
FEDERAL AFFAIRS

Legislative & Budget Updates

Senate and House return this week to a packed agenda of items left over from last year, most importantly federal funding bills that need to be passed by the end of the month.

Budget/Appropriations

Speaker Johnson and Leader Schumer have reached a deal on top-line spending for FY24, which will allow the Appropriations Committees to move forward with writing their respective bills. The levels are largely what was agreed to last year in the debt limit deal with some additional reductions to unused COVID funds (these will only affect money not obligated by the federal government, which should not impact WSU) and cuts to the IRS. With the first tranche due on January 19 (includes funding for USDA, DOE, DOT, VA, and HUD) and the rest due on February 2. The Speaker has already taken some heat from the right wing of his party for not pushing hard enough and concerns remain about additional policy riders, so the process is far from over.

The President's budget for FY2025 is due to Congress on February 1, but given that FY2024 is still undecided we expect a delay or "skinny" budget with limited details. As you know, the President's budget is the first step in the year funding process and will provide some insights on priorities for this year.

Congressionally Directed Spending Requests

Wayne State was awarded a \$1M earmark for the School of Public Health in the Senate Labor-HHS bill thanks to the support of Senator Stabenow. DCGA has been engaged with her office and the rest of the delegation on protecting the allocation through the budget standoff between the chambers. We continue to engage with the hill on the issue and should have a better sense of whether the mark will survive the budget deal in the coming weeks.

Engagement Highlights

- Preliminary discussions with the Congressional delegation staff on WSU FY2025 funding priorities have begun.
- WSU Office of Women's Health – DCGA is working on securing meetings on the recently announced White House Women's Health Research Initiative (WHRI). As you may know, the WHRI is aimed at focusing federal efforts to support improved

efforts around women's health, and while no funding is attached to the initiative strategic engagement will help position the University for future opportunities.

- Center for Emerging and Infectious Diseases – DGCA currently setting up internal briefing on the new center and we have a federal engagement strategy to build awareness of the new center and potential government partnerships over the next few months.

STATE AFFAIRS

Legislative & Budget Updates

The Legislature has been on recess since the last Board of Governor's meeting with no action taken. The Legislature returns on January 10 for its first session day, but little action is expected until the two open House of Representatives seats are filled on April 16. The Governor, however, has announced her State of the State address will be on Wednesday, January 24. It is expected that the Governor's address will highlight Democratic Majority successes from the previous year – repealing obsolete abortion provisions and expanding abortion rights in state statute, passing energy reform policies, and financial disclosure requirements for elected official – as well as a focus on unfinished priorities like Paid Family Leave, recommendations from the Population Growth Council, continued push for affordable housing expansion, protection of seniors, and economic development opportunities.

Legislation Update

WSU DGCA continues to monitor state legislation and regulations that could impact our students, our faculty, our community, and our ability to carry out our mission. When formulating a university position, we work with internal subject matter experts to both craft the best position and to provide feedback to legislators. Further, we work collaboratively with both our URC partners and all 15 public universities to leverage our collective positions and create favorable outcomes as often as possible. Below is a list of legislation that has passed and signed by the Governor since the last Board of Governor's Meeting:

- Senate Bills 148 (Polehanki) & 149 (Hertel) Requires certain research facilities to offer certain laboratory animals for adoption before euthanization. Now 314 PA 2023 and 315 PA 2023.
- Senate Bill 247 (McCann) Amends the Liquor Control Code to allow the Liquor Control Commission (MLCC) to grant licenses to sell alcohol for on-premises

consumption to the governing board of a public university if certain conditions are met. Now 96 PA 2023.

- House Bill 4199 (Conlin) Expands Michigan National Guard tuition assistance program eligibility for spouses. Reported out of Committee on Military, Veterans and Homeland Security without amendment. Now 33 PA 2023.
- House Bill 4120 (Rogers) - Requires distribution of training package to individuals designated as mandatory reporters for child abuse or child neglect. Now 46 PA 2023.
- House Bill 4121 (Breen) - Provides permanent revocation of license or registration if convicted of sexual conduct under pretext of medical treatment. Now 47 PA 2023.
- House Bill 4122 (Hope) - Provides permanent revocation of license or registration if convicted of sexual conduct under pretext of medical treatment. Now 48 PA 2023.
- House Bill 4123 (Filler) - Prohibits preventing reporting of crime by use of position of authority. Now 49 PA 2023.
- House Bill 4124 (Glanville) - Prohibits preventing reporting of certain alleged crimes to title IX coordinator by use of position of authority. Now 50 PA 2023.
- House Bill 4125 (Rheingans) - Requires certain actions regarding pupil who reports being sexually assaulted and prohibits pupil from being expelled for reported incident. Now 51 PA 2023.
- House Bill 4438 (Breen) – Expands compulsory binding arbitration of labor disputes in police and fire departments to include higher education institutions that work as police or firefighters. Now 171 PA 2023.

We are currently monitoring, and actively engaging, on several pieces of legislation including, but not limited to, the following:

- Senate Bill 32 (Santana) Amends the Wage & Fringe Benefits Act (Wage & Hour) to allow a law enforcement agency and law enforcement training academy to recoup the costs of training based on time served.
- Senate Bill 74 (Singh) Creates the “Higher Education Sexual Assault Prevention, Advocacy, and Resource Officer Act” to be housed within the Michigan Department of Civil Rights. – WSU Opposes on autonomy groups; Hearing likely in early April.

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- Senate Bill 184 (Webber) Supplemental Appropriation bill that would provide funding for university and community college safety grants.
 - State Bill 185 (Irwin) Amends Public Employment Relations Act to delete a provision that excludes graduate research assistants from unionizing.
 - Senate Bill 202 (McCann) Supplemental Appropriation bill for Higher Education (FY 23-24)
 - Senate Bill 329 (Irwin) Creates a “bill of rights” for policyholders, requiring insurance companies to exercise “good faith and fair dealing” in the investigation, adjustment, evaluation, and payment of claims and to “give all reasonable benefit of the doubt” to claimants.
 - Senate Bill 350 (Bayer) Allows for room and board expenses under the Promise Zone Authority Act.
 - Senate Bill 555 (Anthony) Modifies Michigan Promise Zone authority membership.
 - Senate Bill 568 (Polehanki) Adds certain requirements for the approval of teacher education programs.
 - Senate Bill 463 (Camilleri) Amends the Revised School Code to require completion of the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) by pupils as condition of graduation.
 - HJR A (Johnsen) is a joint resolution proposing an amendment to the state constitution of 1963, by amending sections 5 and 6 of article VIII, to prohibit public universities from restricting or regulating the carrying of concealed pistols on university property except as authorized by law.
 - House Bill 4017 (Witwer) School Aid Supplemental bill that could be used for Higher Education purposes, including modifications to the Michigan Achievement Scholarship.
 - House Bills 4277 & 4278 (Paiz) Requires certain research facilities to offer certain laboratory animals for adoption before euthanization.
 - House Bill 4319 (Witwer) Authorizes university officials to provide guidance to student athletes on Name, Image, Likeness compensation.
 - House Bill 4328 (McCann) Amends the Liquor Control Code to allow the Liquor Control Commission (MLCC) to grant licenses to sell alcohol for on-premises

consumption to the governing board of a public university if certain conditions are met.

- House Bill 4482 (Brixie) Extends period of limitations for civil actions for criminal sexual conduct from age 28 to age 52, extends statute of limitations after the time of discovery from three years to seven years, and eliminates SOL if there is a criminal conviction in each case, and establishes a two-year revival window for survivors whose SOL previously expired.
- House Bill 4482 (Steckloff) Modifies period of limitation civil actions for criminal sexual conduct.
- House Bill 4483 (Arbit) Revises statute of limitations and notice requirements for actions against state government regarding sexual conduct violations.
- House Bill 4484 (Miller) Eliminates statute of limitations for certain criminal sexual conduct violations.
- House Bill 4485 (Whitsett) Allows governmental agency and employee liability for criminal sexual conduct.
- House Bill 4486 (Scott) Provides exception to notice requirements for civil actions for criminal sexual conduct filed in court.
- House Bill 4497 (Rheingans) Amends Public Employment Relations Act to delete a provision that excludes graduate research assistants and student athletes from unionizing.
- House Bill 4681 (Breen) Creates a “bill of rights” for policyholders, requiring insurance companies to exercise “good faith and fair dealing” in the investigation, adjustment, evaluation, and payment of claims and to “give all reasonable benefit of the doubt” to claimants.
- House Bill 4849 (Koleszar) Would prohibit research on cats and dogs if the research or training activities cause any pain or distress to the animal.
- House Bills 4853 (Steckloff) and 4854 (Scott) Amends the Elliot-Larsen Civil Rights Act to prohibit discrimination against students for wearing traditional regalia.
- House Bill 5102 (Puri) Provides additional research and development tax credit for collaboration with research universities.

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- House Bills 5184 (Brabec) and 5185 (Ewards) Amend the Public Health Code to make modifications to licensure requirements for Social Workers in the State of Michigan.
 - House Bill 5187 (Hood) Creates the Research and Development Tax Credit Definitions Act and defines research university as a public university or an independent nonprofit college or university in Michigan.

Student Legislative Engagement

The Division of Government and Community Affairs partners with students, faculty and staff who have an interest in participating in the legislative process. Members of Science Policy Network-Detroit, a student group at WSU that aims to break down barriers between policy makers and researchers, has continued to work with our office to increase efforts in Lansing and Washington, D.C. DGCA also worked with the College of Pharmacy on its advocacy day in Lansing during the Fall semester. DGCA has also engaged provided guest lectures to students interested in advocacy and public policy.

Appointments

The Division of Government and Community Affairs monitors and engages in the Gubernatorial Appointment process to ensure that Warrior voices are at the tables where decisions are being made. Below is a list of recent appointments of Wayne State alumni, staff, and Governors:

Michigan Board of Medicine: **Dr. Iltefat Hamzavi**, of Northville, is the President and a clinical specialist at Hamzavi Dermatology Specialist in Michigan. Hamzavi holds a Bachelor of Science and a Doctor of Medicine from the University of Michigan. He currently serves as the senior staff physician in the department of dermatology at Henry Ford Health. He is also a clinical associate professor in the department of dermatology at Wayne State University and serves on many disease awareness boards. Dr. Hamzavi is appointed to represent physicians for a term beginning December 21, 2023, and expiring December 31, 2025. Dr. Iltefat Hamzavi is replacing Venkat Rao who has passed away.

Crime Victim Services Commission: **Dr. Tolulope Sonuyi**, of Detroit, is an attending physician at the Detroit Receiving Hospital Department of Emergency Medicine, as well as the Sinai Grace Hospital Department of Emergency Medicine. He is also an assistant professor at Wayne State University's School of Medicine. Dr. Sonuyi received a Bachelor of Science in biochemistry from the University of California, Los Angeles, a Master of Science in Clinical Research and a Doctor of Medicine from the University of Michigan. Dr. Sonuyi is reappointed to represent Independents and medical

professionals for a term commencing December 21, 2023, and expiring September 27, 2026.

LGBTQ+ Commission: **Brandon Shamoun**, of Detroit, is the Assistant Dean of Students for Student Involvement, Activities and Organizations at Wayne State University. He is currently the chair of Stonewall Sports Detroit, an LGBTQ+ sports organization in metro Detroit, and the co-chair of Queer Employee Organization (QWSU). He holds a Bachelor of Arts from Wayne State University and Master of Education in higher education from Grand Valley State University. He is appointed to represent educators for a term commencing November 30, 2023, and expiring on November 29, 2027.

LGBTQ+ Commission: **Dr. Renee McLaughlin**, of Chatham, is the National Medical Director at CIGNA Healthcare. She previously served as the founding member of the Chattanooga LGBT Chamber of Commerce and serves on the Board of Directors of the Human Rights Campaign. She holds a Bachelor of Science from Adrian College, a master's degree of science in biology from Wayne State University, a degree in medicine from the University of Pittsburgh, and an LGBT Leadership certificate from Stanford University. McLaughlin also served as a former major of the United States reserve active duty. She is appointed to represent medical professionals who regularly provide care to the LGBTQ+ community for a term commencing November 30, 2023, and expiring on November 29, 2027.

LGBTQ+ Commission: **Anthony Williams**, of Birmingham, is the Chief Executive Officer at Corktown Health, a non-profit LGBTQ-focused medical home. He holds a bachelor's degree in business administration from the University of Michigan-Dearborn, and a Juris Doctor from Wayne State University Law School. He is appointed to represent LGBTQ+ Advocacy Organizations in the form of a community center for a term commencing November 30, 2023, and expiring on November 29, 2027.

Detroit Financial Review Commission: **John M. Barnwell, M.D.**, of Detroit, is the chief of surgery and the associate vice president for medical affairs at Sinai-Grace Hospital. He is also a clinical assistant professor in the Department of Surgery at Wayne State University and Osteopathic Faculty at Michigan State University. He holds a Bachelor of Science and Doctor of Medicine from Howard University. Dr. Barnwell is appointed to represent residents of Detroit for a term commencing November 30, 2023, and expiring November 9, 2027.

Michigan Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee: **Dr. Mehvish S. Khan**, Pharm.D., of West Bloomfield, is the inpatient staff pharmacist for St. Joseph Mercy Hospital, as well as the Ascension Macomb-Oakland Hospital. Additionally, she is a member of the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists, Southeastern Michigan Society of

Health-System Pharmacists, and has contributed to the Gestational Diabetes Booklet and Diabetes Education Newsletter. She holds a Bachelor of Science in health sciences from Oakland University and a Doctor of Pharmacy from Wayne State University. Dr. Khan is reappointed to represent pharmacists for a term commencing November 8, 2023, and expiring October 1, 2025.

Michigan Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee: **Dr. Safwan Badr**, M.D., of West Bloomfield, is the chair of internal medicine for Wayne State University School of Medicine. Dr. Badr received the Nathaniel Kleitman Distinguished Service Award from the American Academy of Sleep Medicine in 2021. He holds a Doctor of Medicine from Damascus University School of Medicine and a Master of Business Administration from the University of Tennessee. Dr. Badr is reappointed to represent physicians for a term commencing November 8, 2023, and expiring October 1, 2025.

Michigan Task Force on Physician's Assistants: **Michael Coraci**, of West Bloomfield, works at William Beaumont Hospital under Dr. Richard Silbergleit in Interventional Radiology. Coraci has a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology from Oakland University and a Master of Science in Physician Assistant Studies from Wayne State University. Michael Coraci is reappointed to represent physician's assistants for a term commencing January 1, 2024, and expiring December 31, 2027.

Certificate of Need Commission: **James "Chip" Falahee**, of Portage, is the Senior Vice President of Legal & Legislative Affairs for Bronson Healthcare Group. He joined Bronson in 1987 and has more than 40 years of experience in health care law and legislation. Mr. Falahee received his Bachelor of Arts in English and political science from the University of Michigan and his Juris Doctor from Wayne State University. Mr. Falahee is reappointed to represent hospitals and Republicans, for a term commencing November 21, 2023, and expiring April 9, 2025.

Michigan Truck Safety Commission: **Samer Koujane**, of West Bloomfield Township, is the Director of Operations for SA Express, Inc. He holds a Bachelor of Science in global supply chain management from Wayne State University. Mr. Koujane is appointed to represent the general public for a term commencing November 21, 2023, and expiring August 4, 2025. He succeeds Randy Coplin whose term has expired.

Michigan Board of Licensed Midwifery: **Dr. Hsin Wang**, of West Bloomfield, is an OB/GYN with Detroit Medical Center and has worked there since 2012. She holds a Bachelor of Science in chemistry from the University of Michigan, and an M.D. from the Wayne State University School of Medicine. Dr. Wang is reappointed to represent board certified obstetrician-gynecologists for a term commencing January 1, 2024, and expiring December 31, 2027.

Michigan Board of Marriage and Family Therapy: **Emily Short**, of Davison, is a licensed Marriage and Family therapist at Brighter Tomorrow in Clarkston, Michigan. Short holds a Bachelor of Science in biology from Saginaw Valley State University, a Bachelor of Science in psychology from Wayne State University, and a Master of Arts in marriage and family therapy. She is currently pursuing her Doctorate in Marriage and Family Therapy. Ms. Short is reappointed to represent marriage and family therapists for a term commencing November 21, 2023, and expiring June 30, 2027.

Michigan Board of Real Estate Brokers and Salespersons: **Benjamin Smith**, of Farmington Hills, is a Principal at Summit Commercial in Detroit, Michigan. Smith holds a Bachelor of Business Administration from Howard University and a Juris Doctor from Wayne Law School. Additionally, he was also commissioned as an officer at the U.S. Coast guard Officer Candidate School at Yorktown, Virginia. Benjamin Smith is reappointed to represent real estate brokers and salespersons for a term commencing November 21, 2023, and expiring June 30, 2027.

Suicide Prevention Commission: **Brian Galdes**, of Plymouth, is the superintendent for South Redford School District. Prior to becoming superintendent in 2010, Mr. Galdes worked as a principal within the South Redford School District. He received his Bachelor of Science in education as well as his Master of Science in School Administration from Wayne State University. Mr. Galdes is appointed to represent a member nominated by the Senate Majority Leader, for a term commencing November 30, 2023, and expiring December 31, 2024. He succeeds Laurin Jozlin who has resigned.

Michigan Civil Rights Commission: **Portia Roberson**, of Detroit, is the CEO of Focus: HOPE, a 55-year-old organization with a focus on workforce development and education. Previously she served the City of Detroit as the Group Executive for Civil Rights, Inclusion & Opportunity. Roberson earned her bachelor's degree in English at the University of Michigan, and juris doctor at Wayne State University Law School. Portia Roberson is reappointed to represent democrats for a term commencing January 1, 2024, and expiring December 31, 2027.

Michigan Board of Occupational Therapists: **Melissa Mafiah**, of Canton, is a general physiatrist at Corewell Health Medical Group East in Taylor, Michigan. She is also an associate program director and core PMR Faculty member at the Corewell Health Taylor Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation Residency Program. She holds a Bachelor of Science in biological sciences and a Doctor of Medicine from Wayne State University. Mafiah is reappointed to represent a public member who is a physician under part 170 or 175 for a term commencing January 1, 2024, and expiring December 31, 2027.

Governor's Task Force on Child Abuse and Neglect: **Ursula Ahart**, of Detroit, is the Executive Director at Federation of Youth Services in Detroit, Michigan. She holds a

Bachelor of Arts in sociology from Wayne State University and a Master of Social Work from the University of Michigan. Ursula Ahart is reappointed to represent individuals experienced in working with homeless children and youths for a term commencing January 1, 2024, and expiring December 31, 2026.

Governor's Task Force on Child Abuse and Neglect: **Honorable Chris Ninomiya**, of Iron Mountain, is a 41st Circuit Court Judge for the state of Michigan serving the counties of Dickinson, Menominee, and Iron. Judge Ninomiya holds a Bachelor of Arts in general business administration/pre-law from Michigan State University and a Juris Doctor from Wayne State University. Judge Ninomiya is reappointed to represent criminal court judges for a term commencing January 1, 2024, and expiring December 31, 2026.

Commission on Agricultural and Rural Development: **Kathy Garthe**, of Northport, is retired from a position as Vice President for Regional System Development and Corporate Communication for Munson Healthcare where her focus was carefully coordinated health services care for the combined northern lower 21 counties. She and her husband live on one of their conserved fruit-growing farms in Northport where they grow cherries, apples, and pears. Garthe holds a Bachelor of Science in nursing from Washburn University and a Master of Science in nursing from Wayne State University. Since her retirement, she has committed her time to serving the Leelanau community through board involvement in the Northport Area Heritage Association, the Leelanau Township Community Foundation, and the Leelanau Children's Choir and Youth Ensemble. She is a member of Northport Energy and is active with the Dark Sky Committee of that organization. Garthe is appointed to represent Independents for a term commencing January 1, 2024, and expiring December 31, 2027. She succeeds Juliette King-McAvoy whose term will expire December 31, 2023

Michigan Commission on Law Enforcement Standards: **Anthony Wickersham** is the sheriff for Macomb County. He holds a bachelor's degree in technical and interdisciplinary studies from Wayne State University. Sheriff Wickersham is reappointed to represent an individual nominated by the Michigan Sheriff's Association for a term commencing January 1, 2023, and expiring December 31, 2027.

Michigan Developmental Disabilities Council: **Shawan Dortch**, of Detroit, is a special education consultant for the Michigan Department of Education, a position she has had since 2014. Previously, she worked as a special education supervisor for Henry Ford High School and as a teacher for Detroit Public Schools. Dortch received her Bachelor of Business Administration from William Tyndale college and her Master of Art in education, specialized in special education from Wayne State University. Dortch is appointed to represent a state agency that administers funds under the Individuals with

Disabilities Education Act for a term commencing December 14, 2023, and expiring September 30, 2027. She succeeds Jeanne Anderson Tippetts whose term has expired.

Michigan Infrastructure Council: Palencia Mobley, Detroit, P.E. is the Midwest manager for the Environmental Innovation Policy Center and was formerly the deputy director and chief engineer of the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department. A licensed professional engineer with nearly 20 years of experience in the industry. Mobley holds a bachelor's degree in chemical engineering from the University of Michigan and a master's degree in civil and environmental engineering from Wayne State University. Mobley is reappointed for a term commencing January 1, 2024, and expiring December 31, 2026.

COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

The Division of Government and Community Affairs (DGCA) continues its work of initiating new and supporting existing WSU community engagement. Stacie Clayton, Community Affairs Director, provides leadership and internal support and guidance to the university's various colleges, schools and divisions on special events, programs, and other matters as needed.

2024 Tribute to Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

A majority of time for the past quarter has been spent planning one of Wayne State University's signature events – The Tribute to the Life and Legacy of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. This is the 24th year for the event started by former WSU Senior Vice President Dr. Arthur L. Johnson. The Director of Community Affairs is responsible for the development and production of this annual event. It is paid for through sponsorship dollars from corporate and community partners raised directly by the DGCA. The Division seeks to ensure this event remains free and open to the public, faculty and staff. This year marked the first time since early in its inception the event was held on WSU's campus. For a number of years, it was held at Orchestra Hall.

The two-part event (this is the second year it has extended to two days) took place on Thursday, January 11, 2024, 5:00pm-7:00pm in the Industry Innovation Center Auditorium and on Friday, January 12, 2024, at 10am-12:00pm in the Hilberry Gateway Performing Arts Center.

The theme for 2024 was **Arts, Culture and Music of the Movement**. We were delighted to have Santita Jackson, political analyst, radio and TV host, and internationally recognized vocalist, serve as our special guest on both days. Ms. Jackson continues the legacies of Rev. Dr. King and her father and mother, Rev. and Mrs. Jesse Jackson, by educating about voting rights and advocating for civil and human rights. The lessons she learned as a child growing up under these influences are still relevant today.

On Thursday evening, January 11, we had an event entitled ***The Motor City and the Movement*** that focused specifically on Detroit and the civil rights movement. The moderated panel discussion examined Detroit's influence on the civil rights movement through music, art, religion, politics and labor perspectives. The evening concluded with a conversation about voting rights and the role activism plays in today's culture.

On Friday, January 12, ***Arts, Culture, and Music of the Movement***, the program featured presentations, music, and dance followed by a conversation with Ms. Jackson. We also presented the **Dr. Arthur L. Johnson Community Leadership Awards** honoring Gretchen C. Valade and the Detroit Symphony Orchestra's Detroit Harmony as an individual and an organization exemplifying Dr. Johnson's commitment to community and making a positive difference in Detroit and beyond.

Over 100 people were in attendance for ***The Motor City and the Movement*** and over 400 were in attendance on Friday for ***Arts, Culture, and Music of the Movement***.

Friday's program was taped and shown on WSU's website on Monday, January 15, the actual King Holiday. This provided an opportunity for people to honor Dr. King who were unable to attend the in-person events.