March 2015

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March is . . . Women’s History Month!

MSU’s Award Worthy Women

2014-2015

Rebecca Grumet
William J. Beal Outstanding Faculty Award
Meg Abebe

Balancing career and other dimensions of life can vary for different people, but what is right for the individual will always work. According to Dr. Rebecca Grumet of the Department of Horticulture, trying your best and doing what you love to do is essential whenever possible. She certainly embodies her own advice.

Throughout the 28 years she has spent at Michigan State University, Grumet has served numerous roles. Besides being a Professor of Horticulture, she has also served as the Acting Director of Graduate Programs in Plant Breeding, Genetics and Bio-Technology; the interim director for the graduate program in Genetics, and numerous other leadership positions within the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources.

Currently, her research focuses on genetics; more specifically on the role of ethylene during floral sex determination and other factors that influence fruit size and shape in melons and cucumbers. She also expresses interest in biotechnology biosafety.

Despite all her accomplishments, Grumet attributes her successes to being part of a team. Ranging from students, post-docs, visiting scientists or technicians, and faculty colleagues, she could not be more thankful.

Anita Skeen
William J. Beal Outstanding Faculty Award
Meg Abebe

The power of a poem can be easily overlooked, yet its ability to transcend language among all art forms is formidable.

The Center for Poetry at MSU made its debut when the Residential College of the Arts and Humanities (RCAH) was first initiated in 2007. When given a chance, then English professor Anita Skeen, jumped at the opportunity. For her, it was a natural decision.

Growing up around cadences of Biblical Literature and the beauty of the natural world certainly has had an influence on the way she perceived herself. However, it took only one creative writing class for Skeen to recognize her true calling. “I think I have always been a poet, I just didn’t realize it until graduate school.”

She has certainly done her work in the field – with 6 books, a blog, teaching workshops, and day-to-day operations within the Center, Skeen keeps busy. When it comes to her own poetry, she is passionate about a number of things – environmental issues, feminist discourse and her upbringing in rural West Virginia. However, the subject matter of her poems are not limited to just these few categories. “Anything that crosses my path is material for a poem.”

According to Skeen, poems can be particularly powerful; for instance, in 2014 when an oil spill occurred in Charleston, West Virginia near her hometown, she had written a poem that reached a multitude of people. “I was furious at what had happened and the fact that there had been no oversight by this company. I had to write this poem.” After sending it to a friend back in West Virginia, word got around and pretty soon the Ohio Valley Environmental Coalition asked to publish it.

“I never intended for that to happen but I was really glad it did. But that is sort of how poems can make their way in the world.”

REMEMBER!
To turn your clocks forward 1 hour!
Sunday, March 8th @ 2:00 AM

Celebrating Women of Character, Courage & Commitment
Please Join Us!

Inspirational Woman of the Year Award
~ Recognition Reception ~
Wednesday, March 18, 2015
4:00PM
The University Club

In its inaugural year, the Inspirational Woman of the Year Award recognizes the achievements of women staff and faculty affiliated with Michigan State University (including main campus and all off-site and satellite campuses). The award highlights women-identified individuals who demonstrate integrity, leadership, quality performance, integrative and inclusive action, and influence on campus and in the community. The goal is to elevate and advance MSU’s culture of appreciation for the courageous and empowering work of the women change agents at MSU.

This year’s outstanding recipients are:

Community Outreach Award
Ms. Audrey Bentley—Community Outreach Senior Coordinator, Office for Inclusion and Intercultural Initiatives.

Professional Achievement Award
Dr. Jeanne Wald—Professor, Department of Mathematics.

Culture of Empowerment Award
Dr. Karin Wurst—Advisor to the Provost for Intercultural Learning and Engagement, Office of the Provost.

RSVP to: wr@msu.edu or (517) 353-1635 by Thursday, March 12, 2015.

Launched in 2014, the William J. Beal Outstanding Faculty Award recognizes teaching excellence in engineering.

Meg Abebe

When it comes to research, engineering professor Lalita Udpa is very active. Ranging from working with the nuclear industry to aircrafts, Udpa is passionate about solving some of the world’s most pressing problems.

In addition to the fulfillment she gets from her research, Udpa also enjoys teaching and the interaction she gets from her students. Despite her impressive research pedigree, Udpa has also left her mark in academia, with 25 years under her belt (13 of which have been spent at MSU) and counting.

Teaching one class per semester for the College of Engineering, whether undergraduate or graduate, interacting with students from all over the world is one of her favorite aspects of her profession. “I’ve had graduate students from over 25 different countries, which makes it very interesting. Each student is unique.”

Despite the diversity in students, the enrollment of women has not really increased significantly in engineering fields in the years Udpa has been teaching. “The percentage of women, especially in my undergraduate classes, has not gone up at the rate as much as I would like to see.”

“A lot of my women colleagues talk about not being heard, and I think that can only change if we increase the number of women in engineering.” Even though efforts to increase women in engineering fields are making slow progress, Udpa still manages to leave her mark in the field.

“It is always a good thing to be recognized for what you do. I wouldn’t trade this job for anything.”

To Dr. Anna McAlister, an assistant professor in the Department of Advertising and Public Relations at Michigan State University, receiving this award is a concrete confirmation that the effort she puts into her teaching is highly valued. McAlister received her undergraduate training in Psychology while living in Australia, and after completing her doctoral training in Psychology, she also completed 3 years of post-doctoral training in Marketing. Later moving from Australia to the United States, she began her career at MSU and currently teaches Consumer Behavior in the Advertising department.

Anna McAlister
Teacher Scholar Award
Lauren Dietz

Anna McAlister article continued on page 3
When it comes to her teaching philosophy, McAlister takes a very student-centered approach. She enjoys spending time getting to know her students to better understand what it’s like to be their age in today’s society. While she does not ban the use of phones or laptops in class, McAlister attempts to make what is done in the classroom so engaging that students are inclined to watch and listen. While she has received various awards in the past for her research, this award means a lot since it is the first to recognize her for her teaching. There is a heavy focus on research at MSU, so having her strengths in teaching recognized is a great achievement. Outside of the classroom, McAlister’s current research focuses on how advertising is affecting young people — ranging from preschool to college age — and how they learn about food. She is interested in food and beverage advertising, especially alcohol advertising. McAlister looks at how young people are viewing the world and how they are acquiring understandings of what they believe they “should be doing” via advertising.

Being a woman in the field of Advertising and Public Relations has a lot of significance for Anna McAlister. Having previously worked in a traditionally male-dominated marketing department, she directly understands how being a woman in the workplace can be challenging. Research has been done on college students’ perceptions of professors that indicates the factors most influential in receiving good teaching reviews are being male and being older – both of which McAlister is not. “Being young and being female means it takes extra effort to gain the respect of your students,” says McAlister. Receiving this award will communicate to students and other faculty that she is not someone to be underestimated.

McAlister strongly advises all students and those pursuing careers to “pursue what [they] love” and to never fear change. She is living proof that if you’re doing something that you love, it does not feel like work. She feels extremely privileged to have found a career in such a supportive, nurturing environment that allows her to enjoy going to work every day.

Gail Richmond
Community Engagement Scholarship Award
Meg Abebe

As a woman of many talents and passions—ranging from puppeteering to teaching reproductive ethics—Dr. Gail Richmond’s love of giving back to the community certainly prevails among all.

Now, as an associate professor of Science and Urban Education for the College of Education, Richmond gets to have an impact on a wide range of students through a medium she truly enjoys. Despite being with the college for 20 years, Richmond actually started teaching biology in Lyman Briggs and biology courses for elementary and other non-science majors.

Her experience with teaching science to such diverse groups of students led her to analyze the discrepancies in how the subject was viewed by people of various backgrounds. And it was clear that for many students, the ways in which they experienced science in schools and at the university made the subject more difficult and alienating, and led, for many, to an intense dislike of the subject.

“It was hard for me initially to understand why students did not believe science was the best thing in the world. For me, it answers so many questions about how the world works and for them, it was a discipline that at the very least was pretty obtuse and irrelevant to their lives.”

Richmond believed the trend of disliking science stems from numerous social and material issues that she recognized were more frequently associated with high poverty schools. Ranging from a lack of resources to low levels of teacher retention; the result of such challenges was that students were simply not getting the education that they deserved. And she wanted to do something about it.

When Richmond began in the College of Education, she started to invest time with colleagues in developing and implementing what is now the W.K. Kellogg Foundation’s Woodrow Wilson Teaching Fellowship at MSU. The program recruits graduates who already have degrees in science- or math-related fields, and engages them in rigorous training to help them become teachers in high poverty secondary schools. Fellows come from all over the country, and are admitted to a master’s program in teaching immediately after completing the certification portion of the program. Fellows are required to work at school districts for at least three years and receive ongoing support during this time. Richmond is also PI (principal investigator) and Director of a similar program, funded by the National Science Foundation, which prepares post-graduates to become science teachers in high-poverty schools around the country.

The goal of both programs is to make science both relevant and accessible to students, particularly those in under-resourced schools, to support teachers who are effective and powerful educators, who remain in their careers, and who inspire students and peers alike, and whose work results in the improvement of the health and well-being of families and communities. Richmond also provides science resources for high school students and teachers across the state and nation, and also directs an intensive national research apprenticeship program for students at MSU each summer.

“Fundamentally, what I value is finding ways to provide powerful and accessible science experiences to kids. Whether that’s through programs for students that I direct or as a result of preparing and supporting teachers who are themselves helping youth.”

Lisa Bottomley
Distinguished Academic Staff Award
Meg Abebe

When Lisa Bottomley decided to go on an alternative spring break during her undergraduate years at Central Michigan University, she never knew it would change her life. Serving as the first student chair of the program following a pilot break, her focus in life became clear. “It was powerful for me because I think I was most motivated to work with volunteers.”

As soon as she graduated, Bottomley began working full time at a program serving homeless youth where she worked with volunteers and facilitated a mentoring program. She absolutely loved having a direct impact on youth and running beneficial programs.
Now, as a senior specialist with MSU Extension, she gets to work at her dream job. Every day she has the chance to provide support to engaging mentoring projects, facilitate professional training, and overall help Michigan youth the best way she can.

MSU and every land-grant university in the country has an Extension program, where universities directly provide resources for individuals, businesses and communities around the state. MSU has been helping the state of Michigan for more than 100 years, with youth programs like 4-H Youth Development and other educational platforms.

Bottomley, who specializes in youth mentoring directly has a hand in 4-H; the largest youth development organization in Michigan. In this capacity, she primarily helps create materials to train and provide resources for those running the programs and oversees several grants.

“I had my time, I was able to manage a program and I loved it, but I love touching even more lives this way.”

In her 19 years at MSU, she has had a lot of firsts – such as being the first director of the Weekend MBA program (now known as the Executive MBA), and helping to create the college’s first online graduate program, the MS in Management, Strategy and Leadership. She also directed an interdisciplinary Master’s in Business Analytics for the college, making it one of the first of its kind in the country. “I have to be someone who is a path-breaker. You learn as you go, but it’s fun to be a part of something new and exciting.”

In addition to innovation, Dr. Maillette is committed to creating a much more interdisciplinary workforce. She is involved with faculty initiatives such as the Broad Integrative Fellows, developing faculty in interdisciplinary teaching and research. “As time goes by, we will be more and more in need of people who can be very adaptable. You can’t just look at life very narrowly – you should always ask what else can I do?”

Maillette comes from an interdisciplinary background herself. Starting off as an English major at Aquinas College in Grand Rapids, she has completed graduate degrees from Grand Valley State University and Michigan State University and has work experience as a registrar and continuing education — she certainly is not afraid to expand her interests.

Despite the fact that it might be daunting for some to lead new initiatives, Maillette thinks otherwise. “Believing in something makes things happen.”

The MSU Women’s Resource Center has been hosting a “conversation” event with the Provost since 1986. It originally began as “Coffee with the Provost” and still retains an informal atmosphere for accessing the Provost’s vision for the University. The audience is also encouraged to ask candid questions to gain insight on issues that matter most to them. On Wednesday, February 25, 2015, the MSU WRC once again hosted a “Conversation with the Provost” – this time with newly appointed Provost, Dr. June Pierce Youatt.

Provost Youatt began by outlining her three focus areas for MSU’s campus: 1. Create a climate where everyone can be more successful. 2. Offer support to help faculty become more effective in their teaching and their scholarship. Provost Youatt stated, “We need more great teachers and we need more effective research.” 3. Focus on student success. She emphasized that this is not solely about graduation rates, but ensuring that each student has an equal chance of success on campus; and after they graduate and begin a career.

She continued by offering a more in-depth look into her vision through highlighting the upcoming Work/Life Office and the Healthy Campus Initiative. Provost Youatt explained that there is currently a national search for a work/life executive director underway. The goal of the Work/Life Office is to explore and support people to manage their multiple roles inside and outside of the University. She said, “We cannot compartmentalize our skills.” She understands that the lessons and skills people have developed outside of the workplace, such as parenting, caring for elders, volunteering, committee work, etc., cannot be extrapolated from the people we are as employees or students. Rather, these skills inform the work that we do, and in exchange, the skills we learn on the job also often translate into our personal lives. She summarized by asking, “How can we recruit the best people in the country unless we can show them that we care about and support them as a whole person.” Both the Work/Life Office and the Healthy Campus Initiative are focused on creating support and opportunities for MSU’s population.

Based on questions from the audience, Provost Youatt also touched on topics such as helping students to become better learners. She said, “I don’t want our students to walk away with a piece of paper. They will walk away transformed.” She also discussed unintentional biases and the importance of creating an environment that values diversity and inclusion. Finally, she provided an overview of the demographics of faculty, deans and chairs at MSU. Although 50% of new faculty hires are women, only 10% of department chairs are women. “The system was created by men, for men,” she said of higher education’s structure and as an explanation for low percentages of women in chair positions. She expressed the importance for holding colleges and departments accountable for the retention of the best and brightest minds at MSU.
For Weigel, it was an honor just to be nominated for an Excellence-in-Teaching Citation. She was very thankful to her advisor and recommenders, who were willing to put forth extra work to nominate and recognize her for her achievements in teaching. It meant a great deal to receive word that she would be receiving the award because it signifies quality teaching as a value MSU supports. Weigel very much appreciated the congratulations extended to her by advisors, colleagues, friends, and family.

With the end of her degree approaching, Weigel is being kept busy with writing. In addition to her dissertation, she has two papers in review—one on female investment in reproduction in a fish species and one on using Twitter for the purposes of class discussion—as well as one paper recently accepted on the importance of mentoring undergraduates in ecology and evolution. Although this award is an honor, Weigel is aware of data showing that teaching awards correlate with lower perceptions of research productivity in women. Her hope is that this award shows she is a research scientist who can teach well, rather than a scientist teaching at the cost of her research.

Weigel’s advice to women in the Zoology field and to all students pursuing a career in STEM is to resist underestimating oneself. “It is easy [to] think you don’t belong; don’t listen to those voices” says Weigel. She encourages others to remain present despite your doubts, and by doing this you can do great things.

Emily Weigel
Excellence-in-Teaching Citation
Lauren Dietz

Emily Weigel is currently in her 5th year as a graduate student in Zoology at Michigan State University. She has held various teaching positions over the last four years at MSU. An essential aspect of her teaching philosophy is her ability to relate to students and their learning styles. While caring matters to an extent, Weigel believes it is important for students to exert effort to grasp material and take charge of their own learning.

For Jessica Wallace, a 4th year doctoral candidate in the College of Education’s Department of Kinesiology, this award is assurance that she is doing something right. Wallace received her undergraduate training from the University of Miami in athletic training through the College of Education and later went on to obtain her Masters in Physical Education at the University of Central Florida. After working in athletic training, sports medicine, and teaching high school P.E. in Florida, Wallace made her way to Michigan State University in the fall of 2011 to begin the PhD program in Kinesiology.

While she had never imagined herself teaching college courses, Wallace said teaching high school P.E. classes has led her down this rewarding path of academia, teaching, and research. Wallace takes teaching, education, and learning very seriously but likes to take a fun, passionate approach in the classroom. Her personal teaching philosophy includes getting to know her students as individuals so that she can tailor her classroom teaching approaches to best benefit students. For her, receiving this award means that she is doing a respectable job conveying material to students—“They’re learning, they’re growing, and it’s being noticed and recognized.”

Wallace is currently working on her dissertation conducting research on sport-related concussions in high school athletes across Michigan. She is looking at how much current high school athletes—in both suburban and urban communities—know about concussions as well as how they report any signs and symptoms. Wallace is also interested in variances between schools that employ an athletic trainer and those that do not. In addition to assessing their knowledge and understanding, Wallace has created an intervention program in which she educates the students about concussions in an engaging format, often with the use of “Concussion BINGO.”

Wallace’s advice to women and anyone entering the athletic training/sports medicine field is to take advantage of every opportunity that presents itself to you. “You never know what an opportunity may lead to in the future. It may be a dead end; it may lead you to things that you did not know you were interested in.” She advises all students to “Go after [their] goals”, and highly recommends exploring the many areas of athletic training while still young in their careers.

In her spare time Wallace enjoys yoga, running half-marathons, reading for pleasure, and spending time with her two golden retrievers. She loves to travel and enjoys experiencing new, diverse cultures.

Kalli Decker
Excellence-in-Teaching Award
Lauren Dietz

Kalli Decker, a doctoral student in Michigan State University’s Department of Human Development and Family Studies, is very honored to be recognized for her successes in teaching. Over the course of completing her undergraduate degree, as well as her Master’s in Human Development and Family Studies at MSU, Decker has worked in a variety of roles that prepared her for a position in teaching.

While Decker has won various awards during her decade at MSU, this award feels different since her students played a large part in her nomination. She has great relationships with current, as well as past students, and it meant a lot to her that the ways in which she teaches and engages students is being noticed and appreciated. Decker remains very personable and approachable in and out of the classroom to convey to students that she, herself, has experienced the concepts they are learning. Her main pedagogical approach to teaching is based on experiential learning, and a component of each of her classes is that students also have an opportunity to gain experience outside of the traditional classroom setting, in order to make connections to specific concepts that are discussed within class. She has worked closely with the MSU Child Development Laboratories and MSU’s Center for Service Learning and Civic Engagement to ensure students can incorporate their world experiences with their class learning for final projects.
Decker’s current research revolves around early parent-child communication, specifically for children who have disabilities. She has a passion for supporting children with hearing loss, which is now the focus of her dissertation. Looking at information that parents receive as an early intervention for their child with hearing loss, Decker is investigating a potential relationship between this information and the ways in which they interact with their child. In addition to this research she is also engaged in additional projects related to parent-child communication, and as part of a teaching fellowship with MSU’s Residential College in the Arts and Humanities, she is also studying what factors may affect her students’ career interests.

Receiving this award has given Decker confidence in her field and reassured that her interactions with students are effective. She advises all students to think about what they are most passionate about, and if they’re interested in something, she recommends just going for it. If this means grad school, go for it. If this means starting a career right after undergrad, go for it. “The best thing you can do is to make connections and build real relationships with the individuals who may already be doing the things you are most interested in. Don’t be afraid to try.” Decker says.

In her spare time, Decker is an involved member of the Mid-Michigan Food Club, which is based in Lansing, but also travels around the state in search of excellent food and food culture.

Katie Manthey
Excellence-in-Teaching Award
Lauren Dietz

Katie Manthey is a 5th year doctoral candidate in the Department of Writing, Rhetoric, and American Cultures at Michigan State University. She has taken on the position of graduate instructor for three years, as well as an MSU Writing Center consultant for two years. Prior to her arrival at MSU, Manthey received her bachelor’s and master’s from North Dakota State in rhetoric and composition.

This being the first big award she was nominated for, Manthey was honored simply to be in the competition for an All-University MSU award. To realize how many people were working behind-the-scenes to nominate her was very gratifying. She is grateful to be at a university where she can concentrate on both teaching and research.

Manthey is in the job market this year and says, “Any warm fuzzies really help to offset the stress.” When in the classroom, Manthey anchors her teaching approach in three main concepts: transparency, performance, and embodiment. Manthey believes in being clear with her students on not only what they are doing in the classroom but also why and how these activities will benefit their futures. She also stresses the idea that teaching is a performance in which the instructor, as well as the student, plays a role to match the societal expectations of that position. Manthey is also an advocate of students being regarded as more than bodies in seats; all students are people first.

Manthey is currently working on her dissertation, which accentuates how fat fashion bloggers make meaning through their clothing. She is particularly interested in how women have come to feel empowered through the ability to wear their desired clothing regardless of body shape or size. In addition to her research, Manthey recently began a Tumblr site cleverly titled “Dress Profesh” to challenge the conventional idea of what professional wear truly looks like today. She began posting photos of what she wears when she works—whether it is in the classroom or on her couch at home—and invites others to submit their own photos. The notions that suggest a woman must dress and look a certain way to be perceived as qualified for her profession tie directly back into her dissertation.

The life philosophy Manthey would like to pass on is simple: Be kind. Do not judge a book by its cover; do not judge a human being by its frame.

Samantha Deere
Excellence-in-Teaching Award
Meg Abebe

Kinesiology graduate student and teaching assistant, Samantha Deere, is constantly on the move. Deere, who is set to graduate this spring, has been effectively juggling her doctoral dissertation, teaching classes, and learning from her students for four years at Michigan State University. Ironically enough, Deere’s research primarily explores how physical activity and participation in recreational sports affects social and academic life for students.

Originally from Northern Lower Michigan—as she would say it—Deere always exposed herself to many sports in high school and remained active in her student life. After completing her bachelor’s degree in Exercise Science at Saginaw Valley State University, the Ellsworth native continued her schoolwork at MSU where she now studies exercise physiology. Despite her intensive research obligation, Deere considers herself a teacher first and foremost.

“My students come first. I can always do research at home.” By engaging lectures with a more hands-on approach, and making sure she connects with students in her classes, Deere has been described as making students feel very comfortable. Fostering a healthy learning environment is essential for the classroom.

Her ability to make students feel relaxed knows no boundaries—Deere has taught several classes, ranging from teaching students how to balance healthy lifestyles to full-on cadaver labs in Fee Hall. Her excellence in teaching is not only celebrated by the All-University Award, but also recognized by faculty and students alike. In the end, the Kinesiology TA hopes to become a professor at a mid-size university where she can concentrate on both teaching and research.

And when it comes to glass ceilings, Deere has one piece of advice: work hard and you’ll get there.

ADVANCING GENDER EQUITY THROUGH EDUCATION AND ACCESS TO RESOURCES.

Gender Matters!

March 2015
Marsha Rappley
Robert F. Banks Award
for Institutional Leadership
Lauren Dietz

When Dr. Marsha Rappley came to Michigan State University as a medical student, she fell in love with the campus as well as the great experiences she had here. She completed her residency in pediatrics at the University of Michigan Mott Children’s Hospital, and soon found herself back at MSU for her first job in general pediatrics. Climbing her way up to Division Chief for general pediatrics, the division of developmental behavioral pediatrics, and then interim chair of the department, Dr. Rappley built her education and research around children with learning problems, particularly ADHD. After becoming a senior associate dean for academics, she accepted her current position as Dean of Human Medicine at MSU.

Dr. Rappley really enjoyed patient care and her research work, and thus had never really planned on involving herself with administrative work. As she grew older she began to realize the need for exceptional people in administration, and after accepting some of these jobs she found that she liked it more than she thought she would. Having to give up her research aspect when she became dean has been a bit of a loss for her, however she enjoys making space for researchers to succeed and watching projects unfold within the medical school. Dr. Rappley also enjoys learning from her students and researchers. She conveys to them that we do not stop learning and start teaching because we become older; it is a bidirectional process.

Receiving this award is hugely meaningful to Dr. Rappley. It signifies recognition among her immediate peers, the people of the university who have known her for over 30 years and who know not only her strengths, but have seen her weaknesses. Simply being nominated was an honor in itself, implicating there was a collection of her surrounding peers that respected her enough for consideration. “To have your peers look at your entire career at MSU and believe it has moved Michigan State forward…that is an amazing recognition.” says Dr. Rappley. To have the award in the name of Dr. Robert F. Banks, who understood how important fair treatment and the creation of opportunities for personal growth of all people, is also very meaningful to her.

While MSU happens to have both a female president and a female provost who are both very effective and well-respected nationwide, there is still a very low representation of women among tenured professors and administrative positions. Dr. Rappley says the fact that women can be effective leaders is not to be taken for granted; we cannot become complacent with regard to this issue. The number of female deans of medical schools across the country is still hovering below 20 percent, which Dr. Rappley deems unacceptable with half of the medical field as well as half of patients being women.

Dr. Rappley’s advice to anyone pursuing a career is to be as good at what you do as you can possibly be. “There is no substitute for being really good at what you do. Whatever it is that you love to do, keep doing it, do a lot of it to get really good at it so that when an opportunity arises, you are prepared.” advised Dr. Rappley. Opportunities can arise at any moment, so don’t limit yourself to only what you can imagine now. If Dr. Rappley had closed herself off from these opportunities, she would not be a dean. She would not be a chair to the Council of Deans. She would not be a dean. She would not be a chair to the Council of Deans. She

In her spare time, Dr. Rappley enjoys science fiction and loves to sing and dance along to all things Motown.

The following Award-Worthy Women were unavailable for comment: C. Robin Buell and Angela M. Calabrese Barton (William J. Beal Outstanding Faculty Awards).

Women’s Networking Association
*Spring Semester @ A Glance*

FREE and open to all! RSVP required.

Please call (517) 353-1635 or email wrc@msu.edu (with “Networking” in the subject line).

Inspirational Woman of the Year Award Reception & Celebration—Wednesday, March 18, 2015. Networking and open reception begins at 4:00PM, award ceremony begins at 4:30PM at The University Club, Ballroom (3435 Forest Road, Lansing, MI). You are invited to this special event to honor three women at Michigan State University who have been awarded the Inspirational Woman of the Year Award, coordinated by the MSU Women’s Resource Center. RSVP no later than Thursday, March 12, 2015.

“My Managing Workplace Personalities* - Wednesday, April 15, 2015. Choose one of two sessions (8:30AM—10:00AM OR 3:30PM—5:00PM), Eppley Center, E-412. Do you sometimes feel misunderstood at work? Is there a person in your office that you just don’t “get”? Maybe you’re an introvert in a sea of extraverts. Or, vice versa. Our natural personalities are the outward manifestation of our natural preferences, our energy. As women, they are often misinterpreted. Dr. Monica Marcelis Fochtman has been a certified administrator of the Myers-Briggs Type Indicator®(MBTI) for 11 years. In this session, she will help debunk the myths about workplace personalities and offer tips and strategies for how to manage different personalities in the workplace.

The mission of the Women’s Networking Association (WNA) is to connect professional women across campus through meaningful and empowering relationships. Providing an opportunity for women to network and support one another is an essential step for building women’s leadership at Michigan State University and in the Greater Lansing community.
EVENTS & RESOURCES

Wednesday, March 4, 2015: “Michigan Writers Series featuring Marge Piercy.” 7:00PM, MSU Main Library, North Conference Room, W449. Co-sponsored by the Center for Gender in Global Context, MSU Department of History, MSU Writing Center, Residential College in the Arts and Humanities and the MSU Women’s Resource Center.

Tuesday, March 10, 2015: Social Security. 12:00N—1:00PM, MSU Federal Credit Union – Farm Lane Branch, 4825 E. Mt. Hope Road, East Lansing, MI. Have you ever had questions about Social Security? Don’t ask your friends or family. Ask the expert. It’s never too early or too late to find out about Social Security. Presented by the Social Security Administration. RSVP to MSUFCU.org, e-mail pday@msufcu.org or phone 517-864-7725. Co-sponsored by MSU Federal Credit Union and MSU Women’s Resource Center.

Wednesday, March 17, 2015: St. Patrick’s Day!

Wednesday, March 18, 2015: Inspirational Woman of the Year Awards Reception & Celebration. 4:00PM—6:00PM, University Club, 3435 Forest Road, Lansing, MI. Join the MSU Women’s Resource Center to honor this year’s awardees. For more information, see ad on page 2. RSVP to wrc@msu.edu or phone (517) 353-1635 by Thursday, March 12, 2015. Hosted by the MSU Women’s Resource Center’s Women’s Networking Association.


Thursday, March 19, 2015: Women in Music: Empowerment & Objectification of Women Through Popular Female Artists. 7:00PM—8:30PM, MSU Union Building, Lake Ontario Room (3rd Floor). RSVP to wrc@msu.edu or (517) 353-1635. (See ad on page 11).

Monday, March 23, 2015: WACSS Forum: “Celebrating and Empowering Women Support Staff at MSU”. 10:00AM—12:00N, Kellogg Hotel & Conference Center, Big Ten A. The Women’s Advisory Committee for Support Staff is a committee of women support staff charged with advising the Executive Vice President of Administrative Services on issues affecting women staff. FREE but must be registered! Online registration available at www.wacss.msu.edu.

Tuesday, March 24, 2015: Business Startup Basics. 12:00N—1:00PM, MSU Federal Credit Union – Farm Lane Branch, 4825 E. Mt. Hope Road, East Lansing, MI. Do you have a passion or hidden talent? Do you know what it takes to turn that skill into a successful business? Learn the best practices for increasing your chances of entrepreneurial success. You will be introduced to the key characteristics of successful business ownership, and what it takes to start and run a thriving business. Plus, you will be provided with available resources to help launch new ventures in Michigan. So, get focused, motivated and ready to go! Presented by Kellie Hanford, Michigan Small Business Development Center. RSVP to MSUFCU.org, e-mail pday@msufcu.org or phone 517-864-7725. Co-sponsored by MSU Federal Credit Union and MSU Women’s Resource Center.

Wednesday, March 25, 2015: Women’s Health Fair. 11:30AM—1:30PM, MSU Union Building, Main Lounge. Join the MSU Women’s Resource Center for the 10th annual Women’s Health Fair!! Prizes, demonstrations, ZUMBA, and more! (See ad on page 9).

Friday, March 27, 2015: Cesar E. Chavez Commemorative Celebration. 12:00PM—4:00PM, MSU Kellogg Hotel & Conference Center. RSVP to www.inclusion.msu.edu/outreach or (517) 353-3922.

Friday, March 27, 2015: “Celebrating You.” 8:00PM, MSU International Center. Enjoy massages, yoga and henna tattoos and/or create a fun craft in celebration of Women’s History Month. Hosted by the University Activities Board and Co-sponsored with the MSU Women’s Resource Center. For additional details, visit: uabevents.com.

Saturday, March 28, 2015: Girls Get Going. 8:30AM—1:00PM, IM Sports West, Michigan State University. Registration forms available at www.recsports.msu.edu. Pre-registration is required by Monday, March 16, 2015. (See ad on page 14).


Monday, March 30, 2015: A “Conversation with the Vice President for Student Affairs and Services—Dr. Denise Maybank.” 3:30PM—5:00PM, MSU Union Building, Ballroom (2nd Floor). Join the MSU Women’s Resource Center for a “Conversation” with the Vice President of Student Affairs and Services. RSVP to the WRC at wrc@msu.edu (include first and last name and unit/department and “Conversation” in the subject line) or call (517) 353-1635 by Tuesday, March 24, 2015.

$3,200.00 in cash and prizes!

HURRY! Applications are due by April 2, 2015

Tell us what you’ve accomplished while at Michigan State, your professional goals, and why you deserve to be one of our two makeover winners.

Enter online at www.msufcu.org/gradmakeover

WRC Staff: Jayne Schuiteman, Interim Director, Associate Professor and Personal Safety Coordinator; Lydia Weiss, Educational Program Coordinator; Audrey C. Smith, Office Manager; Evette Chavez, Editorial/Administrative Assistant; WRC Students: Megdelawit Abebe, Lauren Dietz and Kiana Elkins, Department Aides.
The 10th Annual Women’s Health Fair!

(Hosted by the MSU Women’s Resource Center)

Wednesday, March 25, 2015
11:30 AM - 1:30 PM
MSU Union Building—Main Lounge

Stop by during your lunch for great information and an opportunity to win fabulous prizes!!

Some invited organizations include:

American Cancer Society
American Heart Association
Curves
WomenHeart
Creative Wellness Holistic Health
MSU Safe Place
Sexual Assault Crisis & Safety
Reflexology

And many more . . .

PRIZES
DEMONSTRATIONS
ZUMBA!

Contact the MSU Women’s Resource Center at (517) 353-1635 for more information or visit us on the web at: http://wrc.msu.edu

Don’t Let Your Best Intentions Become History!

In celebration of Women’s History Month, pick up the phone and reconnect with a colleague or another special woman in your life!

The MSU Women’s Resource Center, with generous support from the Division of Residential and Hospitality Services, is once again making it easy for you to do exactly that!

Just email: wrc@msu.edu to receive your: (Please type “COUPON” in the subject line)

“2-4-1 Women’s History Month” Coupon

The coupons can be printed and used any time during March 11—31, 2015 to reconnect with the important women in your life in any of MSU’s 13 residential dining halls (for a complete list of dining halls, visit: www.eatatstate.msu.edu).

With each coupon, buy one meal and get one meal free!!

*Meal Prices:
Buy one breakfast ($5.99), lunch, dinner or late night meal ($9.49) + tax and GET ONE FREE!

De-“Fine”ing Women: 2015 is Your Year!

■ Determine your Path!  ■ Share your Ideas!
■ Celebrate your Instincts!  ■ Manifest your Vision!

Come join Regina Carey, M.Ed. (MSU Community) for a Women’s Collective. The intention is to share our goals for the New Year, discuss strategies for helping us move forward, create Vision Boards, and to celebrate common struggles, emotions, and every day responsibilities.

This group will meet on the last Friday for the next 3 months (Jan/Feb/Mar) from 9:00AM-10:00AM in the Okemos Library Events Room. See the link below for more details and to register. You can come to one or to all sessions! Looking forward to connecting with you!

Call or Text 517-927-7115 to register and/or inquire
Email: coachmecarey@gmail.com
Visit: http://www.reginacarey.com/events/

March 2015
21st Annual Race for the Place 5K: Sunday, April 12, 2015!

Race for the Place is the largest annual fundraiser for MSU Safe Place and allows their program to continue to provide vital services to the members of the MSU and greater Lansing communities who experience relationship violence and stalking.

The Race for the Place 5K course takes place on the beautiful campus of Michigan State University. Race for the Place is a fun-filled family event, with events for kids of all ages, MSU varsity athletes participation and a visit from Sparty!

Entry Fee
On or before March 31, 2015: $25.00
After March 31, and Race Day: $30.00
MSU students with valid ID or under age 18: $20.00
Group discount (up to 4 individuals) must register together in person or by mail: $60.00.

Kids Run 100-Yard Dash
The FREE Dash starts at approximately 1:45 p.m., after the 5K, and is open to kids 6 and younger. All participants receive a ribbon and special prizes.

Kids One-Mile Fun Run
The One-Mile Fun Run will start immediately following the 100-yard dash. Boy and girl top finishers will be awarded a first-place medal. This run is open to kids 12 and younger. All participants receive a medal and special prizes. $15 entry fee includes a short-sleeved t-shirt with pre-registration

Volunteer Opportunities
Volunteers are needed between 9:00AM—3:00PM on Race Day. If you would like to volunteer for Race for the Place, contact Alyssa Baumann, Volunteer/Advocacy Coordinator, at baumann9@msu.edu or 432-9570.

For more information or to register, please visit: http://safeplace.msu.edu/race-for-the-place-5k or follow Race for the Place on Facebook.


Student Employee Of the Year Recognition Program 2015
Nominate your outstanding student employees by February 6, 2015
National Student Employee Week April 12–18, 2015
MSU Student Employee of the Year Award Reception April 15, 2015

For additional information including criteria and nomination form, contact: barnera@msu.edu or 884-0198.

Check back often for additional pages of Wisdom, Words & Women
Breaking news, events, programs and more . . .
http://wrc.msu.edu

SAVE THE DATE
June 8—9, 2015
The 2015 Annual State Conference of the Michigan ACE Network for Women Leaders in Higher Education will be held June 8—9, 2015 at the Kellogg Center in East Lansing, Michigan.

For more information, visit: http://www.miacenetwork.org/
HOT OFF THE PRESS!

The Women's Resource Center's Student Staff Presents:

Women in Music
Empowerment & Objectification of Women through Popular Female Artists

Thursday, March 19, 2015
MSU Union Building, Lake Ontario Room (3rd Floor)
7:00PM—8:30PM

Confused about the thin line between empowerment and objectification? Is “bad bitch” a compliment? Come for an open-ended, honest discussion about the use of sexuality in regard to popular women in music. Come listen as well as be heard!

RSVP to the MSU Women's Resource Center at wrc@msu.edu or 517-353-1635.
Don’t miss the largest Latina event in Michigan. Workshops on health, education, finance, legal, careers in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics), self-improvement, business and more.

Register now
www.ddlm.ocat.msu.edu

For Sponsorship and Exhibitor Space Contact:
Juan Flores (517) 353-7745 / floresj2@msu.edu
Save the Date!

2015 WACSS Forum & Resource Fair
*Online registration available in February!*

Monday, March 23, 2015

Celebrating and Empowering Women Support Staff at MSU

We invite you to attend the annual spring forum of the Women’s Advisory Committee for Support Staff (WACSS) and be a part of celebrating and empowering women support staff at MSU! This year’s event will have a new twist, be energizing, engaging, and highly motivational. You will also have an opportunity to network with your peers, hear from MSU leadership, and receive answers to your questions.

*Mark your calendar for Monday, March 23, 2015*
*from 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. at the Kellogg Center.*

Registration and a networking mixer will occur from 9:15-10:00 a.m.
Registration information will be posted at [www.wacss.msu.edu](http://www.wacss.msu.edu) the second week of February.
HOT OFF THE PRESS!

SAVE THE DATE!!

Girls Get Going
12th Annual girls sports clinic
Saturday, March 28, 2015
8:30 AM—1:00 PM
IM Sports West, MSU

Girls Get Going is a FREE Girls Sports Clinic for 3rd to 8th Grade Girls.
Registration forms will be available online beginning Monday, February 23, 2015 at www.recspports.msu.edu.
Pre-registration is required! Registration deadline: Monday, March 16, 2015.

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

NOTE: Open swim will NOT be available following this year’s event.
Co-sponsored by: Recreational Sports and Fitness Services, MSU Family Resource Center, Intercollegiate Athletics, MSU Women’s Resource Center, and Daring Ideas Consulting Engagements, LLC.
HOT OFF THE PRESS!

The MSU Women’s Resource Center Invites You To:

A Conversation with the Vice President for Student Affairs and Services—Dr. Denise Maybank

Monday, March 30, 2015
MSU UNION BUILDING—BALLROOM (2nd Floor)
3:30PM—5:00PM

Please RSVP to the MSU Women’s Resource Center by Tuesday, March 24th via email (wrc.msu.edu).

Please include first and last name and unit/department. Also, include “Conversation” in the subject line. If questions, please call 517.353.1635.

Sponsored by the Michigan State University Women’s Resource Center.
HOT OFF THE PRESS!

Celebrate
WOMEN’S HISTORY MONTH
WITH THE MICHIGAN WOMEN’S HALL OF FAME

Weaving the Stories of Women’s Lives
ALL EVENTS ARE FREE AND AT THE MICHIGAN WOMEN’S HISTORICAL CENTER & HALL OF FAME, 213 W. Malcolm X Street, Lansing, MI 48933

WOMEN’S HISTORY MONTH RECEPTION
THURSDAY, MARCH 12, 5-7 PM
A first look at the new 2014 Michigan Women’s Hall of Fame inductee plaques and a brief program, followed by the Women’s Hall of Fame Raffle. Grand Prize is $2,000 cash or one of 3 amazing trips. Tickets are $20 each or 6/$100 and available at the door or by contacting the office. Need not be present to win.
This event is sponsored by the Friends of the MWHOF and the National Association of Negro Business and Professional Women’s Clubs, Inc.—Greater Lansing Area Club.

OPENING RECEPTION FOR NUWARINE: WOMEN PROUD TO SERVE
THURSDAY, MARCH 19, 5-7 PM
See the roles women have held in the military since WWII and discover personal stories from American Legion NUWARINE Post 535 members’ military experience—the last remaining all-female Post in Michigan. There will be a brief program at 6 pm.
The opening reception is sponsored by the Michigan Women’s Commission. This exhibit is made possible in part by a grant from the Michigan Humanities Council, an affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities.

NOMINATION DEADLINE FOR THE MICHIGAN WOMEN’S HALL OF FAME
SATURDAY, MARCH 21, 2015

GREAT GIRLS IN MICHIGAN HISTORY DISCUSSION & BOOK SIGNING
SATURDAY, MARCH 28, 2 PM
Author Patricia Majher will share stories from her new book Great Girls in Michigan History, which highlights girls from Michigan’s past who did amazing things before they turned 20 years old. This event is appropriate for visitors of all ages, so bring the entire family!
This event is sponsored by Wayne State University Press.

www.michiganwomenshalloffame.org / (517) 484-1880 / info@michiganwomen.org
Announcing . . .

2015 Young Women Strong Leaders Conference

Hosted by Central Michigan University

The Young Women, Strong Leaders conference provides skill development and professional mentoring opportunities to prepare you for success in your professional life. In this one-day workshop, you will meet women leaders - student, academic, corporate, and political - from your region and across the state, building a network that will enable you to successfully work to improve the status of Michigan women and your own leadership abilities.

Friday, April 3, 2015

8:00AM—3:00PM

Central Michigan University
(Bovee University Center—103 E. Preston Street, Mount Pleasant, MI 48859)

$25.00/pp (includes lunch)

Scholarships Available!

REGISTER NOW!

For additional information, including online registration and payment, visit:
http://wrc.msu.edu
(under the “News & Announcements” tab)

The Michigan Women's Commission does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, or age in its programs and activities. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies: Leslee Fritz, Deputy Director, Michigan Department of Civil Rights, 110 W. Michigan Ave., Lansing, Michigan 48933, 517-335-3165.