
FEDERAL AFFAIRS

Legislative & Budget Updates

With the new Speaker of the House, Mike Johnson, in place Congress now needs to focus on unfinished business. Top of the docket is federal appropriations, Israel/Ukraine aid, the annual defense bill, FAA reauthorization, and the Farm bill.

Budget/Appropriations

November 17 is the current deadline for appropriations bills after the short-term continuation passed by former Speaker McCarthy.

Outlook on the full federal budget is still murky with some rumors of continuing resolutions lasting until the end of December or as late as April of next year. In the meantime, both chambers continue to position their spending priorities, with the Senate passing a bipartisan three bill “mini bus” that includes USDA, VA, DOT, and HUD funding, the first three of the twelve appropriations measures, and the House passing the Financial Services bill this past week. Speaker Johnson has floated the idea of an appropriations “ladder”, meaning short individual extensions of each of the twelve bills with different expiration dates. This could lead to a series of partial government shutdowns and is a likely non-starter with the Senate. Any continuation of funding would require Democrat votes in the House and could lead Speaker Johnson to the same fate as his predecessor. DGCA is continuing to monitor closely and keep University leadership apprised as the budget fight develops.

Israel/Ukraine

In a show of what’s to come, Speaker Johnson looks to be focused on keeping his caucus in-line by introducing a \$14B Israel only bill offset with cuts to the IRS, which budget hawks warn will cost at least double the amount in the long run through reduced enforcement. He has stated that Ukraine aid would come soon, but the legislation and potential offsets on price and policy are still unknown. This is a non-starter in the Senate where both Majority Leader Schumer and Minority Leader McConnell support Israel aid tied to Ukraine support.

White House AI Order

The President issued an Executive Order to set standards on Artificial Intelligence (AI), improve safety, and promote innovation. Among the provisions is a requirement to share AI safety testing with government regulators to ensure safety and security of the public. It would also support AI research through a federal clearing house of resource

and date and technical assistance to small developers. The order expands efforts to grant visas and recruit highly skilled immigrants to work on the technology.

Congressionally Directed Spending Requests

As you know, 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. It's unclear how the budget fight will be resolved but we anticipate the Labor-HHS bill, as the largest non-defense bill, will be a big part area of division between chambers, meaning getting the earmark through is very unlikely this year.

DCGA has been gathering input for the FY25 earmark cycle in coordination with campus leadership. We plan to have a final list approved by the President shortly and will begin to socialize with the delegation later this year.

Ongoing and Future Engagement Update

President Espy in DC – The President will be in Washington November 15-16. The focus of her time will be engagement with member of the Michigan delegation she has not been able to meet with in Michigan. We also plan to use the time to start laying groundwork for Congressionally Directed Spending requests and other federal partnership opportunities.

STATE AFFAIRS

Legislative & Budget Updates

The Legislature is expected to end its term by the second week in November. The focus for the final two weeks of session in 2023 will be on supplemental spending for the FY23-24 fiscal year. This includes both the Capital Outlay authorization – of which Wayne State currently has a \$40 million appropriation for our Law School Complex – as well as a more general spending supplemental. In addition to the supplemental, the Legislature has a focus on repealing obsolete abortion provisions and expanding abortion rights in state statute, passing energy reform policies, and financial disclosure requirements for elected official.

Legislators and Other Elected Official Engagement

Since the last Board of Governor's meeting, the Division of Government and Community Affairs and its team has continued to engage statewide elected officials, legislators,

department personnel, and key staff issues impacting Wayne State University. Below is a selected list of recent meetings from June through October:

- Governor Gretchen Whitmer
- Lieutenant Governor Gilchrist
- Senate Majority Leader Winnie Brinks
- Senate Minority Leader Aric Nesbitt
- State Senator Sarah Anthony
- State Senator Erika Geiss
- State Senator Thomas Albert
- State Senator Kevin Hertel
- State Senator Mary Cavanaugh
- State Senator Darrin Camilleri
- State Senator Kristen McDonald Rivet
- State Senator Stephanie Chang
- State Senator Mark Huizenga
- State Senator Ed McBroom
- State Senator Rick Outman
- Speaker Joe Tate
- House Minority Leader Matt Hall
- Majority Floor Leader Abraham Aiyash
- State Representative Angela Witwer
- State Representative Samantha Steckloff
- State Representative Carol Glanville
- State Representative Nate Shannon
- State Representative Laurie Pohutsky
- State Representative Regina Weiss
- State Representative Curt VanderWall
- State Representative Sharon MacDonald
- State Representative Erin Byrnes
- State Representative Nancy DeBoer
- State Representative Kimberly Edwards
- State Representative Julie Rogers
- State Representative Matt Koleszar
- State Representative Jason Morgan
- State Representative Natalie Price
- State Representative Graham Filler
- State Representative Donovan McKinney
- State Representative Helena Scott
- State Representative Tyrone Carter
- State Representative Stephanie Young
- State Representative Andrew Fink
- State Representative Mike McFall
- State Representative Veronica Paiz
- DHHS Director Elizabeth Hertel
- State Budget Director Chris Harkins
- House Budget Director Joe Fedewa
- Senate Budget Director Andy Solon
- Senate Chief of Staff Kathleen Farhat

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 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:

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- **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.
 - **Senate Bills 148** (Polehanki) & **149** (Hertel) Requires certain research facilities to offer certain laboratory animals for adoption before euthanization.
 - **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.

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- **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.

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- **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.
 - **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 Accountancy: **Eulonda Whitmore**, of Ada, is an associate vice president and chief audit executive at Wayne State University. She is a current member of the Michigan Board of Accountancy and board member for the Association of College and University Auditors. Ms. Whitmore received her Bachelor of Arts in Accounting from Michigan State University and her MBA from Wayne State University. Ms. Whitmore is reappointed to represent the general public, for a term commencing September 18, 2023, and expiring June 30, 2027.

Michigan Board of Audiology: **Dr. Mary Kassa**, of West Bloomfield, is an audiology program coordinator at Wayne State University. She serves as one of the advisors for graduate students in the Doctor of Audiology program and as the advisor for the Wayne State University Student Academy of Audiology. Dr. Kassa also works as a clinical audiologist in the Henry Ford Health System's Division of Audiology, where she also provides clinical instruction to audiology graduate students. Additionally, she is a member of the Michigan Audiology Coalition, the American Academy of audiology, and the Diversity and Inclusion Committee at Wayne State University. Dr. Kassa received

her B.A. in communication, sciences, and disorders, and her doctor of audiology from Wayne State University. Dr. Kassa is appointed to represent audiologists, for a term commencing September 29, 2023, and expiring June 29, 2025.

Detroit Financial Review Commission: **Hakim Berry**, of Ann Arbor, is the Director of Human and Labor Relations for Michigan Medicine. He holds a Bachelor of Arts in Labor Studies from Wayne State University, a Master of Science in Human Resources Administration from Central Michigan University, and a Master of Business Administration from the University of Detroit Mercy. Mr. Berry is appointed as a nominee of the senate majority leader for a term commencing September 14, 2023, and expiring November 9, 2025.

Michigan Board of Dentistry: **Dr. Hassan Yehia**, of Dearborn, is an associate endodontist at Endodontics PC. He is also an adjunct faculty member at the University of Michigan School of Dentistry and the Graduate Endodontics Program. Dr. Yehia received a Bachelor of Science in biological sciences from Wayne State University, a Doctor of Dental Surgery and completed the endodontics certification program at the University of Michigan. Dr. Yehia is reappointed to represent dentists with health profession specialty certificates, with the term commencing August 31, 2023, and expiring June 30, 2027.

Michigan Board of Pharmacy: **Sandra Taylor**, of Farmington Hills, is the director of the pharmacy department at Corewell Health. Taylor has been involved with Pharmacy Operations and Services for over two decades and served as the Administrator of Clinical Operations. She holds a Bachelor of Science in Pharmacy from Wayne State University and a Master of Science in Finance from Walsh College of Business. Sandra Taylor is reappointed to represent Pharmacists, for a term commencing September 29, 2023, and expiring June 30, 2027.

Advisory Board for the Michigan Intelligence Operations Center for Homeland Security: **Brian Slocum**, of Novi, is the COO of ITC Holding. He holds a Bachelor of Science in electrical engineering from Wayne State University and an MBA from University of Michigan – Dearborn. Mr. Slocum is reappointed to represent residents of the state not connected to law enforcement, for a term commencing September 29, 2023, and expiring April 11, 2027.

Michigan Workforce Development Board: **Rachel Lutz**, of Detroit, is the owner of the Peacock Room Boutique. She attended Wayne State University. She is reappointed to represent small business owners for a term commencing September 29, 2023, and expiring May 29, 2027.

*Michigan Board of Nursing: **Martia Ditmyer***, of Frankenmuth, is the Dean of the College for Health and Human Services at Saginaw Valley State University in Saginaw, MI. Ditmyer earned her Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice from Wayne State University, her MBA from Central Michigan University, a Master of Science in Community Health and Wellness Promotion from the California College for Health Sciences, and her PhD from the University of Toledo. Ms. Ditmyer is appointed to represent registered professional nurses with a master's degree from an accredited college and engaged in nursing education in a baccalaureate or higher program, for a term commencing July 1, 2023, and expiring June 30, 2027.

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.

Community and Government Engagement

Detroit City Council

Introduced President Espy to Detroit City Council President Mary Sheffield and the full City Council during their Formal Session

Community Engagement for S/C/D's

Community Affairs worked closely with the School of Social Work, School of Medicine, College of Education, Athletics and Admissions to provide specific support for the activities and interests of these schools, colleges and divisions.

Introductory Meetings for President Espy

Community Affairs Director Stacie Clayton coordinated introductory meetings for President Espy to meet with key influencers in the African American and Hispanic communities. Meetings included several key individuals and organizations Jane Garcia, Eva Garza Dewaelsche, Rev. Wendell Anthony, Bishop Edgar Vann, such as LA SED, SER Metro, Detroit Branch NAACP, Second Ebenezer Church

DGCA Presentation to Science Communication and Advocacy Class

The DGCA team made a presentation to the Science Communication and Advocacy class to provide information and counsel to the students on how to effectively communicate with elected officials. VP Lindsey led the presentation and Directors

Messana, Greco and Clayton each provided key insights into their respective areas of responsibility in federal, state and local government affairs.

WSU/WC3D Leadership Meeting

VP Lindsey and Director Clayton, along with VP Ezzedine joined President Espy in a meeting with Chancellor Ivery and the leadership of Wayne County Community College District to introduce President Espy to WCCCD, to reconfirm our growing partnership and to explore ways to collaborate more effectively to provide pathways for students to earn higher education credentials and degrees.

Meeting with DPSCD

Director Clayton and President Espy met with officials from Detroit Public Schools Community District to discuss and address our community's educational needs

President's Community Advisory Committee Meeting

On November 7th, President Espy hosted the first meeting under her tenure of the President's Community Advisory Group. President Espy gave attendees an overview of her vision for the university and updated them on recent developments. Attendees shared their feedback and reiterated their commitment to ensuring WSU's success in fulfilling its mission.

Mobile Health Units and Detroit City Council

Coordinated for the Mobile Health Unit to provide information and services at the Detroit City Council Evening Community Meeting and other City Council activities

Wayne County Government Career Fair

Community Affairs collaborated with Wayne County to coordinate WSU's participation in the second DGCA/Career Services career fair with Wayne County Government for WSU graduating seniors and alumni. This event took place on Wednesday, November 15, 2023, 12 p.m. – 4 p.m. at Wayne State's Student Center Building. There were on site interviews to fill immediate openings, as well as tuition paid undergraduate and graduate Internships for Winter 2024.

Sponsorships

DGCA coordinated the University's sponsorship of and participation in the following community events:

- Accounting Aid Society Awards Dinner
- Black Family International Training Institute Awards Gala

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- New Detroit, Inc., Racial Equity Conference
 - Black United Fund Gala
 - SER Metro Awards Luncheon
 - Goodfellows Annual Breakfast
 - The Midwest Pre-College and Youth Outreach Conference (hosted at WSU)
 - Yeshiva Beth Yehuda Dinner
 - Resilience & Equity in The Clean Energy Sector Summit
 - City Year Detroit Annual Breakfast
 - Detroit Aglow Holiday Dinner
 - Parade Company Pancake Breakfast
 - Thanksgiving Day Parade
 - Detroit Free Press Speakers Series
 - Black Family Development, Inc. Annual President's Dinner
 - Franklin Wright Settlement Gala