

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS REPORT

HIGHLIGHTS FROM SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES

College of Engineering

New research from Helen Durand, assistant professor of chemical engineering and materials science, will explore the viability and safety of quantum computing in control systems. The project — which merited a five-year, \$542,843 National Science Foundation CAREER award, the organization’s most prestigious accolade for up-and-coming researchers — could offer answers to the computational power needs of manufacturers looking to increase automation.

MxD, the national digital manufacturing and cybersecurity institute, announced a \$3.88 million award from the National Institute of Standards and Technology, part of the U.S. Department of Commerce. The award will establish a rapid response medical goods supply chain marketplace and advance data analysis to track future demand signals. Wayne State University will lead the project and will build a collaborative research team with Oregon State University and Iowa State University. Kyoung-Yun Kim, professor of industrial and systems engineering, is the project’s principal researcher.

Researchers from the Wayne Mobility Institute were asked by the U.S. Department of Transportation to conduct online technical training courses for the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. The first round of courses in February and March covered machine learning and artificial intelligence, electric vehicles, battery technology, and autonomous vehicles. The faculty invited to lead these courses were Ming Dong and Weisong Shi (computer science), Gene Liao (engineering technology), and Caisheng Wang (electrical and computer engineering). Each course attracted more than 70 participants, which is more than 10% of DOT/NHTSA's employees.

College of Fine, Performing and Communication Arts

Erin Perry, a WSU Doctoral Candidate in the department of Communication was named to Poynter's Leadership Academy in Media. The Poynter Institute is renowned for longstanding excellence in training newsroom leaders. The Leadership Academy for Women in Media is one of Poynter’s most competitive programs. It is designed for women and nonbinary journalists who directly manage people and are within their first five years of formal leadership experience.

After a two-year hiatus, Wayne State University’s Visual Art Education and Art Therapy programs have resumed their Annual Student Exhibition. UNBREAKABLE opened in the Art Department Gallery located in WSU’s Community Arts Building. This exhibition features artwork covering a variety of media and concepts created by current and graduating students. A portion of this year’s exhibition will also feature a community outreach arts initiative funded by the non-profit arts entity, ArtOps.

The Maggie Allesee Department of Theatre and Dance successfully produced “Head over Heels,” bringing a hilarious and joyful musical to the Hilberry Theatre. This production experienced a significant increase of in-person attendance. A hilarious, exuberant celebration of love, Head Over Heels follows the escapades of a royal family on an outrageous journey

to save their beloved kingdom from extinction - only to discover the key to their realm's survival lies within each of their own hearts.

College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences hosted its inaugural [Families of Future Warriors on April 23](#). The day-long event welcomed children with one or more incarcerated parent (40% of all youth in Detroit) to campus for a day of STEM demonstrations, poetry, planetarium shows and more. The children, 8-15 years old, ended the day with lunch at the Towers Cafe. The event was supported by a grant from the Michigan Space Grant Consortium.

More than 30 Wayne State students participated in CLAS's Virtual Undergraduate Research Symposium on April 22. Presentation topics ranged from mental health and incarceration to the male and female gaze in film theory. Selected students were awarded monetary prizes. The research projects can be viewed at go.wayne.edu/2022UGR.

Research from [Biological Sciences Professor Donna Kashian's](#) lab is making headlines. Her team has found that invasive quagga mussels are reproducing for longer seasons each year in the Great Lakes. This could allow them to spread farther and faster through the basin and cause more damage. The [Detroit News recently covered](#) the group's work on Belle Isle.

Anthropology Chair Krysta Ryzewski's book *Detroit Remains: Archeology and Community History of Six Legendary Places* [won the book prize from the University of Mary Washington Center for Historic Preservation](#).

The [first cohort of Maximizing Access to Research Careers \(MARC\) Scholars participated in an end-of-the-year celebration and graduation](#). Scholars are moving on to Ph.D. programs at Emory University, Michigan State, U-M, and of course, Wayne State.

Public Health Professor [Sasha Zhou recently collaborated on a critical study](#) that illustrates the decline of college student mental health over the course of the past decade. What's more, the study showed that students of color were less likely to reach out for help. Future research will explore the barriers to treatment and how the characteristics of particular colleges and universities may impact help-seeking.

Eugene Applebaum College of Pharmacy & Health Sciences

The Clinical Laboratory Science Program partnered with the Physician Assistant Studies program in an interprofessional education experience involving point of care testing; the Pathologists' Assistant program increased its class size to 16 students for the spring/summer semester (9 in-state and 7 out-of-state students); and Associate Professor of Physical Therapy Joseph Roche's leading paper on a COVID-19 treatment possibility, which was published in the FASEB Journal early in the pandemic, has been recognized as one of the top-cited articles in 2020-21.

Irvin D. Reid Honors College

The 2022 graduates of the Irvin D. Reid Honors College were celebrated on May 4, 2022 with a special Honors Graduation Ceremony in the Student Center Ballroom. About 90 graduating Honors students were present along with parents and guests. The event featured a welcome and acknowledgement of graduates from Dean John Corvino and reflections from three graduating Honors seniors. Representatives from CLAS, CFPCA, MISB, College of

Education, and College of Engineering were also on-hand to congratulate the Honors graduates. A reception with refreshments followed the ceremony for graduates and their guests.

The Honors College has completed the student application period for the third class of the Applebaum Emerging Leaders Program for Summer 2022. Ten Honors students will be selected to participate in AEL, an intensive program that offers personal, professional and leadership development experiences to select Irvin D. Reid Honors College students in an engaging, interactive cohort. Each participating student received a stipend, and the Applebaum Emerging Leaders Program was lead and taught by Heather Walter-McCabe, Associate Professor at the Wayne State School of Social Work and Law School, 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>

Now in its third year of partnership, the summer Rocket Companies Tech On-Ramp Program is a collaboration between the Irvin D. Reid Honors College and the Rocket Family of Companies. Together with Grow Detroit's Young Talent (GDYT), which works with Detroit Public Schools Community District (DPSCD) to recruit high school students to the summer program, the Honors College provides summer internship opportunities for Honors students to mentor DPSCD youth in technology and digital skills. The six-week intensive summer program engages 6-10 Honors students—each of whom receive a \$5,000 stipend-- to serve as a mentor and coach to local high school students. The summer enrichment program is focused on computer science, educational technology and writing computer code. The program itself is coordinated by an Honors student who completed the internship in a previous summer along with an Honors administrator and professional staff from Rocket Companies.

Law School

Wayne Law's Levin Center Receives \$3M from Congress

Congress included in the fiscal year 2022 budget for the U.S. Department of Education a \$3 million investment in the Levin Center's new State Oversight Academy (SOA) – the first and only institution in the nation dedicated to promoting effective oversight by state legislatures. The SOA will provide training, teaching, technical assistance, and research to help states across the country improve legislative fact-finding. The grant will build on the Levin Center's work with Congress and its broad-based efforts to elevate the public's understanding of oversight as a central component of democratic governance.

Pipeline Programs Encourage Young People to Pursue Legal Careers

Applications [are open](#) for Wayne Law's Damon J. Keith Pre-Law Summer Institute. The free, four-week summer program aims to provide undergraduate students with the resources to successfully apply to and attend law school. Applicants must have graduated from a Detroit Public Schools Community District Public High School or be residents of the city of Detroit. Additionally, Wayne Law's Black Law Students Association (BLSA) is encouraging middle school students to pursue careers in law. On April 8, students from Detroit's David Ellis Academy toured the law school and participated in a live debate as part of BLSA's annual "[Be the Change](#)" event. Organizers said the program aimed to show Detroit youth that lawyers can look like them, too.

Minor in Law Program Adds New Partner

Effective winter 2023, the College of Engineering will join the list of partner schools and colleges to offer the undergraduate minor in law. The program will provide future engineers and engineering managers a working knowledge of the laws that affect their work and that will enable them to: comply with local, state, and federal regulations; understand the boundaries of their personal and professional liability; negotiate contracts; protect their intellectual property; and appreciate the broad legal backdrop against which the business and engineering worlds operate.

Nearly 300 students have declared the interdisciplinary minor in law since its launch in winter 2020.

Mike Ilitch School of Business

On May 9, the Mike Ilitch School of Business hosted a U.S. Department of Commerce event focused on increasing diversity and resiliency in the global supply chain. The half-day event, titled “Solutions for Diverse Suppliers & Supply Chain Resilience: Capital, Contracting, & Export Promotion,” included Deputy Secretary of Commerce Don Graves, Sens. Peters and Stabenow, Reps. Lawrence and Tlaib, Lt. Gov. Garlin Gilchrist, and Mayor Mike Duggan as well as a host of industry leaders. Provost Kornbluh offered welcome remarks on behalf of WSU, and a select group of Ilitch School students had the opportunity to participate in roundtable discussion with Dep. Sec. Graves.

Prior to its formal commencement on May 7, the Ilitch School hosted its first in-person graduation party since December 2019. More than 150 graduates and their guests were treated to free professional photographs, a selfie station, refreshments and music (one of our graduate advisors served as the DJ). Graduates who completed the school’s placement survey prior to or during the event also received a special ribbon to pin to their gown to identify them as Ilitch School graduates.

Teams of Ilitch School finance students competed for the coveted Kresge Foundation Investment Award at the school’s winter 2022 Student-Managed Investment Fund (SMIF) Stock Pitch Competition. The team of Kaitlyn Decker, Mamadou Gngangadou and Donald O’Keefe took top honors for their winning presentation of 3M to the SMIF Advisory Board. The competition culminated student participation in a finance course designed to teach the essentials of portfolio management and stock evaluation and selection. The course (FIN 5220 and FIN 7990) was created in 2015 with seed funding from Fifth Third Bank and complements a \$2 million student-managed investment fund that was established by the Kresge Foundation. The fund grew to over \$3 million, and following a rebalancing at Kresge, has a current market value of \$2 million.

School of Social Work

The School of Social Work has been named a top 50 School for Social Work in 2023 according to U.S. News & World Report Best Graduate School ranking. The School has risen to its highest placement in the last decade, rising from #44 to #36.

To address the need for increased specialized training within practice areas and with individual client populations, the School has launched seven new focal areas of study within the Master of Social Work Program: 1. Integrated health, behavioral health, and substance use; 2. Trauma, stress, and violence; 3. Social Work in criminal legal settings; 4. Social

Work with older adults; 5. Children & Families; 6. Research & Evaluation; 7. Community Change, Social Entrepreneurship and Social Justice.

The Center for Behavioral Health and Justice launched a new research listing, making over one hundred research products more accessible to fellow researchers and the community. The listing allows users to select the type of research products they would like to see, including academic publications, reports, policy briefs, resources, videos, animations, toolkits, and more. Users can also select to view by initiative and explore research materials focused on jail diversion, opioid treatment ecosystems, re-entry, juvenile justice, crisis response, and the Wayne County jail/mental health initiative.

Student Academic Success and Global Engagement

Wayne State has improved access to a four-year degree while simplifying transfer credit for all students from two-year colleges. The university eliminated the transfer credit limit from two-year colleges and eliminated the number of transferrable credits earned in applied, technical, or vocational programs that will be accepted toward a bachelor's degree at WSU. This change allows students in associate and applied science and other two-year degree programs equal opportunities to transfer into Wayne State bachelor's degree programs. A signing ceremony celebrating the expanded collaboration between WSU and its community college partners was held in late May, with Jackson College President Daniel Phelan participating.

Amazon has named Wayne State University a new **Career Choice** program partner. Career Choice is an education benefit for eligible Amazon employees who want to upgrade their skills or learn new ones that will enhance their career success. Full-time employees are eligible for the maximum tuition benefit of \$5,250 per year and part-time employees are eligible for \$2,625 per year, with no lifetime cap. Through Career Choice, Amazon will pre-pay 100% of tuition and fees to Wayne State up to the employee's maximum eligibility.

Wayne State University is one of only 171 colleges and universities in the nation - and one of only three public universities in Michigan - recognized by the **Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society** for the dynamic pathways it has created to support community college transfer students and help them succeed.

At the end of May, the university had received 16,003 first-time **undergraduate applications**, which is an increase of 8% over this time last year and more than all applications received for the Fall 2021 cycle, which totaled 15,352. Admits are up 10% for a total of 10,120 so far. Transfer applications are up 10% over last year, for a total of nearly 3,000 with 64% of apps from community college students. So far, 1,600 transfers have been admitted, an increase of 8% from this time last year.

A new WSU **Community College Transfer Housing Scholarship** has been created for Fall 2022 to assist with on-campus housing costs. The scholarship covers up to \$5,000 per academic year for up to 2 years for a total of \$10,000. Students from Lansing Community College, Grand Rapids Community College, Delta Community College, Mid-Michigan College and Jackson College will be considered for awards.

Wayne State is on track to have its best year ever for the number of international fellowships awarded to students and faculty. Students receive mentoring and assistance with their

applications and essays through the Office of Fellowships in OIP. So far, two students have received Fulbright Awards to study abroad and two are waitlisted; one student received the Boren Fellowship to study Mandarin in Taiwan; and three students have received the Critical Language Scholarship, a summer study abroad opportunity for students to learn languages that are essential to America's engagement in the world. Our students will study Arabic, Korean and Turkish. The Fulbright and Critical Language programs are supported by the U.S. Department of State, and Boren is an initiative in the Defense Language and National Security Education Office within the Department of Defense.

Three faculty members have been awarded Fulbrights to research and teach abroad in 2022-23, and WSU will welcome visiting Fulbright Scholar Vaitsa Giannouli from Aristotle University in Thessaloniki, Greece, in 2023.

A new virtual academic collaboration between Wayne State and Ruhr West University of Applied Sciences in Mülheim, Germany, provides students and faculty with global experiences at a time when international travel is still difficult but the need for graduates who can demonstrate intercultural competencies continues to climb.

The International Virtual Academic Collaboration also includes partners Harz University of Applied Sciences in Germany, Iowa State University and Michigan State University, and is partially funded with a grant of nearly \$272,000 from the German Academic Exchange Service. A team from Ruhr visited Wayne State in November, and WSU representatives visited Germany in May to sign a consortium agreement to develop and expand the partnership, including the creation of a summer academy that rotates among the two countries and four universities.

STUDENT SERVICES

Through the Dean of Students Office, Wayne State was awarded a \$3,000 award from the MTV Early Voting is Easier Campus Challenge to support the promoting of early voting for this coming November 8th elections.

Student senators Fatima Yahya and Ibrahim "Abe" Ahmed were selected by Michigan Secretary of State Jocelyn Benson to serve on the Michigan Collegiate Student Advisory Task Force.

Yousra Zouani, a senior from Canton, Michigan, studying Biomedical Engineering, was elected President of the 2022-2023 Student Senate.

Amelia Benavides-Colon, a junior from Detroit, Michigan, studying Journalism, was selected as Editor-in-Chief for the 2022-2023 The South End student newspaper.

The semesterly tradition Finals Week Late Night Breakfast Study Break returned on Wednesday, April 27 for the first time since Fall, 2019 and had over 1,000 students in attendance. Students were served "breakfast" from 9:00 p.m. to 12:00 midnight by guest faculty and staff.

Springfest was introduced as a new tradition and took place on Wednesday, April 20. Close to 2,000 students attended the event. Now we have three "feature" student organization

and university department Get Involved events...Festifall to begin fall semester, Winterfest to begin winter semester, and Springfest to conclude the academic year.

OFFICE OF INSTITUTIONAL EFFECTIVENESS

In April, the Office of the Registrar transitioned transcript requests to the National Student Clearinghouse (NSC). The NSC is now processing all electronic and paper transcript requests. Some of the key service enhancements students and alumni gained are quicker response times in processing orders, order tracking both via email and text – up to confirmation that an electronic transcript has been opened by the receiver or that a paper order has been delivered to the ZIP code, better document security, and a portal where students and alumni can monitor each of their transcript requests.

OFFICE OF TEACHING & LEARNING

This quarter, the Office of Teaching & Learning (OTL) worked tirelessly to continue supporting faculty in all instruction modes. They presented sessions on best practices in face-to-face, online, hybrid, and hyflex course formats. The OTL consultants met one-on-one with faculty over 300 times to help them with aspects of teaching, course designing, and educational technology. The mid-semester assessment program (MAP) was conducted on 120 course sections immediately impacting over 5000 students. All of these efforts to support teaching and learning improve student experiences and outcomes.

COMPUTING & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

CMMC (Cybersecurity Maturity Model Certification) Pre-Assessment Completed

CMMC is an emerging certification standard for cybersecurity from the Department of Defense. Certification will eventually be necessary for the university to continue to attract new DoD grants and service existing ones. The CMMC certification requirement is also expected to expand to contracts with other government entities. C&IT recently completed a CMMC pre-assessment to help build a multi-year cybersecurity improvement roadmap toward certification.

AVTC (Audio Visual and Technology Center) Opened

C&IT partnered with the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences to update 5 classroom and lab spaces in Manoogian Hall. The Audio Visual and Technology Center (AVTC), formerly known as the Foreign Language Technology, is a re-envisioned collection of computer labs and lecture rooms. The area consists of four large 60-seat tiered rooms (two computer labs, two lecture spaces), a smaller 12-seat computer lab and a sound studio for recording lectures and similar audio recording tasks. The spaces have been equipped with security cameras and card swipes at each door, offering secure spaces to hold classes, examinations, and lectures with keyless access, and are now open for scheduled courses across all colleges.