CAMPUS TRANSFORMING INTO MOBILE TESTING SITE

JENNIFER DAVIS
//MOBILITY

MSU is transforming its 5,200-acre campus into a live, connected ecosystem to drive mobility research and development to advance smart-vehicle technology and better understand the human element. With much of the transformation already complete across its urban, suburban, and industrial and rural zones, MSU’s controlled infrastructure and active campus make it ideal to test emerging technologies for new mobility solutions. Those include 5G data transmission, solutions for “first mile/last mile” transportation and validation of technologies for automated and connected vehiclesystems.

In addition to advancing technology, MSU is taking a broad, interdisciplinary approach to the many complex factors associated with “as a top-tier research institution, we are well equipped to advance mobility by...”

MORE INSIDE

For a closer look at one professor’s research into why people get into car crashes, see the Faculty Focus on pg. 3.

evolving transportation. Keeping people at the center of the mobility conversation, MSU is focused on sociomobility, which means understanding individual and societal effects.

“In the future, we will see the Faculty Focus on pg. 3.”

>> MOBILITY see pg. 2

CAMPUS SAFER CAMPUS DOCUMENT UPDATED

To continue taking action to foster a safer campus environment at MSU, a new version of the Safer Campus document was released.
go.msu.edu/W8H

UNIVERSITY CLOSED FOR THANKSGIVING

The university will be closed Nov. 22-23 for Thanksgiving. On-campus dining hall hours will be limited during this time.
go.msu.edu/D8H

NEW E.L. INCOME TAX COMING IN JANUARY

In August, East Lansing voters passed an income tax on residents (1 percent) and nonresidents working in the city (0.5 percent). MSU is required to withhold income tax for employees who live and/or work in East Lansing effective Jan. 1, 2019. Tax forms will be available in the EBS Portal on Dec. 17, and all employees, including student employees, will need to log in to approve or change their information. Employees will receive detailed directions in the coming weeks. For more information, go to go.msu.edu/W8H.

INCOMES TAX SEE pg. 2

POT LAW WON’T AFFECT CAMPUS

Although Michigan voters approved Proposal 1 on Nov. 6, legalizing marijuana for adult recreational use, students, employees and visitors may not use or possess marijuana on any MSU-governed property or during off-campus MSU business or events. Marijuana use remains illegal and fully criminalized according to federal law, and MSU is subject to the Drug-Free Workplace Act of 1988 and the Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act Amendment of 1989. Additionally, the MSU Drug and Alcohol Policy prohibits the unlawful manufacturing, distribution, dispensation, possession or use of controlled substances, illicit drugs or alcohol on properly governed by the Board of Trustees and at any site where university work is performed. Proposal 1’s passage created a top-tier research institution, we are well equipped to advance mobility by...”

ON THE WEB

For more on Proposal 1’s impact on campus, go to go.msu.edu/PRH.

the Michigan Regulation and Taxation of Marihuana Act, a law that allows the personal possession and use of marijuana by individuals 21 years and older. A statement on the new law was recently sent to the MSU community from Denise Maybank, vice president and associate provost, Student Affairs and Services; Venette Gore, vice president, Auxiliary Enterprises; and Sharon Butler, associate vice president, Human Resources. It reminded members of the campus community that “Employees and students who violate university policy prohibiting the use or possession of illegal drugs on campus will continue to be subject to legal and disciplinary action.”

>> IN THIS ISSUE

TITLE IX SEARCH MOVES FORWARD | 2 POSTDOCS GETTING SUPPORT | 3 CHECK OUT CAMPUS EVENTS | 3 GRAD RATES HIT RECORD HIGH | 4
FIRM, CAMPUS COMMITTEE TO SELECT TITLE IX LEADER

MSU has chosen a national search firm and made a campus committee in its efforts to fill the associate vice president position for the Office of Civil Rights and Title IX Education and Compliance.

Isaacson Miller, based in Boston, will work with six campus leaders during the search. Finalists will be brought to campus in the spring, and faculty, staff and students will have the chance to meet with them.

The campus search committee includes Michael Zeig, chief of staff for the president; Philip Strong, interim dean of students; Robert Young, vice president of human resources and general counsel; Rebecca Campbell, professor of psychology and chairperson of the Relationship Violence and Sexual Misconduct Workgroup; Marilyn Tarrant, associate vice president and chief audit, risk and compliance officer; and Jenifer Smith, senior women’s administrator and senior associate athletics director.

The Office of Civil Rights and Title IX Education and Compliance, currently led on an interim basis by Robert Kent, is responsible for the departments that investigate civil rights and Title IX complaints as well as prevention, education and outreach efforts. The office, formed in March, also coordinates with MSU entities that provide crisis and advocacy services to survivors of sexual assault and relationship violence.

Since spring, MSU’s Title IX office has expanded from 17 to 32 employees, and the 2018-19 budget includes funding for 15 new Title IX and related positions, including preventive and investigative staff: 10 positions in Counseling and Psychiatric Services; six new positions including advocacy, crisis intervention, and legal, and two recruiting staff in the Sexual Assault Program; four new MSU Policy and Office of two new employees; Assistance positions; and two positions in the new MSU Office of Enterprise Risk Management, Ethics, Compliance and more.

Assistant to Department Chair Named Clerical-Technical Award Winner

Michelle Stewart, assistant to the chair of the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, was recently named the 2018 Clerical-Technical Recognition Award winner. Stewart was recognized at an award ceremony in East Lansing attended by family, friends, colleagues and Human Resources staff. The Clerical-Technical Award is sponsored by the Thomas and Concelia Giannini Endowment Fund to recognize outstanding MSU clerical-technical employees.

Go to msu.edu/IBIH for more information.

New ORA Training System Coming Soon

The Office of Regulatory Affairs training compliance system, Saba, will be replaced with a new system, Ability, on Dec. 3. Ability will be used by any unit that requires training for employees, MSU affiliates or students. The new system offers an easy-to-navigate interface, new reports for managers, and automatic reminder features.

Saba will be taken offline to move all users’ training records into Ability on Nov. 29. For more information, go to ora.msu.edu/brain.

Wilson Road Set to Reopen Nov. 20

The intersection of Conrad and Wilson roads (from East Grand Ave to Hall St) was closed with new traffic signals, is scheduled to reopen on Nov. 20. This new east/west thoroughfare across campus connecting Hagadorn and Harrison roads will help eliminate through traffic across parking lots and funnel vehicles away from the heavy pedestrian area of Shaw Lane. Signalized crosswalks at Conrad-Shaw and Wilson-Hagadorn were also installed to help improve overall pedestrian safety. For more information, visit go.msu.edu/XXH.

Brendan Guenther has the White of Academic MOBILITY

GUENTER TO DRIVE DIGITAL LEARNING

Cindy Maixse, research manager in the Dean’s Office of the Eli Broad College of Business, and Rita Pfeffer, administrative business professional for the Department of Psychiatry in the College of Osteopathic Medicine and the College of Human Medicine, are the recipients of the Fall 2018 Research Administrator Spotlight Award. The award recognizes the professional contributions and excellence of service of MSU unit research administrators and encourages excellence and exemplary service through the model of the Spartan Experience. Visit go.msu.edu/SIHBl for more information.

MSU MUSEUM EXPANDS CAMPUS OUTREACH

Elisabeth Newberry joins the MSU Museum team to continue building on and expanding connections MSU faculty, staff and students are making to the museum and its collections. Newberry has a background in art, art history and museum education and has worked with various museum users including early learners, families, K-12 students and college-age adults.

Before coming to the museum, Newberry worked at the Brooks Museum of Art and the Memphis College of Art, both in Memphis, Tenn., and the Ontario Museum of History and Art in Ontario, Calif.

ASSTISTANT TO DEPARTMENT CHAIR NAMED CLERICAL-TECHNICAL AWARD WINNER

Michelle Stewart, assistant to the chair of the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, was recently named the 2018 Clerical-Technical Recognition Award winner. Stewart was recognized at an award ceremony in East Lansing attended by family, friends, colleagues and Human Resources staff. The Clerical-Technical Award is sponsored by the Thomas and Concelia Giannini Endowment Fund to recognize outstanding MSU clerical-technical employees.

Go to go.msu.edu/IBIH for more information.

NEW ORA TRAINING SYSTEM COMING SOON

The Office of Regulatory Affairs training compliance system, Saba, will be replaced with a new system, Ability, on Dec. 3. Ability will be used by any unit that requires training for employees, MSU affiliates or students. The new system offers an easy-to-navigate interface, new reports for managers, and automatic reminder features.

Saba will be taken offline to move all users’ training records into Ability on Nov. 29. For more information, go to ora.msu.edu/brain.

WILSON ROAD SET TO REOPEN NOV. 20

The intersection of Conrad and Wilson roads (from East Grand Ave to Hall St) was closed with new traffic signals, is scheduled to reopen on Nov. 20. This new east/west thoroughfare across campus connecting Hagadorn and Harrison roads will help eliminate through traffic across parking lots and funnel vehicles away from the heavy pedestrian area of Shaw Lane. Signalized crosswalks at Conrad-Shaw and Wilson-Hagadorn were also installed to help improve overall pedestrian safety. For more information, visit go.msu.edu/XXH.

>> NEWS BRIEFS

> TWO RESEARCH ADMINISTRATORS HONORED

Cindy Maixse, research manager in the Dean’s Office of the Eli Broad College of Business, and Rita Pfeffer, administrative business professional for the Department of Psychiatry in the College of Osteopathic Medicine and the College of Human Medicine, are the recipients of the Fall 2018 Research Administrator Spotlight Award. The award recognizes the professional contributions and excellence of service of MSU unit research administrators and encourages excellence and exemplary service through the model of the Spartan Experience. Visit go.msu.edu/SIHBl for more information.

MSU MUSEUM EXPANDS CAMPUS OUTREACH

Elisabeth Newberry joins the MSU Museum team to continue building on and expanding connections MSU faculty, staff and students are making to the museum and its collections. Newberry has a background in art, art history and museum education and has worked with various museum users including early learners, families, K-12 students and college-age adults. Before coming to the museum, Newberry worked at the Brooks Museum of Art and the Memphis College of Art, both in Memphis, Tenn., and the Ontario Museum of History and Art in Ontario, Calif.

ASSISTANT TO DEPARTMENT CHAIR NAMED CLERICAL-TECHNICAL AWARD WINNER

Michelle Stewart, assistant to the chair of the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, was recently named the 2018 Clerical-Technical Recognition Award winner. Stewart was recognized at an award ceremony in East Lansing attended by family, friends, colleagues and Human Resources staff. The Clerical-Technical Award is sponsored by the Thomas and Concelia Giannini Endowment Fund to recognize outstanding MSU clerical-technical employees.

Go to go.msu.edu/IBIH for more information.

NEW ORA TRAINING SYSTEM COMING SOON

The Office of Regulatory Affairs training compliance system, Saba, will be replaced with a new system, Ability, on Dec. 3. Ability will be used by any unit that requires training for employees, MSU affiliates or students. The new system offers an easy-to-navigate interface, new reports for managers, and automatic reminder features.

Saba will be taken offline to move all users’ training records into Ability on Nov. 29. For more information, go to ora.msu.edu/brain.

WILSON ROAD SET TO REOPEN NOV. 20

The intersection of Conrad and Wilson roads (from East Grand Ave to Hall St) was closed with new traffic signals, is scheduled to reopen on Nov. 20. This new east/west thoroughfare across campus connecting Hagadorn and Harrison roads will help eliminate through traffic across parking lots and funnel vehicles away from the heavy pedestrian area of Shaw Lane. Signalized crosswalks at Conrad-Shaw and Wilson-Hagadorn were also installed to help improve overall pedestrian safety. For more information, visit go.msu.edu/XXH.

>> MOBILITY FROM P. 1

Leveraging our campus-wide expertise and collaborating with strong industry partnerships,” said Satish Udpa, MSU’s executive vice president for administrative services. “We are excited to showcase this holistic approach and invite partners to join us as we work to revolutionize the way people and goods move throughout the world.”

Adoption of new transportation technology raises many questions. Research and real-world testing multimodal sensor fusion Vehicles for Active Safety, information, go to mobi msu.edu.

ON THE WEB

For more information on MSU’s mobility efforts, visit mobility.msu.edu.

Embedded pavement sensors charged through vibrations

Sensor and data fusion

Biometrics for passenger identification and theft protection

Cybersecurity, data updates

Anonymous data collection of campus mobility to understand how people walk, drive, ride and park

Connected traffic signals

Emergency vehicle prioritization, with a goal toward automated operation

Smart parking systems

Electric vehicle charging systems

These smart systems will work 24/7, sending and receiving ongoing data on how more than 100,000 people move around different environments.

The technology, solutions and processes tested and validated on campus will help ensure the future of mobility creates safe, reliable, convenient and accessible transportation for all.
Did you know that your odds of crashing your vehicle increase by 300 percent when you’re using a cell phone? Your risk is even greater when you take your attention off the road to reach for your coffee mug.

Even seemingly benign tasks, like singing while driving, can increase your crash risk by 150 percent. These types of research questions are what drew me into the field of transportation engineering. I am interested in trying to understand why crashes occur and why we encounter traffic jams for no apparent reason. Perhaps the most interesting aspect of this research domain is that everyone travels, almost everyone drives and, consequently, everyone is an “expert.”

Survey results show us as much as 90 percent of the population feels unsafe as a passenger when the driver is using a cell phone. However, half of these same individuals believe that cell phone use does not affect their own driving performance.

Drivers tend to overestimate their own capabilities. They also tend to do a poor job of assessing risks posed by the transportation system. In light of these concerns, my research group strives to improve our understanding of road user behavior, particularly how this behavior is affected by changes in the roadway environment.

Research in this area has historically leveraged data from sources such as police crash reports. However, as you can imagine, there are several limitations to the quality and completeness of the data obtained from these reports.

Fortunately, recent and ongoing technological advances are beginning to overcome these limitations, allowing greater access to very detailed information about the factors that precipitate crash and near-crash events.

I joined MSU in August because the university is uniquely positioned to serve as a living laboratory that can play a transformative role in transportation research. As one of the largest U.S. university campuses, MSU is responsible for operating and maintaining its own transportation systems, including roads, sidewalks, bike lanes, transit stops and traffic signals. The university is currently in the process of installing cameras, sensors and “smart” traffic signals across campus.

These technologies will allow us to examine myriad research questions that will help to improve the mobility, safety and accessibility of our transportation systems. Of equal importance, I already have had the opportunity to collaborate with world-class researchers in connected and autonomous vehicles, machine learning, public policy, sociology and numerous other fields that are allowing our team to break through to the details of particular importance to transportation.

In the near future, the broader community will also play an increasingly important role. For example, plans are in the works for driverless shuttles that will take individuals across campus. We also are working to implement solutions that reduce delay and improve safety for all modes of travel, including automo- biles, pedestrians, bicyclists and scooters. I am thrilled at the prospect of having a small part in such efforts under the new MSU Mobility initiative.
MARK FELLOWS //ACADEMICS

MSU’s broad-based student success initiatives helped propel its graduation rate to a record high and are helping more undergraduates stay in school.

A record 80 percent of first-time, full-time students who entered MSU in 2013 graduated by 2018. Of the 8,214 who entered, 6,567 graduated within six years, the standard time frame for measuring graduation rates. Another 12 percent, or 1,041 students, transferred to another institution and 17 percent remain enrolled at MSU.

The six-year graduation rate among all U.S. four-year degree-granting institutions for the 2010 student cohort — the latest data available from the National Center for Education Statistics — was 60 percent. MSU’s rate has hovered in the high 70 percent range for more than 10 years.

The percentage of first-time college students returning for their second fall semester, known as the persistence rate, rose 0.9 percentage point to 91.9 percent. “This increase stems from the deliberate efforts MSU has made to provide increased, campus-wide support for our students’ academic success,” MSU Provost John Engler said. “We’re committed to narrowing achievement gaps that remain and will continue to expand efforts based on data-driven decision making, improved student progress monitoring, instructional innovation and place-based student support services.”

First-generation college students’ graduation rate increased to 72 percent (from 71) and their persistence rate increased to 88.4 percent (from 86.9).

Pell Grant recipients’ graduation rate declined 1 percentage point to 70 percent, but their persistence rate rose from 87.4 to 88.9 percent. The graduation rate for black students rose by 1 percentage point.

For more on MSU’s graduation rates and its efforts to improve them, go to go.msu.edu/HRH.

COMMITTEE finalizes president position

INSIDEMSU STAFF //ADMINISTRATION

Members of the MSU presidential search committee have finalized the position advertisement for the next president.

The next task for the search committee is to develop the position specification document, which will be informed by comments from the MSU community.

According to the position advertisement, the next president must embody MSU’s values as well as be able to lead effectively, with a commitment to shared governance and promotion of transparency and collaboration across all constituencies.

Successful candidates must have:

• Substantive fiscal and personnel management experience
• A demonstrated commitment to the values of equity, inclusion and justice
• Strong academic credentials
• A record of major career accomplishments

Nominations are now open. Confidential nominations may be submitted to MSUPresident@storbeck.com.

For more information on the presidential search, including input from the recent community sessions held across campus, please visit go.msu.edu/presidentialsearch.

REAL-TIME ECONOMICS: U.S. COMPANIES FEEL TARIFF PINCH

One of the great side effects of online grocery shopping: People are less likely to toss junk food into their shopping cart. “I find that the nutritional content of grocery purchases is improved in the months in which households shop online,” Katherine Harris, Michigan State University doctoral student, writes in a job market paper. “Estimated declines in the average amount of calories purchased imply that the average adult would lose roughly five pounds over the course of a year simply from engaging in online grocery shopping.”

WALL STREET JOURNAL

go.msu.edu/58H

LARGE HYDROPOWER DAMS “NOT SUSTAINABLE” IN THE DEVELOPING WORLD

A new study says that many large-scale hydropower projects in Europe and the U.S. have been disastrous for the environment. Dozens of these dams are being removed every year, with many considered dangerous and uneconomic. “They make a rosy picture of the benefits, which are not fulfilled and the costs are ignored and passed on to society much later,” said lead author Emilio Moran, Center for Systems Integration and Sustainability professor from Michigan State University.

BBC NEWS

go.msu.edu/V8H

OFFERING ADVICE TO CO-WORKERS IS BEST WHEN ASKED

For most consumers, the office is where they spend a significant portion of the day. Interacting with co-workers can not only build friendships, but may believe it can help increase productivity in the workplace. However, based on a new study conducted by researchers from Michigan State University, offering expertise or advice to co-workers may only prove to be beneficial when you’re asked for it.

CONSUMER AFFAIRS

go.msu.edu/38H

ECONOMICS

ECONOMICS

ECONOMICS

ECONOMICS

ECONOMICS

ECONOMICS

ECONOMICS