Commencement To Be Live-Streamed

Commencement ceremonies for the class of 2017 will be held on Saturday, June 24, at 1 p.m. in the Maharishi Patanjali Golden Dome. The public is invited to attend.

Congressman Tim Ryan (D-Ohio) will deliver the commencement address and will receive a Doctor of Laws honoris causa degree in recognition of his public service and his strong support for meditation, healthy food, renewable energy, and enhanced access to healthcare.

Over 500 students are expected to be graduating, including about 435 graduate students and approximately 75 undergraduates.

The event will be live-streamed online. See www.mum.edu/graduation2017.

Groundbreaking for Younger Park Set for June 24

As part of the reception for graduating students following commencement on Saturday, June 24, a groundbreaking will be held for Younger Park, with construction expected to begin the following week, weather permitting.

Funded by donors, Younger Park will lie immediately east of the Maharishi Vedic Observatory™ in front of the Argiro Student Center. It will feature an amphitheater with seating for 200 people and will eventually include features such as a watercourse and fountains. The construction this summer will include the amphitheater seating and stage.

Faculty, Student Win Top Accounting Award

UM’s leadership in the field of lean accounting has once again been recognized, with Professor Andrew Bargerstock and PhD student Ye Shi winning an award for having the best article in the peer-reviewed journal Strategic Finance.

They will be formally presented with the Lybrand Gold Medal Award for Best Article at the annual conference of the Institute of Management Accountants (IMA) on June 20 in Denver.

The IMA Lybrand Awards Committee determines the top three peer-reviewed articles based on their outstanding contributions to the accounting and finance literature, awarding gold, silver, and bronze medals.


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Specifically, it examines U.S. manufacturers that continue to use standard costing even though they have adopted Toyota-style process-improvement techniques.

According to Dr. Bargerstock, lean manufacturing is increasingly being adopted in the U.S., but research shows that when these companies don’t also adopt lean accounting, it results in waste and inefficiency.

The article sheds light on possible reasons why: lack of knowledge about lean accounting, deeply entrenched institutional histories of standard costing, and inertia sustained by legacy enterprise resource planning systems.

This is just the latest award received by Dr. Bargerstock and Ms. Shi.

In 2014, they were awarded IMA’s Menconi Award for Best Accounting Ethics Article. In addition, they are both two-time national award winners for their lean accounting accomplishments.

Dr. Bargerstock also recently published Mastering Leadership Alignment: Linking Value Creation to Cash Flow, with Business Expert Press.

The Institute of Management Accountants was formed in 1919. Currently, there are more than 85,000 members in 140 countries. The institute offers the Certified Management Accountant certification, examinations, and a variety of support and educational programs.

School Tennis Player Earns 2nd at State

The Maharishi School tennis team enjoyed a successful season, winning the singles, doubles, and team titles in the district competition and sending their top singles player and doubles team to state.

Kai Vessey made it to the final of the state singles tournament, defeating the #1 seeded player in his semifinal match. In the final, he lost to a foreign exchange student from the Czech Republic.

Competing in doubles at the state tournament were Daniel Zhu and Devan Burke.

School Students Earn First Place at World Creativity Competition

A team of Maharishi School students recently showed their extraordinary creativity by winning a first-place award at the Destination Imagination Global Finals late last month in Knoxville, Tennessee.

Competing against 80 other teams, all of whom had qualified by winning at the state level, the team of Philip Winer, Drew Schoenfeld, Caleb Mullenneaux, Loreena Hansen, and Alista Wikle performed a musical they wrote that not only won first place but also a coveted Da Vinci Award for exceptional creativity.

The 1,400 teams from 15 countries assembled at Knoxville competed in various age-level categories, and in one of six theme categories, ranging from building a machine to putting on an 8-minute play.

The Maharishi School team competed in the senior division in the fine arts category, in which they were challenged to present a story about how the disappearance of a color changes the world.

They came up with their own angle on the challenge, creating a play about the disappearance of communism (long associated with the color red).

Part of the play takes place in a communist setting, and part in a social Darwinist setting. They built a set on wheels that could be rotated between a plain communist background and a cityscape capitalist background.

The play addressed the excesses of each system in a lighthearted way without making a clear political statement.

The creativity exhibited in the concept and staging took their performance to a high level, but then to also make it into a musical put it over the top. At the substate competition, they simply had a 30-second musical interlude, which the audience really liked. So at the state competition, three of their eight minutes was done via musical performance, and again the audience liked that.

In the weeks leading up to the global competition, they made the entire performance a musical – and ended up with a performance the audience loved.

School students Caleb Mullenneaux and Loreena Hansen perform at Global Finals.
Students Publish Case Studies

Students in the MBA in Sustainable Business published six case studies this academic year on the website AIM2Flourish (aim2flourish.com), which celebrates business as an agent of world benefit.

Business students around the world interview business innovators and create multimedia web presentations about businesses that are both doing good and doing well.

“Doing this research helped our students get to know first-hand about unique local businesses that are making a difference for a better world,” said management professor Dennis Heaton.

**Ideal Energy** — A case study done fall semester told the story of Fairfield-based Ideal Energy, which installs solar energy arrays. Their case study featured a video interview with alumnus Troy Van Beek, founder and CEO.

Students involved included German Servente, Rupsi Shrestha, Marko Janic, and Laxmi Patel, under the guidance of Professor Anil Maheshwari.

In addition, students did five case studies during a course on Managing Organizational Change for Sustainability taught by Dr. Heaton spring semester.

**Heavenly Organics** — A case study by Meet Abhani and Joel Peniel looked at Heavenly Organics, a company founded by alumnus Amit Hooda that produces honey and honey-based products that are raw unfiltered and unpasteurized, USDA Certified Organic, Fair Trade, Non-GMO Project verified, and sustainably harvested from wild hives/free range bees through a smoke-free process which is friendly to bees.

**Soil Technologies** — Lani Aulicino interviewed Jim Schaefer, founder of Soil Technologies, which markets living, microbiological soil applications that increase biodiversity in soils. They also lead to healthier ecosystems while lessening or eliminating the need to use chemicals.

**Sky Factory** — Kenny Januar and Megan Maurice wrote about Sky Factory, which uses unique digital technology to build virtual windows and skylights that will help people be reminded of their connection with the outside world.

**Global ID** — Latha Lakshmanan and German Servente wrote about Global ID Group, which provides food safety and food integrity testing services, including testing for genetically modified organisms (GMO).

**Stuff Etc** — Tal Ron wrote a case study of Stuff Etc, a chain of consignment stores in Iowa that contributes to sustainable consumption through reusing and repurposing of products.

Art Students Enjoy Success in Graduate School

As a mark of success of the undergraduate art major, many of the students have enjoyed success in graduate school, including top art schools such as Cranbrook Academy of Art and the Chicago Art Institute.

**Hilary Nelson** graduated from the University of Iowa this spring with an MFA in painting. In her third year, she won an Iowa Grant, which released her from her teaching assistant responsibilities to focus on her art.

**Nicole McIntyre** graduated this spring from the Cranbrook Academy of Art with an MFA in painting.

**Alex Gabrielle** is in his second year of the MFA program in painting at the University of Iowa.

**Chris Smith** is in his second year of the MFA program in ceramics at the University of North Dakota.

In addition, a number of current students were accepted into multiple programs with full and partial scholarships.

**Hannah Foster** has received a full scholarship to do the MFA program in painting at Penn State.

**Terrell Smith** has received a full scholarship to do the MFA program in painting at the University of Iowa. He has been awarded the Iowa Grant for his first year of graduate study.

**Kurtis Kuwaski** will be taking the MFA program in ceramics at the Chicago Art Institute this fall with a partial scholarship.

Sara Sanders received scholarships to several top institutions for the fall of 2017, including Cranbrook Academy of Art, California College of the Arts, Pacific Northwest College of Art, and Pratt Institute of Art. She has deferred entrance until the fall of 2018.

Courses in Holland This Summer for Young Leaders

Enlightened Leadership International is offering two new courses – the ELI Summer Course and Start-Up Week – July 7-14 in Vlodrop, Holland.

The Summer Course includes extended practice of the Transcendental Meditation® and TM-Sidhi® programs. In addition, participants will attend meetings with the leaders of the Transcendental Meditation organizations and develop their knowledge in the areas of leadership and consciousness. The program will include a Maharishi GandharvaSM concert.

The Startup Week is a new feature designed specifically for young people with entrepreneurial spirit. The course allows participants to work on real-life start-ups addressing prime opportunities to expand the Transcendental Meditation organization, including establishing a Maharishi Vastu® architecture real estate company, introducing the Transcendental Meditation technique to companies, and developing Transcendental Meditation corporate sponsorship opportunities.

To learn more about these courses, visit www.merucourses.com or email info@elinternational.org.

Student Knowledge Fair June 16

The 2017 Knowledge Fair will feature the top student presentation from each academic discipline.

Judged by outside evaluators, the top presentations will receive cash awards of $300, $200, and $100.

The event will be held in Dalby Hall on Thursday, June 22, at 1:00 p.m.
Those giving plenary addresses included President John Hagelin, Dr. Schneider, and professors Keith Wallace and John Fagan.

Also, a national conference on Ayurveda was held on campus in April, with over 100 participants coming from around the world to learn more about the unique approach of Maharishi Ayurveda.

Organic Ag Students Begin Selling Veggies

Produce grown by students in the new program in regenerative organic agriculture is now being sold on Saturdays in the Fairfield Farmers Market at Howard Park (on Grimes and Court streets).

Beginning last Saturday they were selling early produce such as arugula, salad mix, and radishes.

In the coming months the community can expect much more diversity, including chard, kale, onions, leeks, squash, zucchini, peas, and beans. And later in the season they will be offering multiple varieties of carrots, sweet corn, and melon.

“It’s been incredible watching these guys work as teams, and break through into uncharted territories,” said assistant farm manager Dan Harvey. “Many of them come from non-agricultural backgrounds and seeing their determination and passion come through is beautifully inspiring. The future is bright.”

Reshma Srivastava in Concert June 18

World-famous sitarist Reshma Srivastava will be offering a concert for world peace and prosperity Sunday, June 18, at 8:00 in Dalby Hall.

She will be accompanied on tabla by Fairfield musician David Hurlin.

See reshmaconcert.eventbrite.com.