

# Reporter

The University of Michigan-Dearborn

September 10, 2007

## New student numbers reach all-time high

Freshman enrollment will set an all-time record this fall, according to numbers gathered the first day of classes. The number of freshmen students at the campus is 902 this term, up from 783 at this time last fall.

Overall campus enrollment is also higher than a year ago, both in terms of head count and the number of student credit hours, as of the beginning of the semester.

The campus's official enrollment numbers won't be completed until the end of the "drop-add" period later this month, but the first-day numbers are a clear indication that UM-Dearborn is attracting more students, according to Stanley E. Henderson, vice chancellor for enrollment management and student life.

In fact, the number of new first-year students usually goes up at the campus between the first day of classes and the census day.

The quality of the incoming students remains strong, Henderson said. "More than 300 of the freshmen are in our scholarship ranges, the highest in at least six years, and 62 percent above the six-year average," he said.

The average high-school GPA of UM-Dearborn's first-year students was 3.5, and the average ACT score was 24.

"Diversity numbers are especially strong as well: We are up 60 percent over last year in the total number of African-American, Latino and Latina, and Native American first-year students," Henderson said. "At this point, it looks as though we'll have 39 more students from the Detroit Public Schools, a 217 percent increase over last year."

## Campus gets high marks in magazine ratings

UM-Dearborn was rated fourth among master's-level public universities in the Midwest in the annual guide to American colleges published by U.S. News & World Report.

In addition, the campus's College of Engineering and Computer Science was rated among the top undergraduate engineering programs in the country at schools without doctoral programs. The magazine publishes that list for "students who prefer a program focused on undergraduates."

The ratings appeared in the magazine's annual guide to America's best colleges, published August 27.

In the magazine's ratings, UM-Dearborn is compared with other public universities that offer a full range of undergraduate and master's degree programs, but few or no doctoral degrees. Those institutions are rated by region because they tend to draw students from their surrounding areas, according to U.S. News.

The magazine said it bases its overall rankings "on quantitative measures that education experts have proposed as reliable indicators of academic quality." Their rankings of engineering programs are based on a peer survey of deans and senior faculty members at schools around the country.

"The university's high ranking is just one more piece of evidence that tells students and their families what exceptional opportunities are here at UM-Dearborn," according to Stanley E. Henderson, vice chancellor for enrollment management and student life.

"The real measure of our quality is found in our students, and in the contributions they make to our region after they graduate."

## Off to a good start



Members of UM-Dearborn's largest-ever freshman class filed into the Fieldhouse for the annual convocation ceremony last week (top photo). This year's class of more than 900 first-year students came from 175 high schools, six states and four countries.

At the ice cream social following the ceremony (bottom photo), new student Gary Grima (left) met with Marilee Parsons (right), associate professor of biochemistry.



## \$1 million NSF grant will support geoscience education and outreach

UM-Dearborn's Geosciences Institute for Education and Research has received a grant from the National Science Foundation (NSF) worth more than \$1 million over the next five years to expand and diversify its spring and summer earth science programs for Detroit area middle and high school teachers.

"The NSF believes our program could possibly represent a national model for incorporating diversity in the geosciences," according to Kent Murray, professor of geology and environmental science and director of the Institute.

Established in 2003, the Institute is a consortium of faculty, undergraduate and graduate students and local geologists who work with local earth science teachers and their students to demonstrate how the geosciences can be used to solve community-based environmental problems. Through the program, school teachers participate in faculty research projects sponsored by the NSF, the Environmental Protection Agency and the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

"Our program is designed to extend research and learning opportunities in the geosciences to underrepresented groups within the Detroit metropolitan area," Murray said. "More important, it includes the continual mentoring of earth science teachers, like encouraging teachers to pursue undergraduate and graduate degrees in geology, exposing their students to the geosciences and making those students aware of career opportunities in the geosciences."

Fewer than 20 percent of earth science teachers in Detroit schools had a college course in geology, Murray said. Education Week magazine reported that the dropout rate of Detroit high schools students is more than

40 percent, he noted.

"We have refined the Institute's goal over the past few years to focus primarily on middle school students," Murray said. "It's imperative to reach these at-risk students before they reach high school."

"Although our goal is to enhance the diversity of the geosciences, we think a broader impact locally will be to empower students to stay in school and to go to college."

For eight week-long sessions each July, and on Saturday mornings during the months of March and April, local middle and high school teachers and their top students converge at the UM-Dearborn campus for hands-on research experience.

For instance, teachers and students have worked with geologists to investigate air-fall deposition from the Central Wayne incinerator and its impact on public health; assisted with heavy-metal analysis of soil from active and inactive brownfield sites in southwest Detroit; and studied the land-use impact on groundwater and surface-water quality.

In 2006, the program was expanded to include a media arts workshop, led by UM-Dearborn lecturer Charlie Meyers, in which students videotape each other as they work on geoscience projects. And Jacob Napieralski, assistant professor of geology at UM-Dearborn, holds sessions about Geographic Information Systems (GIS) where students use software and geographic data to capture and analyze information about their local schools and neighborhoods.

"We think these types of locally relevant, inquiry-based programs can make a difference," Murray said.



## Welcome Week has nautical theme

This year's Welcome Week celebration takes place Sept. 11 through Sept. 14 and will include numerous nautical-themed activities to welcome students, faculty and staff back to campus.

A volunteer project, movie, campus-wide picnic, a "Casino Night" and "Motown Revue" are just a few of the fun activities that will take place this week.

The campus community can kick off Welcome Week with a two-day volunteer project assisting the United Way for Southeastern Michigan's Ray West Memorial Ramp Project.

On Friday, Sept. 7 and Saturday, Sept. 8, project volunteers will help build wheelchair ramps for adults and children with physical disabilities. To volunteer for the project, contact Randy Dillard at rdillard@umd.umich.edu.

On Tuesday, Sept. 11, a "Welcome Back Bash" will be held from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. behind the UC. The event will include a picnic, inflatable games and novelty items and a department and student organization fair. The bash is hosted by the Student Activities Office, Army ROTC and the U-M Alumni Association.

After the bash, the Mardigian Library will host a "College Feud" game show from 2:30 p.m. to 4 p.m. in Kochoff Hall. Student teams will compete against faculty and staff teams for prizes.

Later, Campus Video will host an independent film festival from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. in Kochoff Hall. And, Wolfpack—a new student organization dedicated to supporting UM-Dearborn athletics—will host a tailgate from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. prior to the 7 p.m. women's volleyball game against Aquinas College.

On Wednesday, Sept. 12, the Greek Leadership Council and UM-Dearborn athletes will host games, an ice cream social and an X-Box tournament from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. in Kochoff Hall. Also during that time, the ROTC will host a rock-climbing wall, football toss and a Humvee simulator behind the UC.

Later that evening, local artists will cover Motown tunes during the "Motown Revue" from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. in Kochoff Hall. Also, the Department of Athletics will host an X-Box tournament finale from 8 p.m. to 10 p.m. at the Fieldhouse.

On Thursday, Sept. 13, numerous activities will take place around campus from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., including a jam session by local bands on the UC stage, courtesy WUMD, and Wolfpack water balloon games on the lawn between the Mardigian Library and the UC. Also, the ROTC will return with another day of rock-climbing, football tosses and the Humvee simulator behind the UC.

Later that evening, Kochoff Hall will be transformed into a mock Las Vegas for Casino Night, which will include games, music and an Elvis impersonator.

Closing the week on Friday, Sept. 14 will be a "Conversation on Race" from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. in Kochoff Hall which will feature a presentation by Charles Pugh, who co-anchors the weekend news on WJBK-TV. Pugh will discuss race, homosexuality and the media, and how media affects what is perceived in metropolitan Detroit.

Later that evening, the campus community and its families can watch a free showing of *Shrek* 3 from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. in Kochoff Hall.

For more information about Welcome Week, visit [http://sao.umd.umich.edu/sao\\_events\\_and\\_programs/](http://sao.umd.umich.edu/sao_events_and_programs/) or contact the Student Activities Office at 593-5390.

## New academic year event

Chancellor Daniel Little will host a New Academic Year Celebration from 2:30 p.m. to 4 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 27 in the University Center's Kochoff Hall. Faculty and staff members are invited to meet new colleagues and visit with old friends.

## SoM boosts Middle East businesses

Fifteen entrepreneurs based in Yemen will spend two weeks as interns at local Dearborn businesses this October thanks to a partnership between the School of Management and the American-Arab Chamber of Commerce.

As part of the partnership, accounting Prof. Mohamed Bayou spent two weeks in Yemen earlier this year conducting two one-week seminars for 136 Yemeni entrepreneurs in Sana'a and Aden. Bayou was joined by two members of the American-Arab Chamber of Commerce, Ali Shami and Asmaa Jamil, who also taught some sessions.

"The number of participants was triple what we had expected," according to Bayou. "We were able to reach out to many more people who clearly wanted to learn about how to start and grow a business."

"There was a good mix of participants in each location, with roughly 35 percent of them being women, and a number of the participants came from more remote, rural areas," according to Barbara Peitsch, the project's director.

The seminar leaders selected 15 participants from the two seminars, based on the quality of their business plans, their attendance and their level of participation in the seminars, to spend two weeks in Dearborn in internships with local businesses.

The seminars and internships are supported by a \$250,000 grant the School of Management

received last fall from the U.S. Department of State to promote entrepreneurship in Yemen.

In addition to the work in Yemen, Bayou has provided leadership for the School of Management project to upgrade business and economics education at the University of Garyounis in Benghazi, Libya. The three-year program is sponsored by the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), the U.S. Department of State's Middle East Partnership Initiative (MEPI), and Higher Education for Development (HED), a Washington based non-governmental organization. Bayou grew up in Benghazi and attended the University of Garyounis as an undergraduate. He traveled to Libya in July to assess the curriculum and meet with local stakeholders.

Bayou plans to spend the winter semester in Libya teaching accounting and working with junior and senior faculty to develop their teaching and research capabilities. Many more exchanges are planned in both directions over the next two and a half years.



Bayou

## THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN-DEARBORN

### Senior Officers

Daniel Little, Ph.D., *Chancellor*; Susan Martin, Ph.D., *Provost & Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs*; Edward Bagale, M.B.A., *Vice Chancellor for Government Relations*; Thomas Baird, M.Ed., *Vice Chancellor for Institutional Advancement*; Robert G. Behrens, M.A., *Vice Chancellor for Business Affairs*; Stanley E. Henderson, M.A., *Vice Chancellor for Enrollment Management and Student Life*

### Academic Deans

Kathryn M. Anderson-Levitt, Ph.D., *College of Arts, Sciences, and Letters*; Kim Schatzel (interim), Ph.D., *School of Management*; Subrata Sengupta, Ph.D., *College of Engineering and Computer Science*; Paul Zions, Ph.D., *School of Education*

### Regents of the University

Julia Donovan Darlow, Laurence B. Deitch, Olivia P. Maynard, Rebecca McGowan, Andrea Fischer Newman, Andrew C. Richner, S. Martin Taylor, Katherine E. White, Mary Sue Coleman, *ex officio*

### Citizens Advisory Committee

Stephen Economy, Mark Gaffney, Hassan Jaber, Gail Mee, Patricia Mooradian, Timothy O'Brien, Jon Pepper, Maria Leonhauser, Shirley R. Stancato

### Nondiscrimination Policy Statement

The University of Michigan, as an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer, complies with all applicable federal and state laws regarding nondiscrimination and affirmative action, including Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. The University of Michigan is committed to a policy of nondiscrimination and equal opportunity for all persons regardless of race, sex\*, color, religion, creed, national origin or ancestry; age, marital status, sexual orientation, disability, or Vietnam-era veteran status in employment, educational programs and activities, and admissions. Inquiries or complaints may be addressed to the Senior Director for Institutional Equity and Title IX/Section 504 Coordinator, Office for Institutional Equity, 2072 Administrative Services Building, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48109-1432, 734-763-0235, TTY 734-647-1388. For other University of Michigan information call 734-764-1817.

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

## Publication calendar

The next issue of the *Reporter* will be published on September 24. News items must be delivered to the Office of University Relations, 1040 Administration Building, at least 10 days prior to the publication date.

Terry Gallagher, editor (tgallagh@umich.edu)  
Jennifer Sroka, public relations representative (jasroka@umd.umich.edu)  
Janis Ward Ney, senior graphic designer

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*.

## Obituary

### Prof. Marilyn Rosenthal died last month

Marilynn Rosenthal, professor emerita of sociology, died Aug. 9 of cancer. She was 77 years old.

"Her participation in the academic life of both the Ann Arbor and Dearborn campuses has made Professor Rosenthal an important link between the two campuses," the U-M Regents said in the announcement of her appointment to professor emerita in 2003. "Professor Rosenthal has maintained a superb program of research that has made her an internationally recognized expert in health care systems. She is widely published in the areas of medical mishaps and health policy issues and has received many honors and awards for her work."

Rosenthal served as director of the Health Policy Studies program at UM-Dearborn for more than a decade, and served as associate director of the U-M Medical School's Society and Medicine Program. She had coordinated the University of Michigan Forum on Health Policy since 1994 and was part of the medical school liberal arts program for premedical students.

Rosenthal's primary research interests were in comparative health care systems, physician self-

regulation, and medical malpractice. Her research has been published in numerous books, journals, and articles. She also had been a visiting scholar, fellow or professor at institutions such as Columbia University, Dartmouth University, Oxford University and Harvard University.

Rosenthal was active in organizing conferences and had been a long-standing member and a chair of the Medical Affairs Advisory Committee to the University of Michigan Vice President for Medical and Health Affairs. She also served on a variety of other university committees.

She received numerous awards, including the Michigan Association of Governing Bodies Distinguished Faculty Award, the UM-Dearborn Distinguished Faculty Research Award, and the U-M Faculty Recognition Award for her research, service and teaching. Her book, *The Incompetent Doctor*, won a 1995 Baxter Distinguished Submission Award. In 2002, Rosenthal received the Faculty Member of the Year Award from UM-Dearborn's Alumni Society.

Rosenthal earned a bachelor's degree at Wayne State University and her master's and doctoral degrees at U-M Ann Arbor. She joined the UM-Dearborn faculty as an assistant professor in 1976 and was promoted to associate professor in 1982 and professor in 1988. In 2002, she was appointed adjunct professor of internal medicine.

Survivors include her daughter, Helen; son-in-law Carmen Marino; and her grandchildren, Madeleine and Alexandra.



Rosenthal

## News Brief

### EIC hosts guided nature hikes Saturdays this fall

The Environmental Interpretive Center will host a series of free, guided nature hikes on the trails of the campus's Natural Areas this fall.

Beginning Sept. 8 through Oct. 6, the hikes will be held from 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. each Saturday at the Center. Participants will learn about

the changes that occur in plant and animal activity from late summer through fall. No registration is required and participants are welcome to attend as many hikes as they wish.

For more information, call the Center at 593-5338.

## Sponsored Research News

### Indirect cost revenue and grant awards at all-time high

Last fiscal year represented the greatest grant and contract activity in the history of the Dearborn campus. The total dollar value of grants and contracts awarded to UM-Dearborn for research, instruction, and public service activities was \$6,051,786, or \$1 million more than our previous record in 2004 and \$2.5 million more than last year.

In addition, indirect costs (IDC) recovered from grants was \$770,616, another record-breaker. Indirect cost revenue from external grants pays for Ann Arbor research services (a fee of \$111,289 charged by Ann Arbor for DRDA and sponsored-programs accounting of Dearborn grants) and 20 percent of the IDC (\$156,000) is contributed to Dearborn's general fund to offset the cost of the Office of Research and Sponsored Programs (which is fully paid for by IDC revenue).

The remainder (about 65 percent) of IDC revenue is distributed as a research incentive as follows:

Faculty Member (Principal Investigator)	15 percent
Department	12 percent
School/College	25 percent
Central Research Match Fund	48 percent

The current indirect cost rate for federal and industrial on-campus research projects is 52 percent (not applied to equipment or graduate student tuition); one-third of the budget of a typical National Science Foundation proposal will be indirect costs. Also referred to as "facilities and administrative costs" (F&A), IDC covers costs that can't be directly attributed to specific projects, such as space use, utilities, insurance, and research administration.

### Dearborn Institutional Review Board scrutinized

As reported in the June 18 issue of the Reporter, Dearborn's Human-Subjects Committee or Institutional Review Board (IRB) for human-subject protection as well as associated processes and record-keeping practices were closely examined in May 2007 by University Audits, an office of the University of Michigan housed in Ann Arbor. We were given a clean bill of health.

In addition, a team from the Association for the Accreditation of Human Research Protection Programs (AAHRPP) came to the Dearborn Campus in June to perform a similar, more in-depth review. Several Dearborn faculty members and other people associated with the IRB-Dearborn were interviewed and a sample of records was examined.

The University received a 26-page report of the site visit, which included observations and recommendations applicable to all five U-M IRBs, not just Dearborn's. The University filed a comprehensive response and is currently waiting for word back from AAHRPP, expected in late September. Accreditation of U-M's human subject protection program is expected to have a higher level of acceptance by a wide range of federal and non-federal agencies sponsoring human research at the University and it is expected to reduce the potential or perceived risk of subjects involved in research at the University.

As a result of this increased scrutiny and the importance of accreditation to U-M, it is important that faculty and students apply for IRB approval or contact the Office of Research and Sponsored Programs if they are planning research projects that involve direct interaction with humans (surveys, interviews, focus groups, blood pressure mea-

surements, EKG, etc.) or make use of identifiable personal or private information about living humans (data that is not publicly-available, such as census records). Applications are prepared and submitted on-line and more information can be obtained by going to <http://www.research.umd.umich.edu/5879/> or by calling 593-5468.

#### Awards received:

**Martha Adler**, assistant professor in the School of Education, was awarded \$1,134,494 from the U.S. Department of Education for a collaboration with the Dearborn Public Schools to improve classroom instruction for students who speak English as a second language through professional development programs for local teachers.

**Paul Richardson**, associate professor of electrical and computer engineering received two additional funding awards from the U.S. Army TA-COM. The first award, for \$529,996, will enable him to continue to provide expertise on remotely operated construction equipment for maneuver support. The second award for \$388,380 will enable Richardson to continue to work on developing and implementing a robotic kit for a family of medium tactical vehicles. In addition, he received \$10,000 from the Global Technologies Inc. to continue a project to develop diagnostic and prognostic capabilities for unmanned ground vehicles with the U.S. Army.

**Pravansu Mohanty**, associate professor of mechanical engineering, received \$489,446 additional funding from the Department of the Navy to continue his project titled "On-Demand Custom Body Implants and Protheses."

**Jie Shen**, assistant professor of computer and information science, and collaborators **Chi Chow**, professor of mechanical engineering, **David Yoon**, associate professor of computer and information science, **Ghassan Kridli**, associate professor of industrial manufacturing systems engineering, and **Chris Mi**, associate professor of electrical and computer engineering, were awarded \$300,000 from the National Science Foundation for the purchase of a high-energy and high-resolution X-ray tomography system which will be used for measuring crack initiation and propagation and failure of engineering materials.

**Ben Li**, professor and chair of the Department of Mechanical Engineering, received \$169,938 from the National Aeronautics and Space Administration for his project titled "Modeling Study of Instability and Internal Flows in Levitated Droplets Under Microgravity." He also received an \$80,000 grant from eV Products and the Department of the Army for his project "Development of a Microscopic model for Crystal Growth of CdZnTe and integration with Macroscopic Model for Transport Phenomena."

**Yi Lu Murphey**, professor and chair of the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, received \$58,347 additional funding from Ford Motor Company to continue to develop a software tool for a text search engine.

**William Grosky**, professor and chair of the Department of Computer and Information Science, received \$44,330 additional funding from Wayne State University in partnership with the Michigan Economic Development Corporation to continue research on biocomputing and bioengineering tools for surgical applications.

**Krisanu Bandyopadhyay**, assistant professor of natural sciences, has received \$40,000 from the American Chemical Society for his project titled "Functionalized Surfaces as Templates for In-Situ Formation of Gold Nanoparticles Catalyst."

**Yung-Wen Liu**, assistant professor of industrial and manufacturing systems engineering, received \$10,000 from the Henry Ford Health System to analyze and develop computer-simulation

models for reducing racial and ethnic disparities in health care.

**Gary Rodgers**, general manager of the Henry Ford Estate, received a \$10,000 grant from the Motorcities National Heritage area to build a new visitor kiosk at the Estate.

**Orin Gelderloos**, professor of biology and director of the Environmental Interpretative Center, received \$3,500 from the U.S. Department of the Interior to fund a project to monitor Odonata (dragonflies and damselflies) in the Detroit River International Wildlife Refuge.

**Jacqueline Vansant**, professor of humanities, received a \$2,682 grant from the Office of the Vice President for Research for her project "Schwarz auf weiss: Ein transatlantisches Würdigungsbuch" a book that she co-edited which honors Germanist Egon Schwarz.

## News Briefs

### HFE hosts spaghetti dinner

The Henry Ford Estate will host a spaghetti dinner and silent auction event from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. Friday, Sept. 14 to benefit community programs at the Estate.

The event will include a dinner of pasta, salad and bread along with a silent auction inside the historic Pool Dining Room.

Cost is \$10 for adults and \$5 for children. For more information, call 593-5590.

### Get in touch with spiders

The Environmental Interpretive Center will host a free "Spider Night" event from 9 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. Friday, Sept. 28. Participants will have the opportunity to search for spiders, which become more active at dusk and after dark, to observe their behavior. Participants should bring a flashlight and be prepared for mosquitoes.

### Young naturalists program

The Environmental Interpretive Center is accepting registration for its 2007-2008 Young Naturalist Program, a year-round study of the natural world for children ages 9-10.

Program sessions, which are held once a month September through June, give participants a chance to combine experiences in the outdoor classroom with indoor laboratory investigations using microscopes and other tools of science.

Each participant will receive a field pack with a journal, hand lens, bug box and field guides to use during the program. Participants will spend most of the program outdoors exploring the campus's Natural Areas.

The cost of the program is \$70. Deadline to register is Sept. 25. To register, call 583-6371.

### 'Promoting the Publics'

UM-Dearborn will participate in the fifth annual "Promoting the Publics" from 7:45 a.m. to 1:15 p.m. Friday, Sept. 21 in East Lansing.

"Promoting the Publics" is an event for high school counselors and career center coordinators to learn more about the 15 public state universities. The event, which is sponsored by the Directors of Admissions at State Universities in Michigan, will take place at Michigan State University's Kellogg Hotel and Conference Center.

"This event is like a college fair for school counselors to educate and update themselves to take information back to the students they serve. It's an incredible resource for them," according to Christopher Tremblay, director of admissions and orientation.

## 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.



## Campus welcomes new tenure-track faculty

UM-Dearborn welcomed 16 new full-time tenure track faculty members at an orientation session coordinated by the Provost's Office at the end of August.

Eight of the new faculty members are featured below. The remaining eight will be featured in the Sept. 24 issue of the Reporter.

**Heidi Abadeh**, assistant professor in the School of Education, earned a bachelor's degree at Eastern Michigan University and master's and doctoral degrees at Wayne State University. She previously taught at Wayne State University and in the Dearborn Public Schools.

Her research interests include Arab American/bilingual parents of children with special needs, Arab American/bilingual children with special needs, and special education issues.



Abadeh

Abadeh is a member of the Council for Exceptional Children, the largest international professional organization dedicated to improving educational outcomes for students with disabilities. She has served as a member of Dearborn's City Beautiful Commission and as a board member of Riverside Academy and has been involved with the Arab Community Center for Economic and Social Services.

**Radwan Abu-Issa**, assistant professor of biology, has earned degrees including a research doctorate from the University of Bologna in Italy, and a Ph.D. at Baylor College of Medicine. In addition, he has held several postdoctoral research fellowships at Duke University, Baylor College and with the Italian government.



Abu-Issa

His research interests include the study of early heart development in vertebrates, particularly morphological and molecular mechanisms of heart development in amniotes.

His recent publications include the articles "Heart Fields: One, Two or More" and "Secondary Heart Field Contributes Myocardium and Smooth Muscle to Arterial Pole of the Developing Heart" in *Developmental Biology*.

**Sara Elizabeth Byrd**, assistant professor in the School of Education, earned a bachelor's degree at Central Michigan University, a master's degree at Eastern Michigan University and a doctoral degree at the University of Kansas. She previously served as a practicum supervisor, research associate and project



Byrd

coordinator at the University of Kansas Center for Research on Learning.

Her research interests focus on at-risk learners and prevention, learning disabilities, emotional/behavioral disorders, violent-aggressive behaviors, and cognitive-behavioral interventions.

Her work has appeared in numerous refereed journals, including the *Journal of Learning Disabilities*, *Learning Disability Quarterly* and *Education and Treatment of Children*. She also has presented at many conferences in Missouri, Kansas, Georgia, Nevada and Michigan.

**Anne Danielson-Francois**, assistant professor of biology, earned her bachelor's degree at Swarthmore College and her master's and doctoral degrees at the University of Arizona. She previously taught at Rice University, where she served as a Huxley Faculty Fellow. She also held several postdoctoral fellowships at the University of Kansas.

Her research interests focus on exploring how genetic variation in mating behavior evolves and is maintained in natural populations, including evolution of behavior; sexual selection; quantitative genetics of mating behavior; conservation biology and speciation of arthropods.



Danielson-Francois

Her work has been published in the *Journal of Evolutionary Biology*, the *Journal of Arachnology* and the *Journal of Insect Behavior*. She also has presented her work at numerous seminars and conferences across the country.

**J. Caitlin Finlayson** (not pictured), assistant professor of English, earned a bachelor's degree at Vassar College, a master's degree at University of Virginia and her doctoral degree at the University of Toronto. Most recently, she served as a university fellow/senior lecturer of literary studies at the University of Texas at Dallas.

Her research interests include early modern literature with an emphasis on drama; Shakespeare; adaptations of Shakespeare; medieval and restoration drama; book history/print culture; and poetic form and theory.

Her work on "Medieval Sources for Keatsian Creation in La Belle Dame sans Merci" appeared in *Philological Quarterly* and been presented at many conferences. She is working on a book-length project on *The Publication of Performance in the Early Modern Marketplace* and articles on Thomas Middleton and Thomas Heywood.

**Jorge Gonzalez del Pozo**, assistant professor of Spanish, earned bachelor's degrees at the University of Valladolid in Spain, master's degrees at Valladolid and the University of Kentucky, and a doctoral degree at the University of Kentucky. He previously taught courses in beginning, intermediate and advanced Spanish, business and economic Spanish and advanced composition through textual analysis.



Gonzalez del Pozo

His research interests include Hispanic contemporary literature, Hispanic film, Spanish theater and transatlantic Hispanic connections. His work has been published in Lexington's bilingual newspaper *La Voz* and *disClosure*, the University of Kentucky's *Journal of Social Theory*.

Gonzalez del Pozo was active in administrative roles at University of Kentucky, serving

as course leader of Spanish 202 and as assistant to the director of undergraduate studies in the Department of Hispanic Studies. He also served as vice-president of the Hispanic Studies Graduate Student Association at the university.

**Kirsten Dara Hill**, assistant professor of reading and language arts, earned a bachelor's degree at U-M Ann Arbor, a master's degree at Wayne State University and her doctoral degree at Michigan State University. She previously taught at California State University, Fresno, and Michigan State.

Her research interests focus on the use of literature-based instruction, critical race theory and culturally responsive pedagogy to help students negotiate literate identity in an affluent suburb as well as examining the perspectives and writing of minority students in an affluent suburb.



Hill

She has presented her work at numerous conferences around the country, Canada and Jamaica. She is a member of the American Educational Research Association, the International Reading Association, National Council of Teachers of English and the Michigan Reading Association.

**William Lekse** (not pictured), assistant professor of management studies, earned his bachelor's degree at the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy, a master's degree at Duquesne University and a doctoral degree at the University of Pittsburgh. He previously taught at Babson College, Santa Maria University in Ecuador and the University of Pittsburgh. He is past president/founder of Black Diamond Company and past president and acting CEO of Blue Danube Inc.

His research interests include strategic leadership, entrepreneurship, managing technology transformations and knowledge management.

Lekse has presented his work at numerous conferences and has published research in publications such as *Journal of Media Business Studies*, *Information and Management*, *Frontiers of Entrepreneurship Research*, the *Journal of E-Business*, *Innovations* and the *International Journal of eBusiness and Strategy*.

## Kudos

**Paul Drais**, assistant professor of sociology and health policy studies, has delivered an opening plenary address, a keynote address, and a paper at an international seminar in the last six months. In April, he delivered the Plenary Address at the Rural Center for AIDS/STD Prevention National Conference in Bloomington, Indiana titled "Notes from the Hidden Country: Exploring Illicit Substance Use in the Rural Midwest." In June, he gave the keynote address, titled "Hidden Populations, Vulnerable Populations: Addressing HIV-Related Stigma in Rural Communities," at a conference organized by the Midwest AIDS Training and Education Center, Wayne State University School of Medicine, and the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians in Sault Ste. Marie. In August, Drais presented a paper titled "Digging Detroit: Drugs, Work and Worth in the Aftermath of Abandonment" as part of the seminar series "Vital Geographies" at Cambridge University.

(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](mailto:tgallagh@umich.edu).)