

## *News*

### **Reminder: EAP Forum Wednesday**

Michigan Tech has contracted with Northstar EAP to provide an employee assistance program for benefit-eligible employees. Northstar EAP offers free, confidential counseling sessions to our employees and/or family members to assist in a variety of issues, including depression, grief support, alcoholism, family issues and more.

Don Grisham of Northstar EAP will hold two open forums to explain how the program works, how it can benefit Michigan Tech employees and to answer questions.

The sessions will be held Wednesday, Feb. 27, 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. and 3 p.m.-4 p.m., in the Memorial Union Peninsula Room.

If you would like to attend, please register here.

### **Reminder for Alumni Reunion 2013**

Alumni Relations is planning for Alumni Reunion 2013, August 1-3. If departments are interested in hosting events during reunion, please contact Erin Thompson (erint@mtu.edu or 7-2400) by March 8 for events to be included in the printed schedules.

### **Travel Grants Applications Accepted**

The Biotechnology Research Center is pleased to announce that Spring 2013 Travel Grant applications are being accepted.

The BRC travel grants provide financial assistance to Michigan Tech graduate students, undergraduate students and postdoctoral scientists who present their biotechnology-related research at scientific meetings. The BRC travel grants work to promote biotechnological research and achievement.

To apply, complete the application form available at [www.biotech.mtu.edu](http://www.biotech.mtu.edu). Provide the necessary documentation as specified in the application instructions. Send application materials to Mary Tassava, [mltassav@mtu.edu](mailto:mltassav@mtu.edu) by Friday, March 29.

The awards are merit-based and are offered twice per year. Preference will be given to BRC members' students/post-docs and those seeking a first-time travel award. The Fall 2013 deadline will be Oct. 15. Incomplete applications will not be considered. Awards will be announced as near to the deadline as possible.

If you have questions, contact Tassava at [mltassav@mtu.edu](mailto:mltassav@mtu.edu) or 7-2959.

### **Save the Date: Employees' Benefits and Community Services Fair**

Want a chance to win 2 round-trip airline tickets from Houghton to Chicago on United Express? You can enter to win these by attending the Employee's Benefits and Community Services fair from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Monday, May 13, in the Memorial Union Ballroom, hosted by Michigan Tech Benefit Services.

The fair is free and open to Michigan Tech employees, retirees, spouses, partners and adult dependents. Join the Benefits Office, vendors and many businesses within the greater community to find out what services and products are available to you. More information will follow.

For questions, contact Benefits at 7-2517 or at [benefits@mtu.edu](mailto:benefits@mtu.edu) .

## ***Entertainment and Enrichment***

### **Keweenaw Symphony Orchestra Celebrates Wagner's 200th Anniversary**

Do you enjoy dramatic German music? The Keweenaw Symphony Orchestra invites you to a concert celebrating Richard Wagner's 200th Anniversary! The KSO concludes its 42nd concert season with a tribute to the titanic German composer, on Saturday, March 2, at 7:30 p.m. in the Rozsa Center for the Performing Arts.

The most revolutionary and influential musician of his day, Wagner reinvented musical styles to the extreme, the capstone being his epic 17-hour opera, Ring of the Nibelung. Wagner's penchant for incredibly long music, supersized orchestras, emotionally charged music drama, and dark themes, invariably changed music history. This performance includes sublime orchestral episodes from Wagner's operas Tannhauser, Lohengrin, and Tristan und Isolde. The other music on the orchestra's set list--Tchaikovsky, Brahms, Gliere, Grieg, Saint Saens, and Johann Strauss Jr.--provides an elucidating window into how musical styles radically changed post-Wagner.

Tickets are \$18.75 for general admission. To purchase tickets, call 7-2073, go online at [www.rozsa.mtu.edu](http://www.rozsa.mtu.edu) , or visit Ticketing Operations at the SDC. SDC box office hours are 8 a.m.–9 p.m. Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.–7 p.m. Saturday, and noon-8 p.m. on Sunday. Please note the Rozsa Box Office is closed during regular business hours and will only open two hours prior to show times.

### **NSO Film Showing**

The Nepalese Students Organization (NSO) is showing the Nepalese movie Caravan (Himalaya), at 8:30 p.m., Wednesday, Feb. 27, in Fisher 135. The movie is free. Caravan was the first Oscar-nominated Nepalese movie. Known for its epic cinematography, it is a story set against the backdrop of the Nepalese Himalayas. At an altitude of five thousand meters in the remote mountain region of Dolpa, Caravan is the story of villagers who take a caravan of yaks across the mountains, carrying rock salt from the high plateau down to the lowlands to trade for grain. The extreme environment of the Himalayas is magnificently contrasted to the delicacy of humanity and the beauty of Tibetan culture.

## ***Seminars and Workshops***

### **EE Faculty Candidate Seminar**

The Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering will be holding an EE Faculty Candidate Seminar, 2-3 p.m., Thursday, Feb. 28, in MEEM 112. Daniel Costinett will be presenting, "Analysis and Design of High Efficiency, High Conversion Ratio, DC-DC Power Converters." See the complete seminar announcement.

## ***Regular Features***

### **New Funding**

Department Chair Patrick Martin, PI, and PhD Candidate Sean Gohman, Co-PI (SS), have received \$19,342 for "A Proposal for Archaeological Survey Services, Phase I Survey of Fort Wilkins State Park: Southern Boundary" from the Michigan Department of Natural Resources.

### **In Print**

Edward T. Cokely, assistant professor of psychology, department of cognitive and learning sciences, has two new chapters published in the book, Transparent Communication of Health Risks, 1. "How to Measure Risk

Comprehension in Educated Samples" and 2. "Reducing the Effect of Framed Messages About Health"

\*\*\*

Bruce P. Lee, assistant professor of biomedical engineering, recently published an article entitled "Biomimetic adhesive containing nanocomposite hydrogel with enhanced materials properties" in Soft Matter. His undergraduate students from both Departments of Biomedical Engineering (Sarah Skelton, Michael Bostwick, Kyle O'Connor, and Samuel Casey) and Chemistry (Shari Konst) were co-authors. The article is available at Soft Matter

\*\*\*

Associate Professor Haiying Liu, Assistant Professor Loredana Valenzano, graduate student Jingtuo Zhang, postdoctoral associate Shilei Zhu (chemistry), and others published a paper entitled "BODIPY-based Ratiometric Fluorescent Probes for Sensitive and Selective Sensing of Cyanide Ion," in RSC Advances.

### **Proposals in Progress**

Assistant Professor Mo Rastgaar (ME-EM/MuSTI), "NRI Small: Power and Ankle-Foot Prosthesis with Two Controllable Degrees of Freedom," NSF.

Associate Professor Jiguang Sun (Math), "Finite Element Methods for High Order Eigenvalue Problems," NSF.

Associate Professor Fabrizio Zanella (Math), "Research in Algebra and Combinatorics," Simons Foundation.

Professor Lawrence Sutter (MTTI), "Sulfate Resistance of Portland-Limestone Blended Cement," Portland Cement Association.

Assistant Professor Zhengfu Xu (Math), "Collaboration Research: Computational Modeling of Network Formation in Solution-Cast Ionomer Membranes," NSF.

Assistant Professor Alexander Labovsky (Math), "Two Efficient and Accurate Methods for the Identification of Important Random Parameters Appearing in the Input Data for PDEs, and for Resolving Highly Turbulent Fluid Flows," NSF.

### **Job Posting**

Staff and faculty job descriptions are available in Human Resources or at <http://www.mtu.edu/hr/job-postings/>. For more information regarding staff positions, call 487-2280 or email [jobs@mtu.edu](mailto:jobs@mtu.edu). For more information regarding faculty positions, contact the academic department in which the position is posted.

Research Engineer/Scientist--IT

Michigan Tech Research Institute (MTRI)

Apply online at <https://www.jobs.mtu.edu/postings/843>.

Michigan Technological University is an equal opportunity educational institution/equal opportunity employer.