

Reporter

The University of Michigan-Dearborn

September 25, 2006

Campus rates high in magazine survey

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

In addition, the campus's College of Engineering and Computer Science was rated among the top 20 undergraduate engineering programs in the country, at schools without doctoral programs. The magazine publishes that list for "students who prefer a program focused on undergraduates."

In the magazine's ratings, UM-Dearborn is compared with other public universities that offer a full range of undergraduate and master's degree programs, but few or no doctoral degrees. The magazine said it bases its overall rankings "on quantitative measures that education experts have proposed as reliable indicators of academic quality." Their rankings of engineering programs are based on a peer survey of deans and senior faculty members at schools around the country.

"The university's high ranking is just one more piece of evidence that tells students and their families what exceptional opportunities are here at UM-Dearborn," according to Stanley E. Henderson, vice chancellor for enrollment management and student life. "And the national ranking of our undergraduate engineering program is especially gratifying because it speaks to the reputation UM-Dearborn has among leaders of other institutions. It's great to be at a place that others hold in such high regard."

'Open House' Oct. 8 for students, families

UM-Dearborn will roll out a welcome mat to the community during its annual Campus Open House from noon to 3:30 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 8.

Prospective high school and transfer students, along with family and friends, will have an opportunity to meet with faculty, staff, students and alumni. Members of the campus community will provide information on undergraduate and graduate programs, admissions procedures, scholarships, financial aid, and co-op and internship opportunities.

The event will offer refreshments and walking tours of campus. Representatives of UM-Dearborn student organizations will answer questions about campus activities and student life.

"Our Open House provides students and their families a way to experience our metropolitan campus and all of opportunities available at UM-Dearborn. We are looking forward to introducing this Michigan community to new students as a way to demonstrate the 'degree that makes the difference'," said Christopher W. Tremblay, director of admissions and orientation.

The CASL Building will serve as the registration site at noon. On-site admissions will take place from noon to 3 p.m. in the admissions office, Room 1145 of the University Center. Representatives from other campus departments will showcase their services at the event during a browsing fair in the University Center.

It's all in the game



A national group recently recognized UM-Dearborn for the quality of its gaming activities, including the very popular "LAN parties" like this one held in the University Center earlier this year. This photo was taken by Jeff Lundberg, CECS '03, who is the founder and coordinator of MPCon (www.mpcon.org), the group that sponsors the gatherings.

"You can see that one guy has a microphone on his headset," Lundberg said. "Although we're all in one big room, people often communicate via computer. Often, the person they're talking to is playing the same game on the other side of the room. You also can see a joystick sitting on the top of one of the PCs. Many people bring fancy game controllers such as steering wheels for racing games, for example."

Gaming programs rated among top ten

Game design is not all fun and games for UM-Dearborn students. In fact, gaming is a serious and growing interest for a number of students at both undergraduate and graduate levels in the College of Engineering and Computer Science.

The quality of the campus's academic gaming programs was one factor that led to the campus being listed among the "Top 10 Gaming Colleges" in the United States earlier this month. The rating, conducted by a group called the Global Gaming League, also cited the very popular "LAN parties" organized by students and held regularly in the University Center for the past seven years.

Those parties, called MPCon, draw up to 200 players to play "World of Warcraft," "Counter-Strike" and other computer games.

"The UM-Dearborn campus is sparsely populated, often bitterly cold and has no dorms. So why is it on this list?" asks the GGL Web site. "Simple: MPCon. UM-Dearborn hosts one of the largest LAN parties in the region. The best part is that MPCon is a fundraiser for the Association for Computing Machinery at UM-Dearborn. Any university that hosts LAN parties is cool, in our book."

While entertainment games are now a bigger business than Hollywood, "not everyone who studies gaming becomes a game designer," according to Bruce Maxim, associate professor of computer and information science. "What our programs provide is a solid foundation in how to manage very large scale, data-intensive projects."

In addition to the entertainment sector, there is a great deal of government and industrial interest in "serious games," a rapidly growing industry that features the use of interactive games technology with applications creating shared knowledge networks in edu-

cation, government, health, military, science, and social sectors.

The campus currently offers a minor in game development, and one of the three application areas for the bachelor's degree in software engineering is in game design. In addition, the College of Engineering and Computer Science offers a graduate certificate program in game design for master's degree students or as a 12-credit continuing education program.

Some students do find careers in entertainment game design, including Austin Krauss, who earned his master's degree in 2005 with a concentration in computer graphics and user interface design. Krause is now working in California at Treyarch, best known for its Spiderman series.

But other students find work closer to home including three recent graduates who designed a graphic simulation of wireless communications among a large number of vehicles in the same traffic system for his senior design project. Not surprising, two of them found jobs at DaimlerChrysler and the third one is now working on similar projects at Compuware, Maxim said.

Game design courses are also one of the areas where UM-Dearborn engineering students work closely with graphic design students at Detroit's College for Creative Studies. Software engineering students from UM-Dearborn manage the project, and develop much of the technical specifications, while CCS students contribute screen layouts and artwork.

"The artists want to add more and more to the game, but the teams are required to stick to a production schedule," Maxim said. "Both groups of students are working as collaborators in multidisciplinary teams."



Progress report on Rouge River cleanup

Elected officials, environmental professionals and community leaders will meet for "Rouge 2006: The Incredible Story Continues" at UM-Dearborn on Friday, Oct. 6. The meeting will run from 9 a.m. to noon in the Social Sciences Building.

Rouge 2006 is the 16th consecutive report to Rouge River watershed stakeholders who have worked together to clean up the river and expand the region's capacity to make the Rouge a recreational and environmental asset to the community. The Rouge River watershed spans approximately 438 square miles, and is home to more than 1.5 million people in 48 communities and 3 counties.

"We're marking a generation of progress in cleaning up the Rouge River, and the benefits that has brought both to our environment and to our communities," according to Edward Bagale, vice chancellor for government relations. "We're also outlining the challenges still ahead of us, and drawing the map for how to get to where we want to go."

The program, co-sponsored by the University and the Wayne County Department of Environment, will feature presentations by U.S. District Judge John Feikens, Wayne County Executive Robert Ficano and Oakland County Drain Commissioner John McCulloch.

The meeting is free and open to the public, but registration is requested. Those planning to attend should call 436-9152, or send an e-mail to chanes@umich.edu.

Law professor to discuss affirmative action cases

Cheryl I. Harris, a law professor at the University of California, Los Angeles, will analyze the history of affirmative action and comment on the aftermath of the affirmative-action reversal in California during a lecture at U-M's Detroit Center on Oct. 23.

The discussion, titled "After Affirmative Action?" is free and open to the public. The talk begins at 6 p.m. in Conference Room 103 at U-M's Detroit Center, located at 3663 Woodward Ave. on the ground floor of Orchestra Place.

The event is co-sponsored by UM-Dearborn's African and African American Studies Program, the Center for Arab American Studies, the Difficult Dialogues Initiative at UM-Dearborn, the Women's and Gender Studies Program at UM-Dearborn and the Detroit branch of the National Conference of Black Lawyers.

Harris teaches courses in constitutional law, civil rights, employment discrimination and critical race theory. She began her teaching career at Chicago-Kent College of Law in 1990 after more than a decade in practice that included criminal appellate and trial work and municipal government representation as a senior attorney for the city of Chicago.

Harris, who served several years as co-chair for the National Conference of Black Lawyers, was a key organizer of several major conferences both in South Africa and in the United States that helped establish a dialogue between U.S. legal scholars and South African lawyers during the development of South Africa's first democratic constitution in 1994.

She is the author of leading works in critical race theory including the essay *Whiteness as Property* published in the *Harvard Law Review*. Her work has most recently focused on race, equality and the Constitution through the re-examination of *Plessy v. Ferguson* and *Grutter v. Bollinger*.

IFLG sets classes for local officials

UM-Dearborn's Institute for Local Government (IFLG) is offering a series of courses for schoolboard members, city council members, and other local elected officials this fall to help them confront a broad range of issues they can expect to face as they carry out their public duties.

Course subjects vary from ethics and communications skills to financing water infrastructure and retiree health care. The Institute, which operates in conjunction with the Michigan Municipal League (MML) and the Michigan Association of School Boards (MASB), is recognized as a major resource by local officials throughout the region. Many of the courses count as credit towards the MML's and MASB's awards programs.

"Offering continuing training opportunities for local elected officials is a hallmark of UM-Dearborn's long-term commitment to southeastern Michigan," according to Edward Bagale, vice chancellor for government relations. "Our collaboration with the Michigan Municipal League and Michigan Association of School Boards ensures that our programming meets the needs of southeastern Michigan's local officials."

"The quick, convenient, action-oriented classes are designed to help local officials meet the wide variety of challenges they face in the 21st century," said IFLG director Dale Thomson, assistant professor of public administration. "These classes are taught by experts in their field. They provide participants with valuable tools to address challenges and the opportunity to network with their colleagues from neighboring communities who face similar issues. The end result is more effective government throughout southeastern Michigan."

Thomson said examples of the courses to be taught include:

- Learning to create a total communications strategy for a local official or a governmental unit from two of the region's best political public relations experts, Bob

Berg and Georgella Muirhead, in November.

- Learning how to finance water and sewer infrastructure with Oakland County Drain Commissioner John McCullough, and Bart Foster, rate consultant for the City of Detroit Department of Water and Sewerage, experts in the field who will cover this and related issues in October.

- Learning how to handle major changes in how your community projects and reports retiree health care benefits from Vicki Barnett, mayor of Farmington Hills and vice-chair of the Michigan Municipal League in November.

- Learning proven techniques for dealing with diversity pro-actively from leading experts Shirley Bryant and Michael Williams, who will discuss how to establish a community that welcomes people of all races, ethnicities, and cultures.

Other courses will cover ethics, effective meetings, dealing with difficult people, public speaking, and conflict management.

"Research shows that high-performing governance teams have one thing in common: a commitment to professional training," said Mary Kerwin, a consultant to the MASB. "They know that their understanding of roles and responsibilities impacts their effectiveness as elected officials."

"The courses offered by this program enhance the opportunity for regional cooperation," according to Detroit City Council Member Sheila Cockrel. "As a local elected official, I value the efficient manner in which high-quality information is shared in these courses, and I welcome the opportunity to network with other local leaders as we all struggle with greater demands and dwindling resources in our communities."

Officials can learn more about the IFLG's fall program at www.umd.umich.edu/iflg/ or 593-5140.

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*Includes discrimination based on gender identity and gender expression.

Publication calendar

The next issue of the *Reporter* will be published on Oct. 9. News items must be delivered to the Office of University Relations, 1040 Administration Building, at least 10 days prior to the publication date.

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

Meet the Senator



Sen. Michael Switalski (center) met with students Pamela Sossi (left) and Kristine McCurry following his presentation to the political science internship class on campus last week. Both Sossi and McCurry completed internships in Washington, D.C. during the summer.

In his presentation, Switalski emphasized the importance of internships for students considering careers in politics and public service.

He also discussed his experience representing portions of Macomb County in both houses of the Michigan legislature. He noted that the House has 110 members, while the Senate has only 38, so its members are more organized and disciplined in their deliberations. "The House is like a high school cafeteria," Switalski told the students. "The Senate is like the library."

The relative size of the chambers also has an influence on the importance of campaign fundraising, Switalski said. "The more people you represent, the more expensive the campaigns tend to be," he said.

Sponsored Research News

Recent grants

Five faculty members in CECS have received an equipment grant of \$219,000 from the National Science Foundation to purchase a high-speed, high-resolution 3D imaging and camera system.

The faculty members are **German Reyes-Villanueva**, assistant professor of mechanical engineering; with **Alan Argento**, professor of mechanical engineering; **Ghasan Kridli**, associate professor of industrial and manufacturing engineering systems; **HongTae Kang**, assistant professor of mechanical engineering; and **P.K. Mallick**, professor of mechanical engineering.

The new equipment will improve researchers' ability to test engineering materials and measure the results.

• **Krisanu Bandyopadhyay**, assistant professor of natural sciences, Vaman M. Naik,

chair of natural sciences, and John Thomas, associate professor of natural sciences, have received \$85,932 from the National Science Foundation for the purchase of an atomic force microscope.

• **Taehyun Shim**, assistant professor of mechanical engineering, received a \$15,000 grant for his project titled "Research Support for the AGMV Hybrid Control Refinement IRAD."

• **Jinhua Guo**, assistant professor of computer and information science, received an \$11,600 OVPR grant to work on a project to improve broadcast reliability in vehicular ad hoc networks.

• **Seth Hirshorn**, associate professor of education, received a \$7,128 award from the YES Foundation to support the Detroit Public Schools Eighth Grade Explorer Conclave, a Saturday program for students with high abilities and excellent test scores.

Get in the game



One hundred and twelve faculty and staff members attended the "Get in the Game" tailgate party in the University Center last week, including Clyde Mitchell, custodian in facilities management, who stopped by the Wellness Center's table to speak with Mary Pinkowski, Wellness Center coordinator, and Bryan Earl, intramural and recreation coordinator.

News Briefs

Roundtable discussion on economics of heroin use

Juliette Roddy, assistant professor of public policy, will present "Drug Purchasing and Consumption in Heroin-Abusing Research Volunteers: A Behavioral Economic Analysis" on Tuesday, Oct. 3 as part of the Provost's Roundtable discussion series on research and teaching.

A complimentary lunch begins at noon in the Henry Ford Estate Music Room.

Roddy's presentation and discussion will follow at 12:30 p.m.

The next roundtable will be held Wednesday, Oct. 18. Paul Draus, assistant professor of behavioral sciences, will present "Substance Abuse, Sociology and Slow-Motion Disasters: The Case of Detroit." His discussion also will be held in the Henry Ford Estate Music Room, beginning at noon with a complimentary lunch.

Child Development Center open house

The Child Development Center will host an open house from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. on Tuesday, Oct. 3 in Room 104 of the Academic Support Center.

The open house is an opportunity for parents to learn about the center's toddler, preschool and kindergarten programs. The UM-Dearborn center is accredited by the National Association

for the Education of Young Children.

The center will be accepting waitlist applications for all of its programs—toddler, preschool, prekindergarten and kindergarten. All programs offer active learning in a stimulating environment with an excellent teacher/child ratio.

For more information, call the Child Development Center at 593-5424.

New academic year celebration to be held Oct. 4

Chancellor Daniel Little will host his New Academic Year Celebration from 2:30 p.m. to 4 p.m. on Wednesday, Oct. 4 in the University

Center's Kochoff Hall.

Faculty and staff members are invited to meet new colleagues and visit with old friends.

Quote/Unquote

School of Education Prof. Belinda Lazarus was quoted in the July 24 issue of the *Detroit Free Press* in an article about laid-off workers returning to school to restart careers. From the article:

Belinda Lazarus, University of Michigan-Dearborn coordinator of the special education master's degree program, said the most noticeable rise in enrollment is in the school of education, where a demand for teachers with a specialty in special education is high.

"There are more jobs in special education than there would be, say, in English and social studies," Lazarus said. She said engineers should consider careers in teaching math and science.

"In my own teaching experience, when I taught fourth and fifth grades, we had a lot of engineers who came in and taught math and science and, man, they were good. It would be nice if we did see an influx in that program."

Student Ryan Schreiber, editor of the *Michigan Journal*, was quoted in a July 22 *Detroit Free Press* article concerning tuition increases at state universities.

"Obviously, annual increases are putting a strain on student's pockets and it doesn't seem like it's going to let up any time in the future," said Ryan Schreiber, 21, a senior at U-M Dearborn.

At the same time it announced the tuition hikes, U-M also announced increases in student financial aid.

That, Schreiber said, is "a step in the right direction."

Anthropology Prof. Barry Bogin's work on human adolescence was cited in an article in the July 23 edition of the *Columbia Missourian* newspaper.

Barry Bogin of the University of Michigan-Dearborn suspects that the teenage phase evolved to improve their chances of reproducing, according to a 2005 article in New Scientist.

Because girls develop adult features several years before they reach their fertile peak, about age 18, Bogin believes that "the time between looking fertile and being fertile allows women to practice social, sexual and cultural activities associated with adulthood, with a low risk of having their own children."

Student Government president Tarek Baydoun wrote a "local comment" article published Aug. 16 in the *Detroit Free Press* about the arrest of two young men from Dearborn, including a UM-Dearborn student, on charges of supporting terrorism that were later dropped for a lack of evidence. In the article, Baydoun said:

"We need the help of all of our fellow Americans to ensure that the next generation of American Muslim youth are afforded their rights, responsibilities and opportunities under the timeless banner of 'liberty and justice for all.' Anything else would be un-American."

(In this space, the Reporter cites selected quotations from faculty, staff and students that were included in articles in local, regional and national media outlets. If you know of recent examples that we might have missed, please send them to tgallagh@umd.umich.edu.)

Mission

The University of Michigan-Dearborn is an interactive, student-centered institution committed to excellence in teaching and learning.

We offer undergraduate, graduate, and professional education to a diverse, highly motivated, and talented student body. Our programs are responsive to the changing needs of society; relevant to the goals of our students and community partners; rich in opportunities for independent and collaborative study, research, and practical application; and reflective of the traditions of excellence, innovation, and leadership that distinguish the University of Michigan.

We accomplish this mission by:

- Providing a strong foundation in the liberal arts and sciences;
- Providing the knowledge and skills essential for career and personal success;
- Integrating teaching, research and service in ways that enhance the learning experience;
- Promoting internships and cooperative education;
- Providing a dynamic environment where innovation, openness, and creativity are fostered;
- Using advanced technologies to meet changing educational needs and establish links with the global community; and
- Forging partnerships with business, industry, educational institutions, and government agencies.

We strive to be the institution of choice in southeastern Michigan for individuals and organizations that value accessibility, flexibility, affordability, diversity, and preeminence in education.



New faculty members join campus this term



Scott



Thomas-Brown



Wang



Willard-Traub

UM-Dearborn welcomed 13 new faculty members at an orientation session coordinated by the Provost's Office at the end of August.

Six of the new faculty members are featured below. The other seven were featured in the Sept. 11 issue of the Reporter.

Julienne Roddy (not pictured), assistant professor of public policy, earned her bachelor's degree at Central Michigan University, her master's degree at Northern Arizona University and a doctoral degree at Wayne State University. She previously taught at Oakland University, Wayne State University and UM-Dearborn as a visiting assistant professor.

Roddy also worked at the California Institute of Technology's NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory from 1989 to 1992, where she distributed and managed the \$32 million Spaceborne Scatterometer Program.

Her research on "The Role of the Economist in Environmental Studies" was published in the *Oakland University Journal*. She also authored a study on the health of urban Indians in southeastern Michigan for American Indian Health and Family Services in 2004.

She is a member of the American Economics Association, the International Health Economics Association, the American Association of University Women and the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians.

Crystal J. Scott, assistant professor of marketing, received her bachelor's and master's degrees at U-M Ann Arbor and her doctoral degree at the Pennsylvania State University.

She previously taught at Wayne State University, Pennsylvania State University and Washtenaw Community College. Her industry experience includes serving as a consultant to Ford Motor Company, serving as an associate research director for Total Research Company in Troy and as a senior research analyst for the Polk Company in Southfield.

Her research interests include leadership effectiveness in marketing; managing consumer insights and experiences across channels; impact of relationship marketing on various measures of firm performance; and applications of methodological tools to current managerial problems.

She is a member of the American Marketing Association and the American Statistical Association.

Karen Antoinette Thomas-Brown, assistant professor of social studies, received her bachelor's degree at the University of the West Indies in Kingston, Jamaica and her doctoral degree at the University of Liverpool in the United Kingdom. She previously taught at the University of the West Indies, Mico College, Church Teachers' College and Tivoli Gardens High School, all in Jamaica.

Her teaching and research interests include geography education, urban patterns, globalization, environmental studies and geographical information systems within urban planning.

She has presented her work at conferences in Scotland and Belize and at seminars hosted by the Department of Geography at the University of the West Indies.

Shengquan Wang, assistant professor of computer and information science, received his bachelor's degree at Anhui Normal University in China and master's degrees at Shanghai Jiao Tong University in China and Texas A&M University. He will receive his doctoral degree in December at Texas A&M.

Wang previously taught at Shanghai Jiao Tong University and Texas A&M, where

he also was a research assistant. In addition, he served as a software engineer at Huawei Technologies Inc. in China.

His research interests include networking and distributed systems with a primary focus on real-time computing and communication, and secure computing and communication. He has worked on projects in the areas of the Internet, wireless networks, peer-to-peer systems, real-time systems, software component systems, security and privacy, and data mining.

His work has appeared in publications such as *Resource Management in Wireless Networking*, the *Real-Time Systems Journal*, *IEEE Transactions on System, Man and Cybernetics* and the *Journal of Parallel and Distributed Computing*.

Yulan Amanda Wang (not pictured), instructor in management studies, received her bachelor's and master's degrees at Shanghai Jiao Tong University and her doctoral degree at Duke University.

She previously taught at Duke's Fuqua School of Business and served as an instructor of English in Shanghai.

Her research interests include applications of game theory to multi-product production and distribution systems; supply-chain contracting; incentives and mechanism design; procurement; production and inventory planning; e-retailing; and revenue management.

She has presented her work on the

"Capacity and Flexibility in a Decentralized Multi-Product Assemble-to-Order System" and "Turnkey or In-house Consignment: Who Benefits and When?" at numerous conferences.

Margaret K. Willard-Traub, associate professor of composition and rhetoric and director of the Writing Program, received her bachelor's degree at the University of Pennsylvania, a master's degree at the University of Massachusetts and a doctoral degree from U-M Ann Arbor.

She previously taught at Oakland University, U-M, Wayne State University, Boston University, the University of Massachusetts, Bunker Hill Community College and Massachusetts Bay Community College. Willard-Traub also served as chair of Oakland University's Writing Across the Curriculum Initiative and as chair of its rhetoric program curriculum committee.

Her work has appeared in numerous publications, such as *College English*; *Composition*, *Pedagogy and the Scholarship of Teaching*; *Rhetoric Review*; and *Assessing Writing*. She also has presented at numerous conferences across the United States and Canada.

She is a member of the Rhetoric Society of America, the Michigan Academy of Science, Arts and Letters, the Modern Language Association, the Conference on College Composition and Communication, and the National Council of Teachers of English.

News Briefs

Career Services hosts job fairs Sept. 27-28

The Office of Career Services will host its two-day Fall 2006 Career Fair Sept. 27 and Sept. 28 for students, faculty and alumni.

The career fair geared toward students in the School of Management and CASL will be held from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Wednesday, Sept. 27 in Quad E of Fairlane Center North.

The fair geared toward engineering and computer science students will be held from

11 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Thursday, Sept. 28 in the University Center's Kochoff Hall.

Students who are registered with the Office of Career Services will be allowed early entrance to the fairs at 10 a.m. each day.

For more information, including a list of employers who will be attending, visit www.umd.umich.edu/careerservices.

Urban historian Thomas Sugrue to lecture Oct. 3

Thomas Sugrue, professor of history and sociology at the University of Pennsylvania, will visit campus at 6 p.m. on Tuesday, Oct. 3 to present a lecture as part of the Difficult Dialogues initiative at UM-Dearborn.

The location is to be determined.

Kudos

Kathryn Anderson-Levitt, professor of anthropology and dean of CASL, edited a "dossier" or theme issue, titled "Anthropologie de l'éducation: pour un tour du monde," to which she contributed an introductory essay, *Les divers courants en anthropologie de l'éducation* in the journal *Éducation et Sociétés*, published this summer.

McGraw-Hill has just published the new seventh edition of *Fourier Series and Boundary Value Problems* by **James Ward Brown**, professor of mathematics, and the late Ruel V. Churchill of the Ann Arbor campus. "This classic text is an introduction to Fourier series and their applications to boundary value problems in partial differential equations of engineering and physics," according to the publisher. "There are two main objectives of this text. The

first is to introduce the concept of orthogonal sets of functions and representations of arbitrary functions in series of functions from such sets. The second is a clear presentation of the classical method of separation of variables used in solving boundary value problems with the aid of those representations."

Terry Gallagher, director of public relations, will serve as chair of the public information officers committee of the Presidents Council of State Universities of Michigan, the Lansing-based advocacy group for the state's 15 public universities. The public information officers committee meets regularly for briefings on state policy issues and initiatives, discussions of strategies for advancing institutional and broader higher education agendas, and professional networking.