

WMU Department of Physics colloquium series

Paul V. Pancella, Ph.D., Professor of Physics, Western Michigan University

Physics and the Curious Cyclist

— *Part Deux*

Monday, February 16, 2026 – 4 p.m. – 1110 Rood Hall

Refreshments: 3:30-3:50 p.m., Bradley Commons, 2202 Everett Tower

WMU main campus, free and open to the public

Metered public parking available near Miller Auditorium, parking ramp #2



Abstract: An earlier presentation by Dr. Pancella (October of 2024) focused on the concept and motivation for the pictured vehicle, now called “e-Quest”, and the process of building it. In this follow-up talk, the same speaker will give a further account of his experience using this human-electric hybrid vehicle, which he has been operating on local streets for most of the past year. Much more data is now available and will be shared regarding the performance and remarkable energy efficiency of this light-weight, single-passenger urban vehicle. This presentation will exemplify several physical principles as applied to the optimization of electrified transportation. It will also evaluate whether and how well the goals of the project have been achieved.