Welcome & 2017-2018 At A Glance

Dr. Barbara Roberts

Welcome to a new fall semester! If you are new to campus, welcome and we are glad to have you as part of the MSU team. If you were away on vacation, we hope it was restorative. If you were at work all summer, we hope you find time for some restorative vacation. In the meantime, allow us to update you on some of the wonderful resources the WorkLife Office can offer to help your academic year go more smoothly.

Research from the Harvard Business School and University of British Columbia suggests that we are happier when we spend money to buy services and help with chores than when we buy material objects. The WorkLife Office can help you find this path to happiness through Care.com. MSU supports your membership, so the access is free, and then you negotiate hours and wages directly with the service providers of your choice. Join approximately 1,500 other MSU staff and faculty colleagues who use Care.com to look for household help, caregivers, pet sitters, or other supports through Care.com. Our survey of users last fall showed that 87% of those who tried to hire help succeeded, and 95% of users would recommend Care.com to their colleagues. Personally, my household would grind to a halt without our house cleaner, grocery shopper and dog walker! Log-in to Care.com using your MSU Net-ID to find the folks who can make your life easier: Care.com/msu. You can even search for MSU students to hire. You can also get help with interview questions, payment, and employee taxes, if needed.

Upcoming events for this year include our annual fall conference. Last year we focused on flexibility at work; this year we are examining the changing nature of work. Join us October 11, 2017 at the University Club for “The Changing World of Work”, featuring keynote speaker Ellen Galinsky, whose keynote address is being co-sponsored by the Office of the University Physician, Human Resources, and the College of Arts and Letters. Sessions will address the impacts of changing technology, the intergenerational workforce, remote work and retirement. Learn more and register at: http://worklife.msu.edu/events/changing-world-work-worklife-office-annual-conference.

The Fatherhood Forum is back as well on October 6, 2017 in the Union Building. You are encouraged to attend, whether you are a father, parent, guardian, or simply interested in family and child rearing, to learn and exchange ideas in support of families and work.

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New Backup Dependent Care Program

Have you ever had to miss days from work or school because your child or eldercare provider was unavailable? Have you ever experienced last-minute changes or illness that complicate your plans for caring for your loved one? We’ve got you covered.

MSU Backup Dependent Care offers subsidized child and eldercare in your family’s home. In collaboration with Home Instead Senior Care, a franchised national home care agency, MSU offers this subsidized dependent care service to faculty, staff, and students. Staff and faculty pay $7.00 per hour and students pay a reduced cost of $6.00 per hour.

MSU families are eligible for up to 20 hours of care, to be used in blocks of three hours or more, per year. Request for care must be made with a minimum of four hours in advance.

Check out https://worklife.msu.edu/family-care/kids-parents/backup-care for more details and to pre-register for the Backup Dependent Care program.

Don’t let those emergency situations throw off your whole day—get peace of mind through Home Instead.

Transforming “Impossible” into “Possible”

Wednesday, September 20, 2017
8:30AM—10:00AM, Chittenden Hall, Room 110

Learn how to transform set-backs into positive opportunities for growth. As the Head Coach of MSU Women’s Volleyball, Cathy George is no stranger to coaching others about how to “keep your head in the game,” even when it’s tough or seems impossible. Coach George will share tactics for overcoming challenging situations, staying focused on your goal, and harnessing the support of your team. These skills will be applicable to work environments, at volunteer/extracurricular organizations, and in your personal life.

RSVP for Women’s Networking Association seminars by emailing worklife@msu.edu or calling (517) 353-1635.

This semester’s theme is “Empowerment & Transformation.” The mission of the Women’s Networking Association is to connect professional women across campus through meaningful and empowering relationships. Providing an opportunity for women to network and support one another is an essential step for building women’s leadership at Michigan State University and in the Greater Lansing community. Events are free and open to all.

UPCOMING EVENTS & SOCIAL MEDIA

For a complete listing of upcoming WorkLife events, visit our website: http://worklife.msu.edu.

Interested in receiving weekly e-mails about upcoming programs and events? To join the WorkLife Listserv, send an e-mail with the subject line “WorkLife Listserv” to: worklife@msu.edu. Be sure to indicate your name and e-mail address.

Join us on Facebook: Search: MSU WorkLife Office
Follow us on Twitter: www.twitter.com/MSUWLO
Make Commuting a Breeze

Amanda Parker, WorkLife Office Summer Intern

Commute to work has become a lot easier. For those of you who know the struggle to find a parking space on campus, you might be wondering how we can possibly say that. Well, there are many services available for MSU faculty and staff that you might not know about.

Did you know that the on-campus CATA bus lines provide free rides around campus with your employee ID (https://www.cata.org/Routes-Schedules/Where-can-I-Ride/MSU-Campus)? This will save you time and help you avoid having to move your already-parked car around campus to attend meetings or appointments.

Another alternative is to look into biking around campus. Whether you drive to work and then rent a bike for meetings, or if you are looking to bike to work, MSU Bikes Service Center offers bike rentals and repairs right here on campus (http://www.bikes.msu.edu/).

Carpooling is spreading across the area, with riders saving thousands of dollars each year when they carpool, especially if you live long-distance from campus. MichiVan Ride Share is available across the entire state of Michigan. MichiVan Ride Share lists their current carpooling routes and has opportunities to start a new route (http://www.vpsiinc.com/Home/index.asp?OID=27 or call 1-800-826-7433). Additionally, CATA Clean Commute can help you find carpoolers in your area by providing a matching program (https://www.cata.org/Rider-Information/Clean-Commute-Options). Another incentive to start carpooling and become more “Spartan Green” is that MSU parking fees are reduced when you have a carpool permit (http://police.msu.edu/management-services-bureau/parking-office/), saving you more money than you might expect.

If you’ve been deterred from trying to carpool because you have kids or are worried about what will happen if emergencies come up, you’re in luck! If you are a carpooler, ride the MichiVan, or ride your bike at least three days a week to get to work, you can get a free Enterprise car rental voucher if you unexpectedly need to leave campus early (https://www.cata.org/Rider-Information/Clean-Commute-Options/Emergency-Ride-Home).

MSU encourages you to use these opportunities – to help make your commute a breeze. If you have any questions, please contact the WorkLife Office at (517) 353-1635 or worklife@msu.edu. You can also view these options on the WorkLife Office website at: https://worklife.msu.edu/commuting-resources.

What can the WorkLife Office do for me?

Whether you’re new to campus, or you’ve been here for years, the WorkLife Office is here to support you. The office’s goals can be categorized into five main areas in order to support Michigan State University’s faculty and staff.

1. Family Care

From childcare to eldercare, and everything in between, the WorkLife Office can connect you to the resources you need. Some resources include Backup Dependent Care, breastfeeding support, answering questions about adoption, among others.

2. Career Transitions

Transitioning to a new role on campus, working towards tenure, or considering phased retirement are all covered in our career transitions area. You can schedule a consultation to find a plan that works best for you.

3. Workplace Assistance

Confused about the benefits available to you? Do you want to consider creating a flexible work arrangement? Are you interested in new ways for commuting to campus? No problem, we can help with all of those questions!

4. Relocation & Community Connections

If you’re new to Michigan State University, or you’re looking for new ways to connect with campus or the greater Lansing community, the WorkLife Office can help.

5. Research

We will help you stay up-to-date on the latest work-life research!

Looking for help with:
- Eldercare
- Pet care
- Childcare
- Home maintenance

As a Michigan State University faculty or staff member, you have free access to services provided by Care.com. Visit www.care.com/msu to sign-up with your MSU Net-ID today!

Visit our website for more information: http://worklife.msu.edu.
A forum for fathers who want to enhance their greatness as parents

Friday, October 6, 2017
8:00AM—4:00PM
MSU Union Building
(49 Abbot Road, East Lansing)

Who should attend the Fatherhood Forum?
Fathers of all ages and experiences, mothers, expectant parents, guardians, MSU students, staff and faculty, professionals, community partners, educators, and anyone interested in parenting.

Keynote: Dr. Hiram E. Fitzgerald
Dr. Fitzgerald is a professor in the departments of Psychology and Human Development and Family Studies and Associate Provost for University Outreach and Engagement at Michigan State University.

Some of his research foci include infant and family development in community contexts and the impact of fathers on early child development. His keynote address at the Fatherhood Forum will review positive and negative influences that fathers have on early child development and will closely examine the effects that fathers have in guiding children into a positive life course pathway, as well as those that do not.

The forum will include:
Interactive discussions, networking, free lunch, resource information, educational breakout sessions, inspirational presentations, and panels of diverse dads and moms.

Topics will include:
Healthy, easy meals for kids; kids and technology; self-care for dads to reduce stress; among others.

Goals of the forum:
To support dads, fatherhood, and parenting across complex issues; provide opportunities for relationship-building among fathers; tap the strength, wisdom and resiliency of people from diverse families; support men's identities around what it means to be a man/father from boyhood to manhood.

The Fatherhood Forum is FREE. REGISTER TODAY!


Questions? Contact the MSU WorkLife Office at (517) 353-1635 or worklife@msu.edu.

New this year! PHOTO CONTEST

Do you love taking cool photos with your kids? Why not show them off? Submit a touching or heartfelt photo of you with your kids to the Fatherhood Forum Photo Contest for a chance to win a prize.

Any father (or fathering figure) in Michigan is eligible to enter. Winners will be determined based on the photo that best captures the theme of this year’s Fatherhood Forum—Why Fathers Matter: Parenting for the Health of It.

All submissions must be sent by 11:59pm on August 28, 2017.
Submit your photo at: https://worklife.msu.edu/fatherhood-forum-photo-contest.
You are invited to join us at the second annual WorkLife Office Conference. This year’s theme, The Changing World of Work, will help participants understand how work has changed over time—and tips and tricks for accommodating those significant changes.

Keynote: Ms. Ellen Galinsky
Touted as one of the co-founders of the work-life field, Ms. Galinsky will share her expertise and insights for making a workplace work in a way that honors employees and the employer simultaneously. Ms. Galinsky is the Chief Science Officer for the Bezos Family Foundation and Senior Research Advisor to the Society for Human Resource Management (SHRM). She is a trailblazer in the family and early childhood fields, as well as co-founder and President of Families and Work Institute. She has written over 100 books and reports and 300 articles, including Mind in the Making: The Seven Essential Life Skills Every Child Needs.

Since the 1990s, Ms. Galinsky has directed or co-directed the National Study of the Changing Workforce, the most comprehensive ongoing study of the United States workforce and she will bring this knowledge to her keynote address.

The conference will include:
Keynote address with Ellen Galinsky, interactive discussions, networking, continental breakfast and lunch, educational breakout sessions, and a panel of experts.

Topics will include:
The Changing Meaning of Retirement: Trends, Issues, Innovative Practices; Gen Talk: Understanding Generational Differences; Creating a Workplace that Works; and more!

The Changing World of Work Conference is FREE. REGISTER TODAY!


Questions? Contact the MSU WorkLife Office at (517) 353-1635 or worklife@msu.edu.

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This fall also introduces our pilot project matching local families with incoming international faculty for support, information and fun. We hope to develop this initiative beyond the pilot stage to reach out to more new members of the MSU community in the future. If you’d like to volunteer as a mentor family, or if you’re new and would like to be matched, please get in touch with us at worklife@msu.edu.

Throughout the year, we will continue our work bringing awareness to the resources available on campus and in the community around issues like breastfeeding, flexible work arrangements, financial wellbeing, commuting and more. We will also continue bringing you strategies for navigating your work responsibilities, while also maintaining a robust and rewarding personal life. We will be hosting several educational seminars and opportunities for connecting with our office. Stay tuned to our calendar of events and WorkLife Connections for the latest from our office, both of which are available on our website: https://worklife.msu.edu/.

Whether you are a faculty or staff member, a supervisor or administrator, new to campus or a life-long Spartan, the WorkLife Office has information and resources to support your success.
Academic Women’s Forum

“Thriving as an Academic Woman”
Tuesday, September 19, 2017
3:30PM—5:00PM
Chittenden Hall, Room 110

Gear up for a new academic year by connecting with women across campus. Regardless of your field of study or position on campus, this panel discussion will be sure to inspire. Participants will learn about the art of “leading up,” or how to get buy-in from the top; microaggressions and what to do when you encounter or experience them in the workplace; and thriving as an academic woman, even on the days when you might feel like an imposter in academia.

Panelists include: Dr. Dorinda Carter Andrews, Assistant Dean, College of Education; Dr. Sonja Fritzsche, Chair of the Department of Linguistics & Germanic, Slavic, Asian, and African Languages; and Dr. Kelly Millenbah, Associate Dean, College of Agriculture & Natural Resources.

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY
2017 - 2018 Recognition and Deadline Dates for Awards

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| William J. Beal Outstanding Faculty Awards  
  http://www.msu.edu/unit/provost/awards.html  
  Betsy White, Provost Office, (517) 353-9900 (whitebe@msu.edu) | February 6, 2018 | Thursday, October 5, 2017 |
| Teacher-Scholar Awards  
  www.msu.edu/unit/provost/awards.html  
  Betsy White, Provost Office, (517) 353-9900 (whitebe@msu.edu) | February 6, 2018 | Thursday, October 5, 2017 |
| MSU Alumni Club of Mid-Michigan Quality in Undergraduate Teaching Awards  
  www.msu.edu/unit/provost/awards.html  
  Betsy White, Provost Office, (517) 355-9900 (whitebe@msu.edu) | Details to be announced | Thursday, October 5, 2017 |
| Distinguished Academic Staff Awards  
  (Academic Specialists and MSU Extension Academic Staff)  
  www.msu.edu/unit/provost/awards.html  
  Betsy White, Provost Office, (517) 353-9900 (whitebe@msu.edu) | February 6, 2018 | Thursday, October 5, 2017 |
| Excellence-In-Teaching Citations (Graduate Teaching Assistants)  
  www.msu.edu/unit/provost/awards.html  
  Betsy White, Provost Office, (517) 353-9900 (whitebe@msu.edu) | February 6, 2018 | Thursday, October 5, 2017 |
| Robert F. Banks Award for Institutional Leadership  
  www.msu.edu/unit/provost/awards.html  
  Betsy White, Provost Office, (517) 353-9900 (whitebe@msu.edu) | February 6, 2018 | Thursday, October 5, 2017 |
| Community Engagement Scholarship Award  
  (formerly Outreach Scholarship Community Partnership Award)  
  www.msu.edu/provost/awards.html  
  Carla Hills, University Outreach & Engagement, (517) 353-8977, (hillsc@msu.edu) | February 6, 2018 | Thursday, October 5, 2017 |
| Jack Breslin Distinguished Staff Award  
  Human Resources, (517) 353-3720 | May 21, 2018 | October 2017  
  Exact date forthcoming |
| Excellence in Diversity Awards  
  www.inclusion.msu.edu/Outreach/EIDA.html  
  Paulette Granberry Russell, Office for Inclusion and Intercultural Initiatives, (517) 353-3924; Audrey Bentley, (517) 353-3922 or (bentley@msu.edu) | February 28, 2018 | Friday, November 17, 2017 |