

Western Michigan University Faculty Senate

2020 Faculty Retirement Recognition



WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY



Dr. Sisay Asefa, Professor Emeritus of Economics

Sisay Asefa was born in Ethiopia. He attended Addis Ababa University and later graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in economics from Central College, Pella, Iowa. He earned a Master of Science in agricultural economics and a Doctor of Philosophy in economics from Iowa State University, where he also taught.

In 1980, Sisay joined the faculty in the Department of Economics at Western Michigan University. He has taught a variety of courses. His research interests and expertise focus on political economy of poverty, food security, rural development, and relationships between governance and sustainable development. He was the founding director of the Center for African Development and Policy Research.

Sisay has published 70 refereed journal articles on international development, edited and authored book chapters and also served as chief editor of the *International Journal of African Development*. He was the recipient of the Fulbright Scholar to Botswana; Fulbright Visiting Professor to Addis Ababa University and the University of Pretoria; and Senior Fulbright Visiting Professor at Addis Ababa University, Institute of Development Studies, and to ASTU. He has taught Ph.D. courses on Rural Transformation Policy, Agricultural Systems and Food Security at the Institute of Development Studies and School of Economics, Regulatory Economics and Institutions at AAU, and Development Economics and Microeconomics at the International Leadership Institute.

Sisay was inducted as an honorary member of Alpha Kappa Mu, an academic honor society, and was listed in the global “Who’s Who” in economics. He is member of the American Economic Association, American Agricultural Economics Association, Ethiopian Economic Association, Ethiopian Agricultural Economics Society, and a Board member of African Finance and Economics. He is a member of an external advisory panel of Michigan State University Department of Agricultural Economics.

At WMU, Sisay has received the College of Arts and Sciences Global Engagement Award in 2013, the College of Arts and Sciences Achievement Award in 2007, the University Distinguished Service Award in 2008, and the first Excellence in Diversity Award for faculty in 2011. Since 2001, he convened international conferences entitled “Challenges and Opportunities for Good Governance and Leadership for Sustainable Development in Africa.”

Sisay retired after more than 40 years of academic service. He and his wife, Mimi, have three grown children. His retirement plans include engaging with the African Development Research Center at WMU and continue as a public scholar on critical issues of global economy including justice and leadership critical for the 21st century.



Dr. William J. Charland, Associate Professor Emeritus of Art

William Charland was born in Detroit. He self-identified as an artist from an early age, and earned Bachelor of Fine Arts and Master of Fine Arts degrees from the University of Michigan, and later a Doctor of Philosophy in educational policy, organization, measurement, and evaluation from the University of California, Berkeley.

Dedicated to the notion that knowledge must be instantiated through action, Bill developed numerous service learning projects to help bridge the gap between college and community. When he returned to Michigan, he built art education programs and service learning opportunities at Grand Valley State University and Michigan State University, before coming to Western Michigan University in 2006.

At WMU, he rewrote the bachelor's degree in art education. In partnership with the Black Arts and Cultural Center, he created the Edison Arts Mentorship program. In 2009, he founded the Saturday Morning Art program. In 2012, he began the process of converting the Master's Degree in Art Education to all online delivery. He has served as the assistant director of the School of Art, chair of the College of Fine Arts Curriculum Committee, and secretary of the Faculty Senate Extended University Programs Council.

A recipient of federal, state, and local grants, Bill's research focuses on minority participation in the visual arts and PK-12 faculty development. Former Michigan Art Educator of the Year, Higher Education Division, he has routinely been tapped to serve on committees of the Michigan Department of Education, through which he has helped develop state policy and standards for college and university art education programs, and has overseen numerous program reviews. In 2016, he was invited as a consultant to Qatar University to help design new programs and prepare for accreditation reviews.

Upon retirement, Bill will teach in an emeritus role for the Frostic School of Art, continue as a member of the editorial board of Art Education: *The Journal of the National Art Education Association*, write, make art, and mow the lawn.



Ms. E. Bryce Dickey, Master Faculty Specialist Emerita of Family and Consumer Sciences

Bryce Dickey was born in Englewood, New Jersey. She grew up north of New York City in a historical house sitting on a cliff above the Croton River, which is where her love of nature started. Her family enjoyed camping, sailing, and skiing vacations throughout the northeast. She started her education in the State University of New York system attending SUNY Potsdam, and transferred to Texas in the late 1970s when she earned her social services planning degrees from the University of Texas. She also completed a course of study for interpreting for the deaf in the 1980s.

Adult education has played a key role in all of Bryce's employment choices. Her first professional position after earning her Bachelor of Arts was working with the parents of high-risk infants, followed by health education for at-risk adults and quality care education at a major hospital corporation. After moving to Michigan with her husband, Bryce continued her career in adult education working at Planned Parenthood of Michigan and teaching at Kalamazoo Valley Community College before coming to Western Michigan University. Bryce has enjoyed being involved with WMU in various forms. She started as adjunct faculty in 1994 when her child was very young, moved into a term position, and then her tenure-track faculty specialist position. She is retiring as a master faculty specialist after 25 years in the Family Science Program in the Department of Family and Consumer Sciences.

Bryce's area of focus outside of teaching has been family life education methodology. She is a certified family life educator and has been engaged in the certification program with the National Council on Family Relations. She was a member of the team that wrote the certification exam, served on the CFLE Advisory Board, and most recently was on the task force that revised and updated the CFLE Code of Ethics in 2018.

After an exciting and rewarding career both as a practitioner in the non-profit world and an educator at WMU, Bryce is looking forward to retirement from teaching. She and her husband have bought a home on Lake Champlain in the Adirondack Mountains. They look forward to years of skiing, sailing, and hiking, not only in upstate New York, but also with their son in Snowmass, Colorado.



Dr. Alyce M. Dickinson, Professor Emerita of Psychology

Alyce M. Dickinson was born in West Pittston, Pennsylvania, and graduated from Montrose Area High School in Pennsylvania. She earned a Bachelor of Arts in psychology from Lycoming College, a Master of Arts in industrial-organizational psychology from Fairleigh Dickinson University, and a Doctor of Philosophy in applied behavior analysis from Western Michigan University.

After receiving her master's degree, Alyce worked for the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey as a personnel selection specialist and the New York State Office of Court Administration as a personnel analyst. She then entered the Applied Behavior Analysis doctoral program at WMU, joining the Department of Psychology faculty in 1984. She chaired the Industrial-Organizational Psychology program for 25 years. Her research examined the effects of monetary incentives and goal setting on employee performance and satisfaction. Together with her graduate students, she collaborated with many local organizations, conducting organizational systems analyses and implementing improvements to business processes.

Alyce is a Fellow of the American Psychological Association, Division 25, Behavior Analysis. She received a Teaching Excellence Award from WMU's Alumni Association and an Outstanding Mentor Award from the Student Committee of the Association for Behavior Analysis, International. She has also been awarded both the Outstanding Contributions and Lifetime Achievement Awards from the Organizational Behavior Management Network. She co-edited one of the first handbooks which examined the application of behavior analysis to business, has published over 60 articles and book chapters, and has presented over 130 papers and workshops. She served as an associate editor for the *Journal of Organizational Behavior Management* for 17 years and continues to serve on the editorial board. She has also served on the editorial boards of *The Behavior Analyst* and the *Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis*. She has advised 19 doctoral students and 60 master students.

In retirement, Alyce plans to spend more time with her husband, at her favorite beach, and traveling.



Dr. Howard J. Dooley, Professor Emeritus of History

Howard J. Dooley was born in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. He earned three degrees from the University of Notre Dame: a Bachelor of Arts degree in 1966; a Master of Arts in history in 1970; and a Doctor of Philosophy in history in 1976.

Howard joined the History Department at Western Michigan University in 1970, but transferred into General Studies Humanities, teaching courses, such as *The Twenties: America and Weimar Germany*, *American Culture*, as well as *Western Civilization*, and *Middle East history*. Innovations included a course on futurism (*Towards 2000*) and a conflict simulation game in his Middle East class. Later, he returned to the History Department and since 2005 has taught *World History* and *Modern Middle East History*.

His publications include co-authoring *Hesburgh's Notre Dame: Triumph in Transition* (1972), and contributions to *Suez 1956: The Crisis and Its Consequences* (1989), *Cold War Shadows: The U.S. and the Middle East during the Eisenhower Years* (1998), and *A Revolutionary Year: The Middle East in 1958* (1998). Howard wrote for scholarly journals, ranging from *The International History Review*, *The Middle East Journal*, *Journal of East Asian Affairs*, and *World History Connected* to *The Nation*, *The Progressive*, and *Chicago Sun-Times*. His favorite moments were being interviewed by Studs Terkel, and having a "Traveler's Tale" appear in *The Far Eastern Economic Review*.

Howard's service career included: coaching WMU's intercollegiate debate teams (1974-81); member of the Board of Directors of the Michigan Humanities Council (1974-85); and founding the Office of International Education and Programs (1981-2004). From 1991 to 2004 he served as executive director of international affairs. He expanded WMU's "twinning programs," based on the initial Malaysian model, to Hong Kong, India, Pakistan, and Kenya. He also initiated an M.B.A. program in Singapore and a pre-M.B.A. program in India. In 2002, he was selected by AMIDEAST to a team of U.S. higher education administrators who visited Egypt, Lebanon, Morocco, and Tunisia with the U.S. Department of State. In 2011-12, Howard was recognized by a College of Arts and Sciences Faculty Achievement Award in Professional and Community Service, and in 2016, he was honored with a University Distinguished Service Award.

Howard loves to travel, and in retirement looks forward to more exploring with Carol (WMU alumna), his wife of 48 years. They also plan to enjoy more time visiting their children and grandchildren and trying out recipes in cookbooks they have collected around the world.



Ms. Janette Gabel-Goes, Master Faculty Specialist Emerita of Business Information Systems

Jan Gabel-Goes was born and raised in the Detroit suburbs. She attended Western Michigan University, earning a Bachelor of Business Administration degree. After graduation, Jan worked for L. Perrigo Company and began working on her Master of Business Administration degree, which she earned from WMU. She worked in various businesses and welcomed two children during this time.

In 1995, Jan began her career at WMU in the Department of Business Information Systems, and throughout her 25 years at the University, spent the majority of her time in the department. She earned the BIS Department Service Award and was the advisor for ten years for the Student Leadership Advisory Board, comprised of all Haworth College of Business student organizations executive board members. In 2011, she was asked to be a Perspectives Speaker at the 20th Anniversary Celebration and Dedication of Schneider Hall Naming of the Haworth College of Business. In 2012, Jan was asked to join the Office of Faculty Development as an associate director, dividing her time between teaching and developing programs. In 2016, she became the director of that office and has enjoyed working with great faculty, staff, students, and volunteer facilitators for the many programs it produced.

In retirement, Jan plans to spend more time with her family, husband Jim, children, and grandchild, Jayden. Also, she looks forward to yoga, reading, and traveling.



Mr. Edward L. Harkness, Professor Emeritus of Art

Edward L. Harkness is originally from suburban Boston, Massachusetts. He attended the Rhode Island School of Design, graduating with a Bachelor of Fine Arts in ceramic art. He spent two years as a resident artist at Pulpit Rock Artist Community in Woodstock, Connecticut, followed by four years operating a private pottery studio in Thompson, Connecticut. During this time, Ed taught pottery classes at Radcliffe College in Cambridge, Massachusetts. Then he tried being a ski bum in Aspen, Colorado, but chose the worst winter in 50 years with no snow. Taken as a sign from above, and with an interest in teaching higher education, he attended Illinois State University, Normal, Illinois, earning a Master of Fine Arts degree in ceramics. While pursuing his graduate degree, he twice volunteered to teach pottery at the maximum-security prison in Pontiac, Illinois.

Since joining the faculty at Western Michigan University in 1980, Ed has taught ceramics, 3D design, and installation art in the Frostic School of Art. A highlight of his 40-year artistic involvement with clay at the University was sabbatical research in Japan, Korea, and Italy. He exhibited his own artwork in each country, as well as in California, Illinois, and several venues in Michigan. In the early 1990s, he invited a Japanese potter he had met to come to WMU for a 16-day residency. Ryoji Koie, a major avant-garde ceramist from the historic pottery town of Tokoname, created over 200 pieces of pottery, mostly unconventional but highly prized tea bowls. With invaluable assistance from Michitoshi Soga, Japanese adviser in the Office of International Affairs, Mr. Koie donated 130 tea bowls to WMU, creating a \$30,000 student scholarship. This enabled 17 of the University's ceramics and sculpture students to go to Japan, over a seven-year time period, with all expenses paid, changing the direction of their lives considerably.

In retirement, Ed plans to do some travelling for a few years and then build a pottery studio somewhere warm and sunny, continuing his inquiry of the ceramic medium.



Ms. Tricia Hennessy, Professor Emerita of Art

Tricia Hennessy was born in Cincinnati, Ohio. She began her education in graphic design at University of Cincinnati and received her bachelor of fine arts degree from Ohio University, Athens, Ohio in 1975. During her undergraduate studies she focused on graphic design and art and design education while pursuing her interests in painting, printmaking, studying lithography, intaglio, screen printing, and monotypes.

After graduation she worked as a graphic and environmental designer as part of the exhibition design team for the Mason County Museum, Kentucky; and the Kentucky Horse Park, where she was the lead designer for the interior banners inspired by jockey silks from the various horse farms. She then went back to Cincinnati and worked in several design studios before heading to Switzerland to complete the master of fine arts equivalent in graphic design at the Basel School of Design, Switzerland, in 1982.

She returned to the USA in Fall 1982 to accept a teaching position in Graphic Design at the Rhode Island School of Design, Providence. She was also a partner in Adleta and Hennessy Designers in Providence. In 1988, she joined the faculty at Western Michigan University as Director of the Design Center and Graphic Design Program Coordinator. She has lectured, taught workshops, and exhibited nationally and internationally including presentations for AIGA and CAA. She was represented by Sointu Gallery in New York and her calendar designs were available for purchase at the MOMA design store, design venues, and art museums nationally and internationally. She taught four summer workshops for color and drawing in Bali, Indonesia through Ohio University. She has a body of design work including posters and books in the permanent collection of the Zurich Museum of Design, Switzerland, and her art direction and book designs have been recognized as part of the Ben Franklin Award and the Editor's Choice Award received by New Issues Press for the best small press book series. In her spare time, she volunteered as co-host with her husband George Crow, on his radio show, Classic Rot, at WIDR 89.1 FM on campus for several years.

In retirement she plans to relax some, swim as much as possible, spend time at her cottage in South Haven; continue to do creative work in a variety of media; travel when possible; hang out with George, friends, families, and her kitties.



Mrs. Kathryn L. Hillenbrand, Master Faculty Specialist Emerita of Speech, Language and Hearing Sciences

Kathryn Hillenbrand is a native of west Michigan and a Western Michigan University alum, earning a bachelor's degree in speech pathology and audiology at WMU. She earned a master's degree in speech pathology at Northwestern University.

Kathryn began her career as a speech-language pathologist at hospitals in the Chicago area. She also was a speech analyst in speech synthesis technology for Texas Instruments.

During her 30 years at WMU, her primary focus was in the Charles Van Riper Language, Speech, and Hearing Clinic as a supervisor of student clinicians. From 1995 to 2015, she served as the coordinator of that clinic. In addition to clinical education, Kathryn taught undergraduates in clinical methods and graduate students in the area of swallowing disorders.

Her areas of professional interest include clinical education of undergraduate and graduate students, and education of the speech-language pathologists who supervise student interns. This interest inspired her to earn a post-graduate certificate in interdisciplinary teacher education through the Bronson School of Nursing in the College of Health and Human Services in 2006.

Kathryn's career at WMU has involved service to the University, college, and department. She was a member of the Undergraduate Studies Council, chair of the Honorary Degree Committee, and member of the Search Committee for the Lee Honors College Dean. She served as a member of committees in the College of Education and Human Development, including the Educator Preparation Governing Council, NCATE 2005/2006 Steering Committee, and Professional Educators' Board Curriculum Committee. She was a member of the Dietetic Internship Advisory Council in the Department of Family of Consumer Sciences. Her consistent service in the department was several consecutive terms on the Department Education and Coordination Committee.

As a speech-language pathologist, she has served the Kalamazoo community working with individuals who have Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (Lou Gehrig's Disease). Kathryn and her husband, Jim, who retired from Western Michigan University in 2018, are proud parents of three children who attended WMU. They currently are grooming their two-year-old granddaughter to be a Bronco.



Dr. Alan J. Hovestadt, Professor Emeritus of Counselor Education and Counseling Psychology

Alan J. Hovestadt is from Beverly Hills, Illinois. He attended Northern Illinois University and completed a bachelor's degree, a master's degree, and a doctoral degree in counselor education and supervision with a minor in family therapy. While working on his master's degree, he worked as a middle school social studies and language arts teacher. While working on his doctorate degree, he was recruited by NIU as a counselor during the Vietnam War, providing opportunities to develop his counseling skills given a student population that was often in crisis.

In 1973, he was employed at Texas A&M-Commerce as an assistant professor in the Counseling Department, attaining the rank of professor in 1979. The Texas Association for College Teachers awarded him the 1977 Faculty Distinguished Teaching Award. He became program director for the doctoral program in marriage and family therapy. He served as principal investigator of a National Institute of Mental Health rural mental health grant focused on training doctoral students for practice in underserved, impoverished, and racially diverse communities. He also founded the Marriage and Family Consultation Center, a university-sponsored counseling clinic.

Alan came to Western Michigan University in 1985 as professor and chairperson of the Department of Counselor Education and Counseling Psychology. He also served for a time as acting associate dean for the College of Education and Human Development. Alan returned to his professional interests in program development collaborating with colleagues in the Department of Blindness and Low Vision developing training models for rehabilitation counselors and serving as co-principal investigator of a ten-year million-dollar grant project funded by the U.S. Department of Education. Collectively over his career Alan's research, publications, and scholarly interests have included study of intergenerational family therapy, the multigenerational transmission process, work and family inter-role conflict, alexithymia, rural mental health care, and mental health public policy. He has numerous publications in nationally refereed journals, several book chapters, and a monograph titled *Family of Origin Therapy*. He has lectured widely on a variety of topics in the U.S., Europe, Russia, and Canada. Alan has received many awards for his leadership, including the 2008 American Counseling Association's Presidential Award, the 2010 IAMFC Outstanding Leadership Award, and the 2010 American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy's Outstanding Contributions to the Profession Award.

Alan married Kristin Gappa Hovestadt, in 1967. The couple has three married adult children and 12 grandchildren.



Dr. Mitch A. Kachun, Professor Emeritus of History

Mitch A. Kachun was born in McKeesport, Pennsylvania, and earned a Bachelor of Arts in anthropology from the Pennsylvania State University; a Master of Science in history from Illinois State University; and a Master of Arts and a Doctor of Philosophy in history from Cornell University.

Mitch worked for eight years as a machinist in Tempe, Arizona, before deciding to pursue graduate work. Mitch taught as a full-time assistant professor at Southeast Community College in Lincoln, Nebraska. In 1999, when his partner accepted a tenure-track position at Grand Valley State University, in Allendale, Michigan, Mitch accepted a visiting professor position there. He joined the Department of History at Western Michigan University in 2001.

At WMU, Mitch regularly taught courses in African American and United States history. Mitch served the Department of History as director of graduate studies from 2009 to 2014, and from 2017 to 2018, and has been an Association Council representative for the WMU Chapter of the American Association of University Professors. A 2007 recipient of the WMU Faculty Emerging Scholar Award, Mitch has also received grants, fellowships, and recognition from the National Endowment for the Humanities, the United States Fulbright Commission, the Gilder Lehrman Institute for the Study of American History, and the United States Department of Education.

Mitch's first book, *Festivals of Freedom: Memory and Meaning in African American Emancipation Celebrations, 1808-1915* (Massachusetts, 2003), was a semi-finalist for the Gilder Lehrman Institute's Frederick Douglass Prize, and his co-edited edition of the 1865 novel, *The Curse of Caste; or the Slave Bride* (Oxford, 2006), was a *Choice* Outstanding Academic Title for 2007. His most recent book, *First Martyr of Liberty: Crispus Attucks in American Memory* (Oxford, 2017), has led to Mitch consulting and presenting for the Massachusetts Historical Society, the American Antiquarian Society, and the Bostonian Society, as well as for a documentary film for the History Channel on African American participation in the American Revolution.

In retirement, Mitch will continue his research and writing on African American history and with presentations on African American history through the Society for History and Racial Equity (SHARE). There will also be more time to play guitar, dabble in household projects, work on his golf game, read for pleasure, travel, improve his Spanish, and spend more time with his wonderful family.



Dr. Pairin Katerattanakul, Professor Emeritus of Business Information Systems

Pairin Katerattanakul was born and raised in Bangkok, Thailand. He earned a Bachelor of Engineering from Chulalongkorn University (Bangkok, Thailand), a Master of Business Administration from Thammasat University (Bangkok, Thailand), and a Master of Arts in marketing and a Doctor of Philosophy in management information systems, both from the University of Nebraska in Lincoln.

For more than ten years, Pairin worked as a system engineer and a product manager at several multinational companies such as NEC, Philips, Nokia, and developed extensive experience in the implementation of communication systems for medium and large organizations and the marketing of telecommunication products. After earning his Ph.D. degree, Pairin started his academic career at Western Michigan University in 2000, where he was a faculty member of the Department of Business Information Systems. In his career at WMU, his industrial experiences have proven to be invaluable assets for his teaching as numerous examples were drawn from those experiences to help students better understand the subjects.

Pairin helped the BIS Department to establish Cisco Networking Academy and set up a computer networking lab for the students to practice various computer networking concepts and prepare themselves to earn several renowned industrial certifications. Additionally, he guided a student team from the department to win a case study competition at the 2011 International Telecommunications Education and Research Association Conference. Pairin helped the WMU Telecommunications and Information Management Program to earn an ITERA Award for program excellence in 2011. Pairin perpetually commits himself to attain high quality research and has published his research studies in several top globally recognized journals, such as *Communications of the ACM*, the *European Journal of Information Systems*, *Communications of the AIS*, and the *Journal of Information Privacy and Security*.

In retirement, Pairin plans to join with his wife, whom he has been married to for 22 years and is currently working in the sunshine state. They also plan to spend more time visiting their relatives in Malaysia and Thailand.



Dr. James A. Leja, Professor Emeritus of Blindness and Low Vision Studies and Chair Emeritus of the Department of Blindness and Low Vision Studies

James A. Leja was born in Chicago, Illinois, but raised in Vicksburg, Michigan. He earned a Bachelor of Science in elementary education and a Master of Arts in orientation and mobility from Western Michigan University, and a Doctor of Rehabilitation from Southern Illinois University.

Jim briefly worked in the Kalamazoo Public Schools before pursuing his master's degree, after which he moved to Elkhart, Indiana, to teach orientation and mobility at the Association for the Disabled of Elkhart County. Jim began his career at Western Michigan University in 1986 as an assistant professor in the Department of Blind Rehabilitation. During his 33 years at WMU, he served as a faculty member, as well as several administrative roles that included the associate dean for graduate and international studies, interim chair of the Department of Occupational Therapy, interim director of the School of Social Work, inaugural director of the Ph.D. program in Interdisciplinary Health Studies, interim director of the School of Community Health Services, and since 2005, has served as the chair of the Department of Blindness and Low Vision Studies.

From 1994 to 1995, he was a Fulbright Scholar in the Department of Special Education at National Taiwan University. He has had close to a million dollars of external funding, has served as a peer reviewer for the *Journal of Visual Impairment and Blindness*, served on the Selection Committee for the International Research and Exchange Board, U.S. Department of State, and served as a Fulbright Specialist Reviewer.

In retirement, Jim and Peggy Sattler, his wife of 43 years, plan to spend their time in a new house near Gull Lake in Ross Township. They keep a sailboat at Gull Lake and plan to make greater use of it on the beautiful lake. Jim is building his second wooden sailboat and hopes it will float when completed. In addition, they plan on regular visits from their two daughters.



Dr. Gary R. Mathews, Professor Emeritus of Social Work

Gary R. Mathews was born in Cincinnati, Ohio. He earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in anthropology from the University of Cincinnati, a Master of Social Work degree from Wayne State University, and a Doctor of Philosophy in sociology from Western Michigan University.

Prior to coming to Western Michigan University in 1976, Gary worked at the United Way in Dade County, Florida, the State University of New York at Buffalo in the School of Social Work as a research associate in gerontology, and as a family therapist at Child and Family Services of Erie County. At WMU, Gary taught in the School of Social Work, worked as contract administrator and president of the WMU Chapter of the American Association of University Professors, and was faculty athletic representative and chair of the Athletic Board. Gary taught research and social work practice courses and focused on field education and group work as a specialty. He served as interim director of the School of Social Work for two years.

Gary published in political social work, evaluation research, and social work education. He was awarded the distinguished service award, and also awards for serving on the national American Association of University Professors, representing Wisconsin, Minnesota, and Michigan. He also received awards for being on the Board of the National Council on Social Work Education, the Social Services Board for Kalamazoo County, and for serving on the Board of the Kalamazoo Planned Parenthood.

Gary will be moving to the east side of the state to be near family and plans on doing as little as possible during his retirement.



Dr. Yirong Mo, Professor Emeritus of Chemistry

Yirong Mo was born and raised in Jiaxing, Zhejiang, China. He earned a Bachelor of Science, a Master of Science, and a Doctor of Philosophy degree, all in chemistry, from Xiamen University, China.

Yirong worked at Xiamen University temporarily before visiting the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology; Erlangen-Nuremberg University, as a Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst (DAAD) Visiting Fellow; and Bonn University as an Alexander von Humboldt Research Fellow. In November 1998, he moved to the United States and conducted post-doctoral research at the State University of New York at Buffalo and later at the University of Minnesota. From August 2001 to July 2002, he was a computational biochemist at Xencor, Inc.

He joined Western Michigan University in August 2002 and taught physical chemistry and general chemistry, and computational chemistry and chemical kinetics. His primary research interest concerns the development of novel theoretical and computational methods and the applications of these methods to chemical and biological problems. During his tenure at WMU, he published more than 130 papers in leading chemistry journals such as *Nature Chemistry*, the *Journal of American Chemistry Society*, and *Angewandte Chemie, International Edition*. His research was funded by the National Institutes of Health, the National Science Foundation, and the Keck Foundation. His major accomplishment was the proposal and development of the block-localized wave function (BLW) method, which is the simplest variant of the valence bond (VB) theory and can be used to study the bonding nature of molecules and probe intra- or inter-molecular electron transfers. He also worked on computational simulations of biological systems and explored enzymatic catalysis. He was recognized as an Emerging Scholar in 2010 and received the College of Arts and Sciences Faculty Achievement Award in Research and Creative Activity in 2012.

Yirong enjoys traveling and working out in the gym or at home. In August 2020, he moved to the University of North Carolina at Greensboro as professor and chair of the Nanoscience Department where he will continue his research and teaching.



Dr. James M. Murray, Professor Emeritus of History

James M. Murray was born in Baltimore, Maryland, and raised in Sunnyvale, California. He completed a Bachelor of Music at the University of the Pacific and continued his studies at Northwestern University, earning a Doctor of Philosophy in medieval European history. He began his teaching career at Stanford University and continued it at the University of Cincinnati, where he became a professor and department head.

In 2007, James came to Western Michigan University as a professor and director of the Medieval Institute. After leaving the administration, he joined the Department of History for the final four years of his career.

James has published several books in his field, most recently, *Bruges, Cradle of Capitalism*, with Cambridge University Press. He has held fellowships from the Belgian-American Educational Foundation, the National Endowment for the Humanities, the American Society of Learned Societies, and the Fulbright Commission.

In retirement, he plans to walk dogs, ride bikes, and indulge his passion for reading and writing.



Dr. Dennis D. Pence, Associate Professor Emeritus of Mathematics

Dennis D. Pence was born in Huntington, Indiana. He attended Purdue University where he earned Bachelor of Science, Master of Science, and Doctor of Philosophy degrees, all in mathematics.

After earning his doctoral degree, Dennis was an instructor at Purdue University and a visiting assistant professor at Texas A&M University. He then held a one-year post-doctoral appointment in the Mathematics Research Center at the University of Wisconsin-Madison and taught for six years at the University of Vermont. In 1984, Dennis came to Western Michigan University to teach and advise, particularly in applied mathematics. He also served two years as an associate director for University Computing Services, which is now the Office of Information Technology.

Dennis contributed early research papers in approximation theory and numerical analysis. He then became interested in the collegiate mathematical education use of graphing calculators. He wrote several books about using graphing calculators, taught workshops about their use, and consulted with Texas Instruments as it developed new calculators.

As a reduced-load faculty member for the last five years (teaching only fall semesters), Dennis and his wife, Becky, have already begun to travel extensively. Partly to celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary in 2020, their most recent trip was a cruise and land tour of New Zealand and Australia. Dennis loves to play golf and swim, and he continues his involvement with the Boy Scouts of America. Dennis and Becky participate in many activities with First United Methodist Church of Kalamazoo, including four trips to work at the Methodist Children's Home in Costa Rica.



Ms. Maria A. Perez-Stable, Professor Emerita of University Libraries

Born in Havana, Cuba, Maria A. Perez-Stable immigrated with her family to Cleveland, Ohio. There she graduated from Magnificat High School. Maria earned a Bachelor of Arts in history at Miami University, Ohio, a Master of Science in Library Science from Case Western Reserve University, and a Master of Arts in history at Western Michigan University.

Maria's professional career began in 1977 as a catalog librarian at the Western Reserve Historical Society in Cleveland, melding her interest in history with her chosen career of library science. In 1979, Maria came to WMU Libraries as a cataloger.

Maria has held various positions in her 40-year career in the University Libraries. After years devoted to cataloging materials in history, foreign languages, art, sociology, and children's literature, she changed emphasis and became a reference librarian in the College of Education Library in 1984. Maria returned to the main library in 1991 as social sciences reference librarian. In 1997, she was appointed head of the Central Reference Department. As head she managed the operation of the Central Reference Desk and provided oversight of the department. In 2005, Maria returned to the position of social sciences librarian, serving as liaison to the history, political science, Spanish, gender and women's studies, and global and international studies departments.

Maria focused her research and publication agenda largely on the integration of children's literature into the K-12 curriculum. In collaboration with Mary H. Cordier, associate professor emerita of education, she co-authored two monographs on this topic. Also, with Professor Cordier, Maria published six journal articles and made 18 conference presentations. Maria has published numerous articles on the topic of librarian-faculty collaboration in library research instructions.

Among Maria's proudest achievements was her work to establish chapters of the national honor societies of Phi Beta Kappa and Phi Kappa Phi and serving as president of both organizations. In 1999, she was honored as distinguished faculty recipient of the Michigan Association of Governing Boards of State Universities (MAGB) award. A 2018 article Maria co-authored was selected as one of the Top 20 Articles by the American Library Association's Library Instruction Round Table.

In retirement, Maria is looking forward to doing more domestic and international travel, spending time with family and friends, gardening, and of course, reading! Maria also hopes to take up yoga, conduct genealogical research in Cuba, and learn français.



Dr. Mary E. Peterson, Master Faculty Specialist Emerita of Speech, Language and Hearing Sciences

Mary Peterson earned a Bachelor of Science and a Master of Arts from Western Michigan University. As a clinical faculty specialist, Mary came to WMU having practiced clinically for 18 years. In 2004, she joined the faculty of the Department of Speech, Language and Hearing Sciences. She completed a terminal degree, a Doctor of Audiology, from the University of Florida in 2007, while teaching at WMU.

Mary's expertise in auditory rehabilitation and cochlear implants was shared with audiology and speech-language pathology students. She co-authored one textbook and wrote another one for use with students interested in pursuing a professional education in speech-language pathology or audiology.



Dr. Lewis R. Pyenson, Professor Emeritus of History

Lewis R. Pyenson earned a Bachelor of Arts from Swarthmore, a Master of Science from Wyoming, and a Doctor of Philosophy from Johns Hopkins. He is a corresponding member of the International Academy of the History of Science, a Fellow, and Life Member of the Royal Society of Canada. He was graduate dean for ten years at Western Michigan University.

Pyenson is author of a trilogy about the exact sciences in the imperialist experience of Germany, the Netherlands, and France during the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. With Susan Sheets-Pyenson, he wrote *Servants of Nature: A History of Scientific Institutions, Enterprises, and Sensibilities* (1999). Pyenson's book, *The Passion of George Sarton* (2007), examines how an early twentieth-century marriage related to the formation of an academic discipline. His edited volume, *Fortiter, Feliciter, Fideliter* (1999), received the Silver Award of the University and College Designers Association and the 2000 Best of the Show Award of the Acadiana Advertising Federation. His coedited volume, *The Art of Teaching Physics* (2002), received the Award for Outstanding Achievement in Research from the Canadian Museums Association.

Pyenson's other books and articles divide into historiography, history of modern sciences, science beyond Europe, and art and science in modernity. His pseudonymous novel is one of the few works of fiction reviewed favorably by the history-of-science journal, *Isis* (Diane Greco Josefowicz, "True Jacob: A Novel," *Isis*, 102 [2011], 282-283). An early coauthored publication is "Supersonic Boom," *New Republic*, 156, 7 (18 February 1967), pp. 35 ff. In a photograph published by *Jet*, 13 November 1969, he appears at the head of the first civil-rights march in Laramie, Wyoming.



Ms. Judith A. Rypma, Master Faculty Specialist Emerita of English

Judith A. Rypma grew up in Grand Rapids, Michigan. She graduated from Michigan State University with a Bachelor of Arts degree and earned a Master of Fine Arts in fiction writing from Western Michigan University. Prior to joining academia, she was an association management executive and a travel journalist in Dallas, Texas. The latter took her all over the world and resulted in over 200 published articles in national and local newspapers and magazines.

After her first trip to the Soviet Union in 1982, Judith became enamored of Russia, eventually writing many articles on travel there and returned to college to earn another bachelor's degree, this time in Russian studies at Grand Valley State University. Prior to joining WMU's English faculty in 1999, Judith taught as an adjunct faculty member at WMU, GVSU, Kalamazoo Valley Community College, and Davenport University. Her research agenda includes Russian folklore and literature, having introduced students to Russian writers, history, fairytales, and culture. She regularly teaches on books set during the Armenian Holocaust and Afghanistan wars. She has led study abroad trips to St. Petersburg, teaching Russian literature and culture. Several years ago, she organized a visit to WMU for a group of Russian students.

Many of Judith's 300 publications are inspired by her travels, as is some of her scholarly research. Two of her eleven poetry books focus on Russian topics: *Looking for the Amber Room* and *Worshipping at Lenin's Mausoleum*. Her novel, *The Amber Beads*, takes place during the 1917 Soviet Revolution.

Judith's community service has included serving as vice president of the Kalamazoo Russian Culture Association. She also lectures and does readings at the Leningrad State University. She routinely presents papers at conferences for the Children's Literature Association, Popular Culture Association, and Michigan Reading Association. In addition to over 20 years on the Faculty Senate, including terms on the Executive Board, she served on the Higher Learning Commission committee, the Professional Concerns Committee, the Academic Misconduct Review Panel, among others.

In retirement, Judith hopes that, she can do what she loves best: travel and write, the latter with the oversight of her two basset hounds.



Dr. Robert A. Wertkin, Professor Emeritus of Social Work

Robert A. Wertkin was born and raised in the Bronx, New York. He graduated from Christopher Columbus High School and then received a Bachelor of Arts from Washburn University of Topeka, Kansas; a Master of Social Work from the University of Kansas; and a Doctor of Social Work from the University of Utah. He worked at a juvenile detention facility and inpatient psychiatric hospital and at the New Hampshire Division of Welfare in children's services.

Bob started his tenure at Western Michigan University in 1981 in the School of Social Work. He facilitated two accreditation efforts, both culminating in full reaccreditation. Administrative service included director of the School of Social Work and chair of the Physician Assistant Department. In 2012, he was the founding director of the School of Interdisciplinary Health Programs. His first sabbatical was spent as the assistant to the state director of the Michigan Department of Social Services and executive advisor to the director of the State Office of Children and Youth Services. His second sabbatical was an international collaboration on the United Nations' Children's Bill of Rights. He was the founding chair of the University Assessment Steering Committee, which in preparation for a University accreditation review, facilitated an assessment plan for all WMU academic departments. In cooperation with Provost and Vice Provost for Academic Affairs Timothy Greene, he created and chaired the Millennial Project. This effort focused on incorporating strategies to enhance teaching and learning.

Bob received the University Distinguished Service Award in 2011 and was recognized as an exemplary program evaluator by the Michigan Department of Education. In addition, he received the Faculty Award for Outstanding Scholarship and Promise from the University of Utah and is a member of the Phi Kappa Phi honorary fraternity.

In retirement, Bob plans to spend much more quality time with his wife, children, and grandchildren. His work on social service boards will continue as well as presentations to human service agencies, hospitals, and conferences. He looks forward to long motorcycle rides, golfing, and kayaking.



Ms. Jo Wiley, Master Faculty Specialist Emerita of Business Information Systems

Jo Wiley was born in Muskegon, Michigan, and spent half of her youth in North Muskegon. Her family moved to Fremont when she was 12, and she graduated from Fremont Public High School. She earned a Bachelor of Arts in English and creative writing from Michigan State University, a Master of Arts from Western Michigan University, and Master of Fine Arts from Queen's University in Charlotte, North Carolina.

Prior to joining the faculty of the Haworth College of Business, Jo spent 22 years in various administrative positions at NCR Corporation, Michigan State University, ABC Photo, Miner & Silverstein Appraisal Company, and Western Michigan University. She was, and still is self-employed (The Write Choice) as a writing and business consultant. Jo began teaching part-time for the business communication program in 1992 which eventually, in 1996, led to her full-time tenure track position as a faculty specialist. Courses she has taught include Informational Writing, Business Publications and Presentations, Integrated Communications, and Business Web Design.

In 2013, Jo was awarded the Business Information System's Service Award. Literary publications and awards include *Inside My Father's Trunk* (Kalamazoo Gazette 2009 Literary Award for Poetry), *Rites* (Encore Magazine), and *The Rest of the Story* (Chicken Soup for the College Soul).

Future plans include organizing and updating her house, spending more time with her dog, visiting her daughter (on the east coast) and her son (on the west coast). She is most excited to spend more time writing creatively and reading the many books waiting for her on her bookshelves.

No Photo

Mr. Bradley Wong, Professor Emeritus of Music

Bradley Wong was born and raised in Detroit, Michigan. He studied at the Interlochen Arts Academy and attended the University of Michigan where he earned a Bachelor of Music in clarinet performance and music education, and a Master of Music in clarinet performance.

In 1983, Bradley came to Western Michigan University to teach applied clarinet and to perform with the Western Wind Quintet. His students have been finalists in national and international competitions and have won positions in music festivals in the United States as well as in Spain, Brazil, France, Germany, and Italy. As a performing artist, Bradley has performed throughout the U.S. in such locations as Carnegie Hall and the Library of Congress. International performances include Belgium, the Canary Islands, China, the Dominican Republic, Honduras, Italy, Mexico, and Spain. He was a member of the new music group, Opus 21, an ensemble praised by the *New York Times* and the *Washington Post*. He has performed at the Fontana Summer Music Festival and at the Chamber Music Festival of Saugatuck. For 25 years he served as the principal clarinetist with the Southwest Michigan Symphony. He has also played with the Detroit Symphony Orchestra, the Grand Rapids Symphony Orchestra, and the Canary Islands International Opera Festival Orchestra. Since 2006, Bradley has been on the roster of Yamaha Performing Artists.

As an active member of the International Clarinet Association, Bradley has performed and coordinated events at annual conferences and has served as the Audio Review Editor for its journal. He has written for *Windplayer* magazine and the journal of the *National Association of College Wind and Percussion Instructors*. In demand as a clinician and adjudicator, he has given hundreds of master classes at schools throughout the world and he has judged the finals of international competitions such as the Fischhoff Chamber Music Competition and the William C. Byrd Young Artist Competition.

Professional service has been an important part of Bradley's activities at WMU. In addition to substantial committee work at the University, college, and departmental level, he served as chair of the woodwind area for 13 years. He was coordinator of graduate studies in the School of Music from 2010-14 and was appointed director of the school in 2014, a position he held until his retirement in 2020. He is proud to have been awarded the College of Fine Arts Excellence in Service Award in 2000 and 2020.

In retirement, Bradley looks forward to taking advantage of the rich cultural resources of WMU and southwest Michigan. He also has plans to volunteer with K-12 music programs and local arts organizations, and to resume his life-long goal of improving his own musical skills.



Dr. Jay A. Wood, Professor Emeritus of Mathematics

Jay A. Wood was born in Wausau, Wisconsin. He spent his childhood in the Wisconsin cities of Wausau, Green Bay, and Merrill. He earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in mathematics from the University of Notre Dame and Master of Arts and Doctor of Philosophy degrees from the University of California in Berkeley, both in mathematics.

Jay held regular and visiting faculty appointments at Chicago, Notre Dame, Bowdoin, Lehigh, Purdue Calumet, and Toulon, before coming to Western Michigan University in 2000 as chair of the Department of Mathematics. In his nine years in administrative roles at WMU, Jay also served as director of academic collective bargaining and interim chair of the Department of Statistics.

Since his return to faculty, Jay has taught undergraduate and graduate courses including precalculus math, applied matrix algebra, linear algebra, and differential topology. He has maintained an active program of research in algebraic coding theory.

Since 2008, he has given more than 90 lectures on his work at conferences and universities worldwide. Throughout his career, he has had numerous articles published in refereed professional journals and was awarded several grants for research in mathematics and cryptology.

Jay has several research projects that he plans to pursue in retirement. In addition, he will join his wife, Betsy, in more leisurely pursuits to include hiking, biking, wining, dining, volunteering, traveling, and going to concerts and movies.



Dr. Richard W. Zinser, Professor Emeritus of Family and Consumer Sciences

Richard W. Zinser was born and raised in the Detroit area of Michigan. He earned a Bachelor of Arts in liberal arts and a Master of Arts in history from Oakland University. He then attended Western Michigan University to earn a Master of Arts and a Doctor of Education in what was then known as Counseling and Personnel.

Richard's first career was in business and industry for 15 years where he provided training and development for several companies in the area. He taught part-time at WMU for five years and started full-time in 1998. Richard taught master courses and teacher preparation courses for the Career and Technical Education program in the Department of Family and Consumer Sciences. After 18 years of teaching, he served as the department chair for the last three years.

During his teaching career, Richard advised 15 doctoral students. He conducted research in several areas including program evaluation and worked on a large grant sponsored by the U.S. Department of Education; he was awarded a total of 15 grants for \$675,500. He published 18 journal articles, five conference proceedings, a book chapter, and made numerous peer-reviewed presentations at national conferences. Richard also worked on nine external consulting projects. He served on the editorial board and as a reviewer for several research journals.

Of special note is Richard's international travel. In 2009, he attended an education conference in Kemerovo, Russia, and signed an agreement to participate in a joint research center. In 2012, he had an extended visit to three universities in central Siberia to exchange information on graduate programs in education. Richard presented at an international conference in L'viv, Ukraine, in 2013, and established an agreement for a joint master's degree. In 2014, he was awarded a one-semester sabbatical and visited seven universities and 18 schools throughout the Ukraine, studying its vocational education system.

In retirement, Richard looks forward to working on his hobby farm and doing wood-working projects. He and Sharon, his wife of 43 years, plan to take some trips and visit family and friends.

No Biographies



Dr. Barbara J. Cockrell, Associate Professor Emerita of University Libraries



Dr. Harold M. Glasser, Professor Emeritus of the Environment and Sustainability



Dr. Lynn Nations Johnson, Professor Emerita of Teaching, Learning and Educational Studies

No Biographies

No Photo

Dr. Paul A. Johnston, Professor Emeritus of English



Mr. David H. McKee, Associate Professor Emeritus of University Libraries



Dr. Daniel P. Morgan, Professor Emeritus of Special Education and Literacy Studies

No Biographies



Dr. Robert G. Trenary, Associate Professor Emeritus of Computer Science