

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS REPORT

HIGHLIGHTS FROM SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES

College of Engineering

Wayne State University partnered with the University of North Texas and Clarkson University to form the Center for Electric, Connected and Autonomous Technologies for Mobility (eCAT), a National Science Foundation (NSF) Industry-University Cooperative Research Center (IUCRC) tasked with developing sustainable mobility technologies such as electrification, smart infrastructure, and resilient edge computing systems for autonomous driving. The IUCRC program supports multiuniversity, industry-sponsored research that allows companies to acquire new technologies. The research team received a \$20,000 NSF grant to establish eCAT and is aided by an industrial advisory board to identify potential projects.

An American Welding Society (AWS) Foundation Welding Workforce Grant in the amount of \$25,000 will support the university's bachelor of science program in welding and metallurgical engineering technology, which was introduced in fall 2020. Wayne State will use the funds to upgrade its welding and metallurgical laboratories, adding two welding cells in the Engineering Technology building.

Zheng Dong, assistant professor of computer science, received a two-year, \$174,944 grant from the National Science Foundation's Computer and Information Science and Engineering (CISE) Research Initiation Initiative (CRII). His latest project centers on predictable real-time computing for connected autonomous driving (CAD), a critical step to developing a system in which cars, personal communication devices, roadside units and other elements of infrastructure have stable wireless communication central to the perception tasks and timing correctness necessary to bring this technology to life.

College of Fine Performing and Communications Arts

The James Pearson Duffy Department of Art and Art History played an integral role in a grant awarded this summer by Michigan Humanities for a project called Celebrating the Past – Connecting the Future. This public humanities initiative connects a multidisciplinary team of physicians, artists, students and community activists with each other and with the broader community to create a mural, and a documentary film that celebrates the history of diversity in medicine, the impact of African-Americans (and other marginalized populations) in healthcare at Wayne State University and in the City of Detroit, and the role of Wayne State University School of Medicine and the Detroit Medical Center in shaping healthcare locally and nationally.

MetroArts Detroit, a television program produced by Wayne State students that feature artists in and around the Metropolitan Detroit area representing the disciplines of visual, performing, and communication arts, debuts 10th season on Detroit Public Television. The show brings awareness to up-and-coming talents while also supporting established artists who have worked in the metro Detroit area as advocates and community leaders.

College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

Researchers from chemistry and mathematics were recently awarded [\\$3.3 million from DOE to advance quantum science and technology](#). Led by Aaron Rury, Ph.D., assistant professor of chemistry, the team will collaborate with researchers at the University of California-Irvine, the University of California-San Diego, Los Alamos National Laboratory, and Argonne National Laboratory.

[Chemistry Alum Jason McClellan has been lauded for his role](#) in developing technology for the COVID-19 vaccine. McClellan, who graduated with a B.S. in chemistry in 2003, was recently honored by his hometown of St. Clair Shores for his efforts.

A team of CLAS and engineering students has [designed and installed a new bioswale on campus](#). The landscape element is designed to concentrate and convey stormwater runoff while removing debris and pollution.

Criminal Justice Professor [Matthew Larson has been appointed by Governor Gretchen Whitmer to the Michigan Correctional Officers' Training Council](#). Designed to update and develop the training requirements for both current and newly hired Michigan's Correctional Officers, the Training Council's eight members work to represent particular interests relevant to correctional officer's training course content.

College of Nursing

The CON graduate programs continue to be ranked among the best in the country. This month, US News and World report released its first ever rankings of undergraduate nursing programs and WSU ranks number 43 of 700 ranked programs, placing us in the top 7% of BSN programs in the country. This is a wonderful recognition of the work of our faculty and staff to prepare the next generation of professional nurses ready to enter practice in this time of great demand for nurses.

Assistant Professor (Clinical) Cynthera McNeill, clinical coordinator of the Adult Gerontology nurse practitioner program at Wayne State University and a healthcare provider in Detroit Michigan is the only nurse practitioner leader in Michigan recently inducted as a Fellow of the American Association of Nurse Practitioners (FAANP) during the 2021 AANP conference.

Professor Debra Schutte has been selected to be a Fellow of the American Academy of Nursing, that recognizes nursing's most accomplished leaders in policy, research, practice, administration, and academia. Academy Fellows are inducted into the organization for their extraordinary contributions to improve health locally and globally. Dr. Schutte's induction will bring the total number of current Wayne State University College of Nursing faculty members who are also Fellows of the Academy to seven.

Eugene Applebaum College of Pharmacy & Health Sciences

WSU Applebaum was part of an interprofessional, cross-campus team that earned accolades this summer from the Association of American Medical Colleges for the university's [telehealth equity efforts](#). College alumnus Rony Foumia '99 won [Pharmacist of the Year](#) from the Michigan Society of Community Pharmacists. And Associate Professor of Physical Therapy Moh Malek earned the prestigious [Century Citation Club](#) honor from *The Journal of Physiology* in recognition of his skeletal muscle structure and function paper being cited 100 times in within 10 years.

Many WSU Applebaum students spent their summer actively involved in hands-on community service across Detroit, including Wayne State's chapter of the [Student National Pharmaceutical Association](#), WSU Applebaum students who collaborated with the School of Medicine to offer free [health screenings on the Detroit Riverfront](#), and our Mu Omicron Pi chapter of Kappa Psi, which earned the national Professional Fraternity Association's Professional Project of the Year award for its [childhood literacy](#) and food insecurity efforts. Meanwhile, our Omicron chapter of [Lambda Kappa Sigma](#), which elevates women in pharmacy, earned three key awards during their virtual national convention in July.

Graduate School

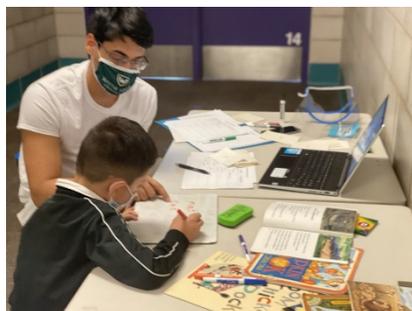
Graduate School Introduces Revamped Professional Development Event Series

The Graduate School's professional development events have always provided current graduate students with best practices and additional skills not learned in the classroom. Now, for the first time, the Graduate School has opened its events to prospective students, promoting the university's thought-leadership and best-in-class faculty. By opening these events to a wider audience, the Graduate School hopes to drive more applications and greater awareness throughout the Detroit community.

The Graduate School has named Dr. Jeff Pruchnic as associate dean. In this role, Pruchnic will be the liaison between graduate students and the Graduate School, acting as their first point of contact concerning non-academic student affairs. Pruchnic started the position in August and will handle his duties while continuing as an associate professor of English in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. As associate dean, Pruchnic follows in the footsteps of Dr. Sharon Lean, who served in the role for three years.

Honors College

Detroit Fellows Tutoring Project (DFTP) is a long-standing service-learning course that trains and sends our students into the Detroit Public Schools to tutor children in basic reading skills. This summer, six Honors College students, all former DFTP tutors, participated in the first summer-school fellowship version of the Project offered at Roberto Clemente Elementary School in southwest Detroit. Despite the challenging pandemic conditions, the four-week pilot was a great success: 136 hours of one-to-one tutoring in 272 half-hour individual sessions.



The Honors College successfully completed the second class of the Applebaum Emerging Leaders Program for Summer 2021. The Applebaum Emerging Leaders Program, an intensive program that offers personal, professional and leadership development experiences to select Irvin D. Reid Honors College students in an engaging, interactive cohort. All Honors

students were invited to apply for the eight-week program, and ten were selected. Each participating student received a stipend, and the Applebaum Emerging Leaders Program was led and taught by award-winning marketing and sales executive Nicole M. Lewis with support and mentoring from Wayne State University faculty and administrators, community leaders, and business professionals. More information on the program is provided at <https://honors.wayne.edu/academics/applebaum>.

Law School

With the start of the academic year, Wayne Law welcomed four new highly accomplished scholars to the faculty. Assistant Professor **Nancy Chi Cantalupo** is a nationally respected voice on Title IX, sexual harassment and gender-based violence. **Daniel Ellman**, director of externships and an assistant professor (clinical), is a former law clerk to Michigan Supreme Court Justice Richard H. Bernstein, a former public defender at New York City's storied Bronx Defenders, and has been instrumental in launching the Law School's holistic defense partnership. Professor **Jamila Jefferson-Jones** is an expert in property and wealth attainment by marginalized communities and a nationally sought-after speaker on issues of race and the law who holds multiple leadership positions with the American Bar Association and the Association of American Law Schools. Assistant Professor **Hillel Nadler** is an honors graduate of both Harvard College and the University of Chicago Law School whose research focuses on taxation and financial regulation.

The Law School continues to enhance its stature and attract new students to the school and the university through innovative experiential, interdisciplinary, and non-JD programs. The Minor in Law program is expanding across campus, with 204 declared minors to date; the College of Engineering is expected to join as the fifth partner institution. The online Master of Studies in Law program accepted 14 new students this fall semester, totaling 33 students to date—more than double our initial enrollment projection for the first two semesters. With the School of Social Work, the Law School launched a holistic defense partnership that will train law students and M.S.W. students together to achieve the best possible outcomes for clients navigating the criminal justice system. Wayne State is one of only a handful of institutions nationwide to have such a program. Beginning in winter 2022, Wayne Law students will be able to spend the semester living and working in Washington, D.C. through a new externship program, "Lawyering in the Nation's Capital." This externship program is a partnership between the Law School's Experiential Learning program, Damon J. Keith Center for Civil Rights and Levin Center.

Mike Ilitch School of Business

Mike Ilitch School of Business Professor of Global Supply Chain Management Sachin Modi has been appointed as sustainability department editor for the *Journal of Operations Management (JOM)*. Modi's role as sustainability department editor gives Wayne State, the Ilitch School and the global supply chain management program great worldwide visibility and stature.

A team from the Mike Ilitch School of Business has provided the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) with a public comment letter regarding climate change and climate reporting disclosures. Accounting student Samantha Tirakian took the lead on this assignment with assistance from Matthew Roling, part-time faculty in finance, and fellow accounting student Tom Otten. The Ilitch School team answered a call from the SEC to

provide public input on climate change disclosures, and their robust report was published on the SEC's website.

School of Social Work

Social Work Associate Professor Suzanne Brown has received \$1.92 million in additional funding from the Health and Human Services Administration (HRSA) to continue its successful Trauma Informed Integrated Healthcare-the Behavioral Health Workforce Education and Training Grant (BHWET). BHWET advances nursing, social work, and psychology education, and clinical practice through the provision of culturally competent, enhanced interprofessional education (IPE) in integrated healthcare settings. The student training has a targeted focus on children, adolescents, and transitional age youth at risk for developing or who have developed a recognized behavioral health disorder and located in a medically underserved community.

A new community engagement project funded by the Urban Learning and Leadership Collaborative (ULLC) brings together Social Work researchers Shantalea Johns and Megan Hicks and Detroit non-profit The Yunion, to support young Black males' resiliency to dismantle the School to Prison Pipeline overwhelming the Detroit community.

STUDENT SERVICES

Student life had a successful beginning to the academic year, featuring over 3,000 students and their guests at New Student Convocation and over 350 student organization and department tables at Festifall. This was followed up with Campus Activities Week the week of September 6, with many social events and culminating with the traditional Gullen Mall block party and Student Organizations Day was held on September 15 with over 200 student organizations staffing tables to recruit students to get involved in their student organizations. Summer saw the introduction of the new Warrior Summer Activities Program to welcome students to campus during the summer to participate in activities (Bingo nights, scavenger hunts, outdoor movies) and begin their Wayne State academic year experience early!

Fall campus housing move in was successfully held over four days, August 26-29, 2021 with individual days focused on learning community residents, first year students, and upper class returning residents. 2,362 residents (66% of capacity) have moved into housing as of September 1, 2021, living in six residence halls and apartment buildings. Atchison Hall is closed for the 2021-22 academic year.

This fall we were excited to open the First Year Residential Experience (FYRE) in the newly renovated Chatsworth Suites. Designed by a task force consisting of colleagues from Housing & Residential Life, Academic Success Center, New Student Orientation, APEX, and the Dean of Students Office, FYRE is a landing-pad for first year students to quickly build the capacity and agency to be successful Warriors both in and outside the classroom. FYRE is supported by one full-time community director and eight resident advisors who have been specially trained to aid in first-year student transitions. Many campus partners have in-person programs and drop-in hours at Chatsworth Suites, including the Study Skills Academy, Counseling & Psychological Services, and the Student Service Center. It is our hope that FYRE will become a hallmark residential experience for Wayne State University students and will further support the University's commitment to student success and retention.

STUDENT SUCCESS

Federal TRIO Programs Educational Talent Search Award. The Educational Talent Search (ETS) grant was renewed for 5 years. The grant will service 500 high school students in Detroit Public Schools Community District as well as some surrounding areas. The purpose of ETS is to expose students to college readiness and career exploration.

TRIO Select Student Services Award for Veterans. The Office of Military Veterans Academic Excellence (OMVAE) and TRIO Veteran Upward Bound (VUB) were awarded the TRIO SSS grant for veterans. Through the grant, we are offering comprehensive wrap-around academic support that increases college retention and graduation to veterans who are low income, first generation or what have a disability. The VET-SSS Success Coach, Jaime Lopez, has recruited 60 students with a target number of 90 for the fall semester.

COMPUTING AND TECHNOLOGY

With the return to classrooms this Fall, the Division of Computing & Information Technology (C&IT) collaborated closely with the Office of Teaching and Learning (OTL) on assisting faculty with the transition back to the classroom. C&IT has established a new permanent classroom IT support office on the 2nd floor of State Hall. In preparation for the fall, IT staff have finished a walkthrough of all campus classrooms, ensuring technology is tested, operational and upgraded with the tools that faculty may require such as Zoom and Teams. For the first two weeks of classes, C&IT stationed staff in the lobbies of the five most-trafficked classroom buildings, ensuring that faculty and students had ready access to visible support. A modernization effort was completed for classroom technology in State Hall, upgrading AV technology and computers in all general-purpose classrooms. Additional tools such as wireless microphones and voice amplifiers have been made available to faculty to help faculty adapt to teaching while wearing a mask or with remote students.