vice president for marketing and member services.

(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.)

Gaining the 'computer advantage'



The Department of Computer and Information Science hosted "Computer Advantage and Technology Saturday" on March 24 to create interest, raise awareness and provide career exploration in computer science for young girls in grades 6 to 12, including Cadette Girl Scouts who wanted to earn project interest badges.

The event included five hands-on workshops to develop computer skills and Internet techniques using Microsoft's office suite to create documents, presentations, spreadsheets and publications.

In the photo above, volunteers Mawa Mustafa (standing, left) and Biljana Sekuloska (standing, right) assist two Girl Scouts with one of the workshop tasks.

"Overall the Computer Advantage and Technology Saturday event was a success and had a positive effect on those who participated," according to Martha Casing, a software engineering student who created the program. "Judging by the positive comments and e-mails from parents and volunteers alike, this event will be conducted again in the Fall with the Girl Scouts and expanded to surrounding areas. In the near future, we are planning to host a separate event with the Boy Scouts."

Other than Casing, students who volunteered their time for the event included Marlene Assenmacher, Holly Diener, Marianne Mara and Biljana Sekuloska as well as Upsilon Pi Epsilon president Nicholas Martineau and vice-president Jason Sabada.