HEIL RETURNS AS VP FOR ADVANCEMENT

INSIDE MSU STAFF //ADMINISTRATION

Having served in university advancement for nearly 40 years, including 30 years previously at Michigan State University, Marti Heil is returning to MSU as the new vice president for University Advancement, Executive Vice President Kathleen Wilbur announced.

Born and raised in Lansing and a 1976 graduate of MSU’s College of Communication Arts and Sciences with a bachelor’s degree in advertising, Heil worked in various roles of advancement and development at the university from 1980-2009, including the last year as interim vice president of development. Wilbur said Heil’s extensive development background and her familiarity with Spartan fundraising made her a natural choice to fill the role that current Vice President for University Advancement Bob Groves is leaving this fall.

“We are very fortunate to have Marti back with us in the Spartan family,” said Wilbur, who oversees advancement, communications and government relations. “She has had a successful career at MSU and other universities, with a proven track record of successfully launching and completing university capital campaigns. Further, she has maintained many contacts at the university among donors, alumni, faculty, staff, administrators and the fundraising community. The fact that she is willing to take on the role of vice president for University Advancement when we need her speaks volumes about her commitment to our great university.”

As the vice president for University Advancement, Heil will oversee university development efforts and the MSU Alumni Association and its many chapters. Alumni and donors help advance the mission of the university through advocacy, student recruitment, career advice and placement, ambassadorship and financial support.

“I am ecstatic to be returning to Michigan State,” Heil said. “The university is completing a very successful capital campaign and is poised for an even greater period of growth.”
**NEWS BRIEFS**

**NEW APP OFFERS MAPS, NEWS, EVENTS**
A new mobile application developed for employees, students and visitors is making it easier to navigate campus and stay current on news and events. A group of Computer Science and Engineering students conceived the MSU app. It was then developed by the university’s information technology team with input from the Associated Students of Michigan State University, the undergraduate student government. The app allows users to easily view a campus map, see a listing of upcoming events, read university news, find the nearest residence dining hall and view its daily menu. The app is available from the App Store and Google Play.

**DIVERSITY AWARD NOMINATIONS SOUGHT**
The Excellence in Diversity Awards Program seeks to recognize individuals, teams, units and organizations for their exemplary commitment to diversity and inclusion and the contributions they make. MSU pioneered the program in 1990 when it became a leader among higher education institutions in the nation promoting the value of diversity. To participate, members of the campus can nominate individuals, teams, units and organizations. Nomination packets are available on the Office for Inclusion website at go.msu.edu/IHM. The deadline for submissions is Nov. 9. An award and recognition ceremony will be held at 4 p.m. Feb. 14 at the Kellogg Center.

**PROF’S AFTER-SCHOOL WORK HONORED**
Heng-Chieh Jamie Wu has been selected as one of 2019’s Most Influential in Research and Evaluation by the National AfterSchool Association. Wu is distinguished for their contributions to research and evaluation on youth and adolescent development. Wu is a research academic specialist in the Community Evaluation and Research Collaborative at University Outreach and Engagement.

**COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT FOCUS OF AWARD**
MSU is seeking nominations for the Community Engagement Scholarship Award, conferred in recognition of highly engaged community-based scholarship collaborations that positively impact both the community and scholarship. The award includes a stipend of $5,000, shared equally by the MSU representative(s) and the designated community organization(s). Application materials and instructions are available at go.msu.edu/GNH. The nomination deadline is Oct. 4.

**DIRECTOR HONORED FOR SIMULATION WORK**
Mary Kay Smith, director of the Learning and Assessment Center, was named to the Class of 2019 Fellows of the Society for Simulation in Healthcare (SSH). The SSH Academy. The academy recognizes highly engaged community-based scholarship collaborations that positively impact both the community and scholarship. The award includes a stipend of $5,000, shared equally by the MSU representative(s) and the designated community organization(s). Application materials and instructions are available at go.msu.edu/GNH. The nomination deadline is Oct. 4.

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“Basically, my research shows what fish can tell us about the genetic basis of our own human evolution, development and disease,” Braasch said. “In many cases, fish like gar or zebrafish can serve as models for human disease research for conditions such as cleft palate.”

“Garfin is a bridge species” as its genome is similar to that of both zebrafish and human, a discovery that Braasch led. This correlation means scientists can identify a disease-associated genetic region in humans, locate the corresponding region in the spotted gar genome and then investigate the appropriate location in the fish genomes to potentially understand disease development.

Gars, found from Central America to Michigan, are the only living species in the spotted gar family. “Studying gars and other so-called ancient fishes’” exemplifies this because the fish species resembles long-extinct relatives from the fossil record.”

LESSONS FROM ANCIENT FISH

Biology professor uses gars to unlock human genetics

L A Y N E C A M E R O N //RESEARCH

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“Basically, my research shows what fish can tell us about the genetic basis of our own human evolution, development and disease,” Braasch said. “In many cases, fish like gar or zebrafish can serve as models for human disease research for conditions such as cleft palate.”

As it turns out, the genetic underpinnings of cleft palate have striking similarities in fish and people, and the de formation can be traced to the same genes in both groups. Using genetic tools, scien tists can work to fix cleft palate in fish and then, in turn, apply the genetic framework

TO HEAR MORE
To learn more about MSU’s fish research, listen to Ingo Braasch’s recent interview at WKAR at go.msu.edu/7NH, to human medicine. This approach to use “bio medical” fish models has applications across many human functions. When you look at an image of zebrafish embryo that’s about a day old, it looks quite similar to a human embryo. That’s almost a month old — their overall shapes and the location of the heads and eyes and ears are virtually identical,” Braasch said. “As they develop, of course, they look quite different. How ever, this tells us that fish and human development are similar enough that fish can be used to investigate many aspects of the human condition.”

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SEE MORE EVENTS

Included here is a selection of events happening during the next two weeks. More campus events can be found online at: events.msu.edu

SEP. 29 // FREE EMPLOYEE BOWLING: Give yourself a break and enjoy an afternoon away from your desk. MSU faculty and staff can bowl for free every Wednesday from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. at Spartan Lanes in the basement of the MSU Union. Built in the 1940s, Spartan Lanes features 1970s-style pin setters, 16 lanes and free football tables.

SEP. 27-28 // YEAR OF GLOBAL AFRICA: To mark the 40th anniversary of MSU’s decision to diversify from companies doing business in apartheid South Africa, a conference will be held Sept. 27 and 28 on “Campus Activism for Justice, from Southern Africa to Michigan.” Speakers from South Africa and the United States will look back at the campaigns for justice that led to the MSU Board of Trustees decision to divest. For details and registration, visit go.msu.edu/7NH.

SEP. 21 // FATHERHOOD FORUM: The fourth Fatherhood Forum will be held from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. at the University Club, 3435 Forest Road, Lansing. This year’s theme is “Focus of Fatherhood.” To celebrate the many diverse ways that people care for their children, the forum is for fathers who want to enhance their presence as parents. The forum features workshops, a keynote address by MSU’s Peru Danovio and a panel of dads of various ages who will share their perspectives. Lunch is provided. Register at go.msu.edu/29NH.

SEP. 25 // BIRDS OF PREY: Visit the 210-acre bird sanctuary for birds of prey. The event from 1 to 2:30 p.m. MSU’s sanctuary is home to a number of birds of prey, including hawks and bald eagles, that are injured and cannot survive in the wild. Visitors of all ages can participate in a variety of educational games and activities. To learn more visit birdsanctuary.kbs.msu.edu.

SEP. 29-30 // GAME DAY SALE: All MSU apparel and gift items will be 20 percent off at the Spartan Spirit Shop as part of the Homecoming game day sale. Visit one of the live road shows across campus or go to spartanspirit.shop.msu.edu and use promo code: GAMEDAY.
CAMPUS SAFETY

INSIDE MSU STAFF // CAMPUS SAFETY

POLICE FOCUS ON RVSM SUPPORT

INSIDE MSU STAFF // CAMPUS LIFE

CIVIC LIFE APP TRACKS ENGAGEMENT

INSIDE MSU STAFF // ENGAGEMENT

POLICE FOCUS ON RVSM SUPPORT

LT. Andrea Munford has recently been assigned to develop a comprehensive program on law enforcement investigations into relationship violence and sexual assault on a trauma-informed and victim-centered basis. As a trauma-informed investigative training coordinator, Munford will be responsible for developing a training curriculum, creating a model policy, giving conference presentations and identifying grant opportunities. Munford will work in collaboration with community partners to identify best practices to present the most prosecutable domestic violence and sexual assault cases.

The MSU Police Department has received continuous requests to provide information and training on trauma-informed and victim-centered investigations since the Larry Nassar investigation. Chief Jim Dunlap said, “Because of her experience in that case, I’m confident Lt. Munford will identify and highlight best practices and assist other agencies and departments across the country in providing victim-centered investigations for survivors.”

Since joining the MSU Police Department in 1997, Munford has supervised the Investigative Division, Special Victims Unit, Bike Unit and the Crime Scene Investigation Unit and is a member of the Small Squad Cadre. She was also part of the Cold Case Homicide Task Force.

CIVIC LIFE APP TRACKS ENGAGEMENT

As part of their 50th anniversary celebration, the Center for Service-Learning and Civic Engagement recently launched the MSU Civic Life app. The team challenges faculty, staff and students to complete 50 acts of civic engagement and log them in the app before Nov. 2 (past acts count, too) to show how the MSU community makes a difference each day. The app, which was developed in partnership with the Ford Fund, tracks total acts of engagement by category, such as advocacy, community and economic development, and socially responsible behavior, and total hours per individual. Download the app from the App Store or Google Play.

2018 HOMECOMING MARKS ‘UNWAVERING COURAGE’

The MSU Center for Service-Learning and Civic Engagement, the oldest continuously operating service-learning center in the nation, is celebrating its 50th anniversary.

The center works on campus to offer reciprocal, quality service-learning and civic engagement opportunities linking faculty and students with community partners. In celebration, the center is honoring the contributions of students, faculty, staff and community partners by seeking nominations for Champion Community Partners. A Champion Community Partner is a non-university organization that demonstrates exemplary community engagement.

MSU faculty, staff and students must submit their nominations online by Oct. 5. The Champion Community Partner and their nominator will be honored at a pregame reception held at Munn Ice Arena on Oct. 27, prior to the MSU vs. Purdue football game.

For more information, visit go.msu.edu/SNH.

BLOOD PRESSURE APP IS DESIGNED TO EMPower PATIENTS

Patients could soon be able to forgo the squeeze of the blood pressure cuff and monitor their blood pressure at home with a phone application, a new development that could help millions of Americans keep tabs on their cardiovascular health. The application for iPhones is meant to empower patients to pay attention to their blood pressure at a time when cardiovascular disease is a leading cause of death in Americans. It is being tested and developed by researchers at Michigan State University. The development, funded in part by the National Institutes of Health, demonstrates opportunities linking the MSU family with civic engagement.

For more information, visit go.msu.edu/SNH.