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College of Arts & Sciences

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Amanda (Parker) Murrell, B.S. Education, ’05, on the left and Melody Taylor, B.S. Psychology, ’06, show their Bronco pride in Southern Iraq. The flag was sent by a fellow WMU alumni. Both commissions from WMU ROTC and both serve as members of the 1460th Transportation Company in Midland, Mich. They are currently at FOB (Forward Operating Base) Bucca in Southern Iraq, where they support detainee operations.
Dear Friends:

In June I was invited to talk with our Board of Trustees about our College’s accomplishments and achievements—the kind of opportunity I relish. After that meeting, several people indicated they had no idea about the crucial role our college plays within the university, nor did they realize that we sponsor and support some of the very best programs, faculty, and students in the nation. So, in this edition of our newsletter, I thought I would relate a few of the many reasons why the College of Arts and Sciences, *Your College*, represents the very academic heart of WMU.

Some may not know that the College of Arts and Sciences is the largest of the seven colleges that make up WMU, or that we deliver 90 percent of WMU’s general education instruction as well as providing service courses for every college in the university. Some may be aware that more than 6,000 of WMU’s 25,000 enrolled students have declared majors through the College of Arts and Sciences, but may not know that 80 percent of students enrolled in the Lee Honors College major in a CAS program. And the list goes on and on:

- CAS enrolls more than 1,200 graduate students
- CAS generates 55 percent of WMU’s total number of student credit hours
- CAS sponsors 27 departments in three major divisions (Humanities, Social Sciences, and Sciences and Mathematics)
- CAS’s base budget is approximately $50 million, and the College’s total budget is approximately $75 million
- CAS produces approximately 300,000 total student credit hours each academic year which yields an estimated $85 million in tuition for the university
- CAS holds appointments for 341 tenured or tenure-track faculty
- Seven of WMU’s 15 newest Medallion Scholars will major in a CAS program
- Nineteen of 20 of WMU’s prestigious Presidential Scholars are CAS students
- Many of our master’s graduates enroll in some of the most prestigious doctoral programs in the country and world
- CAS graduate students have been awarded prestigious grants, post-docs, and fellowships to some the country’s best universities and research facilities
- Between 2004-2009, CAS granted an average of 55 Ph.D. degrees each year—enough degrees alone to qualify WMU as a Carnegie Research University
- CAS faculty have received some of the most prestigious awards in American higher education, including a McArthur Grant, Guggenheim Fellowships, a Humboldt Foundation Fellowship, the Alexander Gode Medal, NSF Achievement Grants, Fulbright Fellowships, NEA Fellowships, and appointments to national academies
- CAS faculty accounted for $53,491,311 million in sponsored research during the previous five years, an average of $10,698,262 million each year

As you can see, the College of Arts and Sciences supports the entire academic mission of Western Michigan University, and we truly merit the designation of the “Keystone College” at WMU.

I hope you have visited campus recently, or are planning a visit soon. When you do, we urge you to talk with our students and faculty to hear firsthand about our accomplishments and achievements. Given Michigan’s current economic turmoil, we continue to rely on your generous support, but to keep our programs flourishing, we need—besides financial support—for you to talk to your friends and neighbors about our College’s contributions to your successes. Your successes comprise the very best evidence of our commitment and quality to education and we need you to tell them why they should send their sons and daughters to WMU. Through your personal and financial support, you help enhance your college’s already remarkable reputation and its future aspirations.

Best Regards,

Thomas Kent
Leigh Ford Named Director of School of Communication

Leigh Ford, professor of Communication, has been named Director of the School of Communication, replacing Steve Rhodes who retired in June.

"Those of you who know Leigh, know she will bring an unending work ethic, outstanding leadership skills, and a passion for the School of Communication unmatched by anyone," says Rhodes.

Ford has a long history with the School. She was one of the School's first graduate assistants in the early 1980s. Specifically, for the first year of her M.A. program with WMU, she was the editorial assistant to Dr. Peter Northouse for the "Communication Research Bulletin." In her second and final year in the program, she was the first graduate teaching assistant under the leadership of Dr. Shirley VanHoeven.

Ford went on to Purdue for her Ph.D. and was an assistant professor at New Mexico State University before returning to Western Michigan in 1999.

She served eight years as the School’s director of graduate studies and recently was promoted to the rank of full professor. Her record of teaching, research, and service exemplifies the values and mission of the School.

Over the years, Ford has provided exemplary leadership to the graduate program and to the School of Communication. She also has worked effectively with her colleagues to create a mutually beneficial climate of collaboration between professors and graduate students.

She has made important contributions as a collaborative member of many university committees providing leadership in a number of areas of benefit to the faculty and students of WMU.

Ford has achieved national recognition in her leadership to the communication discipline, in particular in health communication and community engagement. These experiences are indicators of the commitment, approach, and values she brings to the position of the Director of the School of Communication.

Barbara S. Liggett, Appointed Interim Director for SPAA

Dr. Barbara S. Liggett recently was appointed as Interim Director for the School of Public Affairs and Administration (SPAA). She is a tenured associate professor in SPAA teaching in the M.P.A. and Ph.D. programs. Liggett previously served as the Director of the Nonprofit Leadership Programs for Graduate Studies.

Prior to her faculty appointment, Liggett served the University as the Executive Advisor for Quality in the Office of the President and as the Associate Vice-President for Human Resources.

Her university work includes human resources strategic planning; designing and implementing human resources systems; directing the human resources department; overseeing the implementation of a university classification system; implementing computerized human resources systems; serving as the university hearing officer for sexual harassment complaints; representing the university in external funding and credit rating processes for university building projects; directing the work of 44 employee teams focusing on quality and service improvement; and coordinating the Kalamazoo Consortium on Higher Education, with the presidents of the four area colleges/universities.

She is a national examination evaluator, specializing in polity, for the Presbyterian Church, USA. She is certified as a mediator in Conflict Dynamics Profiling and also as a Senior Professional in Human Resources (SPHR) through the Human Resource Certification Institute. She is a reviewer/editor for Jossey-Bass Publications, South-Western College Publishing, Jones and Bartlett Publishers, and the Society for Human Resources Management. In addition to numerous technical reports, she has published several book chapters and articles in "American Review of Public Administration," "Supervision," "Public Voices," and "Perspectives." She has served on boards in several local and national nonprofit organizations, most recently the Irving S. Gilmore International Keyboard Festival, the American Red Cross, and the Western Theological Seminary.
Two Awarded Fulbrights

Charles Henderson (Mallinson Institute) and Michael Ryan (Economics) have been awarded Fulbright Awards.

Henderson’s award will allow him to conduct research and work with graduate students at the University of Jyväskylä in Jyväskylä, Finland in 2010. His primary work will be with the University of Jyväskylä Institute for Educational Research, where he plans to expand his current research on instructional reform in higher education.

Ryan has been selected for a Fulbright Specialists project in Germany at Otto-Friedrich-Universität Banberg. Ryan will lecture in the field of international economics with an emphasis on international trade and foreign direct investment. The Fulbright Program is America’s flagship international educational exchange activity.

• Allen Zagarell (Anthropology) has established and runs the Central Asian Society. His research interests include social inequality, ethnohistory, political economy, computer-based applications in archaeology, and a regional focus on South Asia.

• Peter W. Wielhouwer (Political Science) was recently appointed the first Executive Director for the Southwestern Social Science Association, the nation’s oldest interdisciplinary academic association.

• Janet Heller’s (English) fiction picture book for children, “How the Moon Regained Her Shape” (Sylvan Dell, 2006), is one of five finalists for the Oregon Reading Association’s Patricia Gallagher Picture Book Award.

• Jennifer Machiorlatti’s (Communication) film “Kalamazoo Youth Media Initiative” has been accepted to the Formal Screening category for this year’s University Film and Video Association annual conference in New Orleans.

• Richard Utz (English) has been elected to serve as division representative in the Modern Language Association of America Delegate Assembly for a three year term. He represents the Division on Comparative Studies in Medieval Literature, in which he served for the past four years as a member, secretary, and chair.

• Dasha C. Nisula (Foreign Languages) has been selected from among 90 applicants to participate in the 2009 National Endowment for the Humanities’ Summer Institute in New York. This year’s Institute, America Engages Russia, is an exciting opportunity for examination of the myriad multilateral contacts between Russia and America. The Institute is co-directed by Columbia University and the New York Public Library.

• Mark Hurwitz and Ashlyn Kuersten (Political Science) presented “The courts of appeals database and judicial decision making,” at the 2008 Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, Law and Courts Section.

Rhodes Honored

Dr. Steven C. Rhodes, director (Emeriti) of Western Michigan University’s School of Communication, has been honored for his significant contributions to professional communication in Southwest Michigan. Rhodes received the 11th annual Tony Griffin Golden Word Award from area professional communicator’s group, InterCom.

The award is named in memory of Anthony E. “Tony” Griffin, longtime news director of WMUK-FM, WMU’s public radio station, and a founding member of InterCom. Griffin, who died in 1997 at age 51, was a 25-year employee of WMU and the first full-time newsperson at WMUK, beginning in 1973.

Rhodes is a professor of communication who was appointed director of WMU’s School of Communication in 1999. He stepped down from that administrative post in July 2009 and will return to the faculty in January 2010.

The newly renovated lecture hall in Brown Hall has been named in honor of Rhodes and his wife, Ann, for their contributions to the School and the University.
In the News…

- Sue Ellen Christian’s (Communication) submission, “Exploring Our Personal Biases as Journalists: An Interdisciplinary Approach,” received an honorable mention and was selected for presentation at AEJMC’s annual convention in Boston this year for the Best Practices in Teaching of Diversity competition. The submission was based on her grant-supported work in this area.

- Udaya Wagle (Economics) was awarded a WMU Faculty Research and Creative Activities Award to study: “Economic security under the PROWRA: the role of food stamps on income, employment, and poverty among low income households with children.”

- Dr. Autumn Edwards and Dr. Chad Edwards created a new program designed to reach children earlier and help them develop an interest in communication sooner. The goal of Kids Communicating is to facilitate the integration of communication curriculum into K-3 education. The communication curriculum for early elementary students is based upon skills and competencies identified and set forth by the National Communication Association. For more information, visit www.kidscommunicating.org.

- Cynthia Klekar (English) has won the American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies Paula Backscheider Archival Fellowship Travel Award. The award will support archival research for Klekar’s book “Fictions of the Gift: Generosity, Obligation, and Economy in Eighteenth-Century England” and a forthcoming article entitled “Sentiment, Performance, and the Making of Modernity in the Eighteenth Century.”

- Yuan-Kang Wang (Sociology) recently was awarded a WMU Faculty Research and Creative Activities Award to study: “Hierarchy and Asia’s regional order: past and present.”

- Charles Henderson (Malinson Institute) was named the Physics Education Research editor at the American Journal of Physics. Published by the American Association of Physics Teachers, the American Journal of Physics is an archival journal, edited to serve teachers of advanced-level physics instruction as well as researchers in the fields of physics and physics education.

- “Copyright & Creativity in the Digital Age” was an official selection of the East Lansing Film Festival and will compete in the Lake Michigan Film Competition area. This is a digital video feature documentary by Rebekah Farrugia and Jennifer Machiorlatti (Communication).

- Angela M. Moe (Sociology) received a Midwest Sociological Society Endowment Award of $1,500 to support research for her project titled, “Bellydancing Mommas: Pregnancy, Postpartum and Resistance to Cultural Discourse.” Moe also was awarded a University Faculty Research and Creative Activities Award of $5,908 to support research for her project titled, “Holistic Healing Through Middle Eastern Dance.”

- At the recent Conference of Educational Research Center on Educational Measurement in Cairo, Egypt, Bill Cobern (Malinson Institute) hosted a plenary session. Cobern also conducted a workshop on research at the Educational Research Center in Beirut.

Emeriti in the News

- Kenneth A. Dahlberg (Political Science) was quoted, on May 19, 2009, in a Kalamazoo Gazette article titled, “Local concerns vary on N. Korean threats.” Dahlberg is quoted as saying, in regards to concerns that North Korea may be threatening to renew the war it initiated in 1950, “There is no peace treaty. Since the Korean War ended, we’ve had only a cease-fire and a truce. We’ve remained enemies since, and now the truce, which kept the area reasonably stabilized, is no longer valid – and this time North Korea has nuclear weapons.”
Marilyn S. Kritzman, a faculty specialist in the School of Communication, has been awarded the 2009 Outstanding Academic Advisor-Primary Role Award from the Michigan Academic Advising Association. Kritzman was selected for providing “extraordinary dedication” to her students and colleagues as well as to the academic advising field. Kritzman serves as coordinator of undergraduate advising and internships for the School of Communication, advises the Undergraduate Communication Association, and teaches courses in internships, public speaking, and argumentation and debate.

She came to WMU in 1982 as a residence hall director and in 1991, was promoted to assistant manager of the Office of Residence Life overseeing the facilities aspect of the University’s 5,700-bed residence hall system. She served as a special assistant to senior administrators in the Office of the Vice President for Student Affairs from 1999 to 2002.

Kritzman has been an active member of the campus community. She chairs the Policies and Procedures Committee of the WMU chapter of the American Association of University Professors, is a member of the Faculty Senate and a volunteer mediator for the Campus Employee Dispute Resolution program, and serves on several Universitywide committees. She also is a past president of WMU’s Administrative Professional Association and of the Kalamazoo Area Women’s Festival.

Her many other honors include receiving the Outstanding Service and the Outstanding Professional Development awards from the Great Lakes Association of College and University Housing Officers, and several awards from WMU’s Administrative Professional Association, including awards for leadership and professional excellence.

Two Named for Distinguished Service Awards

Kevin Knutson, director of advising for the College of Arts and Sciences, and Dasha Nisula, Foreign Languages, are the recipients of the 2009 Lee Honors College Distinguished Service Award. The award is in recognition of their commitments of time and talent to the University’s honors students. It is the highest prize that the College awards.

The two were chosen from among candidates across campus nominated for their service through innovative and effective programs or in areas that extend the impact and presence of the University into the larger community.

As winners of the Distinguished Service Award, Knutson and Nisula will join a list of 46 faculty and staff who have received the accolade since it was established in 1980. Each also will receive a plaque and a $2,000 honorarium.

College of Arts & Sciences Faculty Achievement Awards

The College of Arts and Sciences recognized nine faculty members in the spring with its Faculty Achievement Awards. Recipients include:

Outstanding Achievement in Teaching: Jonathan Bush, English; Michael Chiarappa, History; Chad Edwards, Communication

Outstanding Achievement in Research & Creative Activity: Nora Faires, History; Ping Zhang, Mathematics; and Daneen Wardrop, English

Outstanding Achievement in Professional & Community Service: Paul Eenigenburg, Mathematics; Steven Rhodes, Communication; and Kristina Wirtz, Anthropology
Publications

Anthropology
• Michael Nassaney, professor of anthropology, is coeditor of “Interpretations of Native North American Life.”

Biological Sciences
• Christine Byrd-Jacobs and Ruth Villanueva, an undergraduate student from the summer research NSF-REU program, have published an article in the international journal Brain Research. The article is titled “Peripheral sensory deafferentation affects olfactory bulb neurogenesis in zebrafish.”

Communication
• A book by School of Communications professor Sandra L. Borden won a prestigious national award—the 2008 Clifford G. Christians Ethics Research Award. The book, “Journalism as Practice: MacIntyre, Virtue Ethics and the Press,” explores the importance of focusing on journalism as a virtuous practice. The book was named one of three finalists for the 2008 Tankard Book Award.
• In his latest book, “Telecommunications and Business Strategy,” Richard Gershon examines telecommunications industry structures and the management practices and business strategies affecting the delivery of information and entertainment services to consumers.
• Offering a straightforward introduction to the basic principles of leadership, Peter G. Northouse’s “Introduction to Leadership: Concepts and Practice,” focuses on providing readers with practical strategies for becoming better leaders.
• Sandra Borden has won the 2008 award for top book in applied ethics from the National Communication Association’s Communication Ethics Division. Her book is titled “Journalism as Practice.”
• Steve Lipkin recently published a ‘Movie-of-the-Week’ docudrama, ‘historical-event’ television, and the Steven Spielberg series Band of Brothers, in “New Review of Film and Television Studies.”

Comparative Religion
• Brian C. Wilson has had a new book published. “Yankees in Michigan,” has been published by Michigan State University Press as part of the Discovering the Peoples of Michigan Series. This new book tells how New Englanders forged Michigan’s identity.

Chemistry
• Susan R. Stapleton, associate dean, College of Arts and Sciences, along with her former student Chin-jun J. Hsiao, a recent doctoral graduate from the Department of Biological Sciences, have published an article in the international journal, Biochimie. The article is titled “Early sensing and gene expression profiling under a low dose of cadmium exposure.”

Economics
• “Firm specific characteristics and the timing of foreign direct investment projects” by Michael Ryan and Horst Raff, was published in the Review of World Economics.
• Chris Moser published “Poverty reduction, patronage, or vote-buying? The allocation of public goods in Madagascar,” in Economic Development and Cultural Change.
• Chris Moser published “An economic analysis of deforestation in Madagascar in the 1990s,” in Environmental Sciences: Journal of Integrative Environmental Research.
• Former student Peng Huang and C. James Hueng had the article “Conditional risk-return relationships in a time-varying beta model,” published in Quantitative Finance.
• Susan Pozo (Economics), former students Catalina Amuedo-Dorantes, and Tania Sainz, published “Remittances and healthcare expenditure patterns of population origin communities: evidence from Mexico,” in Integration and Trade Journal.
• Jean Kimmel’s edited volume, “How do we spend our time? Recent evidence for the American time-use survey,” was published by the W.E. Upjohn Institute for Employment Research.

English
• Cynthia Klekar’s article “The obligations of form: social practice in Charlotte Smith’s Emmeline” has been published in Philological Quarterly. Klekar’s essay “Obligation, coercion, and economy: the deed of trust in Congreve’s The Way of the World” appears in the collection.

Foreign Languages
• Victor C. Xiong has written an 856-page installment to a series of historical dictionaries on ancient civilizations and historical eras. The book is titled “Historical Dictionary of Medieval China.”
**Publications & Presentations**

**Mallinson Institute**
- Charles Henderson, along with A. Beach and M. Famiano, published “Promoting instructional change via co-teaching,” in American Journal of Physics.
- Bob Poel was an exhibitor at the National Science Teachers Association, 2008 Area Conference on Science Education. His exhibits included: “InterActions in Physical Science,” “Physics & Everyday Thinking,” “Can You Students Think Like a Scientist?,” and “Physical Science & Everyday Thinking.”

**Political Science**
- A paper by Emily Hauptmann, “Undoing the opposition between theory and methods,” is forthcoming in the newsletter of the American Political Science Association organized section for qualitative and multi-methods research. Hauptmann was invited to give a paper at the Ecole Normale Superieure in Paris.
- Priscilla Lambert recently published an article in Social Politics, “Comparative political economy of parental leave and child care: evidence from 20 OECD countries.”
- Priscilla Lambert co-authored an article with Merike Blofield in the US-Japan Women’s Journal, “Parental leave and childcare policy and the fertility crisis in familial welfare states: a comparison of Italy, Spain and Japan.”
- Priscilla Lambert presented a paper with Dru Scribner at the 2008 Annual Meetings of the American Political Science Association, “Gender matters: a case study analysis of constitutional provisions,” which is part of a larger project on gender and constitutions.

**Public Affairs and Administration**
- Robert Peters has co-authored a paper, with Melissa Beeson titled, “Reducing the gap between skills sought by employers and provided by education.”
- Robert Peters published “Using focus groups and stakeholder surveys to revise the M.P.A. curriculum,” in the Journal of Public Affairs Education.

**Sociology**
- Zoann Snyder’s “Keeping families together: the importance of maintaining mother-child contact for incarcerated women” was published in Women & Criminal Justice.

**Spanish**
- Robert Vann has published the monograph, “Materials for the sociolinguistic description and corpus-based study of Spanish in Barcelona: Toward a documentation of colloquial Spanish in naturally occurring groups.”
- Barry Goetz is completing a book manuscript titled “Fire Control, Policing & The Limits of Social Outreach: On the Selectiveness of Local State Institutions,” which is concerned with the limitations of public safety agencies to respond to social problems.
- Barry Goetz’s chapter “Arson” will be published in the Handbook of Deviant Behavior, edited by Clifton Bryant, to be published by Routledge.
- An article by Angela M. Moe and Sarah Musham Deward (forthcoming 2010), “Like a prison!: Homeless women’s narratives of surviving shelter,” has been accepted by Journal of Sociology & Social Welfare.
- Angela M. Moe published “A sheltered life: observations on a domestic violence shelter,” in Female Victims of Crime: Reality Reconsidered, Venessa Garcia & Janice Clifford (eds.).
- Angela M. Moe will have a chapter published, “Reclaiming the feminine: bellydancing as a feminist project,” in Congress on Research in Dance 2008 Conference Proceedings.
- Angela M. Moe (forthcoming 2009). “I’m not going to have it!: The role of children in battered women’s decisions to Leave,” in Affilia: Journal of Women & Social Work.
19 students honored as 2009 Presidential Scholars

Nineteen College of Arts and Sciences students were recognized as Western Michigan University’s top seniors for 2009 during the 29th annual Presidential Scholars Convocation in March.

Each year, faculty members select the most outstanding senior in their various academic schools, departments and programs to represent their units as a WMU Presidential Scholar, the highest academic award that WMU can bestow to an undergraduate.

Selection is based on the students’ general academic excellence, academic and/or artistic excellence in their majors, and intellectual and/or artistic promise. You will see the scholars listed here and profiled throughout the following pages.

2009 Presidential Scholars

• Anthropology—Kourtney K. Collum, Monroe, Mich.
• Biological Sciences—Sylvia Radzikowski, Caledonia, Mich.
• Chemistry—Jeffrey Rabe, Garden City, Mich.
• Communication—Sara L. Waisanen, Hancock, Mich.
• Comparative Religion—Diane E. Hall, Traverse City, Mich.
• Economics—Emily E. Hawrysz, Oak Lawn, Ill.
• English as well as Gender and Women’s Studies—Philip M. Taylor, Lambertville, Mich.
• Environmental Studies Program—Michael P. Coryell, Onekama, Mich.
• Foreign Languages—Victoria L. Mansberger, Kalamazoo, Mich.
• History—Jenna E. Teachout, Kalamazoo, Mich.
• Philosophy—Scott M. Cresse, Hartland, Mich.
• Physics—Jack R. Winkelbauer, North Branch, Mich.
• Political Science—Michael A. Gregor, Macomb, Mich.
• Psychology—Manish K. Goyal, Bangalore, Karnataka, India
• Sociology—Lucas B. Patton, Morenci, Mich.
• Spanish—Olena Koshmanova, Lviv, Ukraine, and Kalamazoo, Mich.
Honors and Awards

BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES

- Colin J. Gould Memorial Scholarship: Joshua K. Radi
- Distinguished Biological Sciences Graduate Student: Petra R. Kohler and Miles T. Rogers
- Distinguished Pre-Professional in Biological Sciences: Heidi M. Egloff
- Distinguished Senior in Biology: Lorah B. Patterson
- Distinguished Senior in Biomedical Sciences: Katy L. Picard
- Frank Hinds Zoology Award: Marc B. Wegener
- Hazel Wirick Scholarship: Allene M. Smith and Julie A. Feikens
- Margaret Thomas Du Mond Award: Christopher E. Lane
- Merrill Wiseman Award in Microbiology: Rachel N. Zimmerman
- MPI Outstanding Graduate Research Award: Tania R. Iqbal
- MPI Outstanding Undergraduate Research Award: Jason A. Kintzele
- Presidential Scholar: Sylvia Radzikowski

COMMUNICATION

- All-University Graduate Teachers award: Jacquelyn M. Miekszyn
- All University Scholar award: Elizabeth Lyons
- InterCom Memorial Scholarship: Lauren Berry
- Undergraduate Research and Creative Activities Award: Nathaniel Abernathy, Katharine Densmore, Alex Inkster, Brian Lane, Tina Swanson, Nayibe Tavares, and Mallory Yockey
- Presidential Scholar: Sara Waisanen
- Departmental Scholars: Bryan Heany, Ashley Ingle, and Maureen Savage
- WWMT Scholarship: Jacob Durrett, Brian Lane, Justine Morris, and Kristina Whitcher
- WMUK Scholarship in Radio: Emily Beard and Drew Kiewiet
- Roslyn Abrams Endowed Scholarship: Katharine Densmore and Stan Morrow
- Burke Scholarship in Journalism: Zachary Reichard and Phillip Swanson
- Jules Rossman Endowed Scholarship: Alexander Inkster and Brian Lane

ENGLISH

- Chair’s Distinguished Service Awards: William Olsen and Eve Salisbury
- David C. Czuk Part-Time Faculty Award for Teaching Excellence: Melinda Dobson
- Presidential Scholar: Philip Taylor

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Honors and Awards

- The William R. Brown Award for Early English Studies: Joshua Boardman
- Ralph N. Miller Memorial Award: Madeline Baker
- Patrick D. Hagerty Promising Scholar: Kathryn O’Brien
- Jean and Vincent Malmstrom Scholarship: Caitlin Popa
- Nash Scholarship in English Education: Julia Kimble
- George Sprau Awards: Hannah Markel, Micealaya Moses, and Viola Riddle
- Frederick J. and Katherine Rogers Memorial Shakespeare Award: Undergraduate: Elizabeth Fowler; Graduate: Michelle Teti
- Norma VanRheenen Award for Excellence in Teaching College Writing: Meghann Meeusen
- All-University Graduate Teaching Effectiveness Awards: Lisa M. Horton and Meghann Meeusen
- All-University Graduate Research and Creative Scholar Awards: R. Adam Clay and Kristopher Frithjof Peterson
- Bernadine P. Carlson Prize for Professional Writing: Trish L. Stevens
- The Book Awards:
  - English Language and Linguistics: Gary Beckwith and Alexander Smith
  - The Linda Christensen Award: Christopher Kato, Adam Limban, and Michelle Randall
- The Creative Writing Awards:
  - Poetry: The Herbert Scott Award: Shannon T. Jonas; Undergraduate: Marie Kutz-Marks; Graduate: Kimberly M. Kolbe
  - Fiction: Undergraduate Frostic Winner: Casey Knott; Honorable Mentions: William Derks and Kelly Sandoval
  - The Bruno Schulz Award for Undergraduate Fiction (tie): Ashley Christopher and Malkam Wyman
  - Graduate Frostic Winner (tie) Melinda Moustakis and Katherine Zlabek; Honorable Mention Daniel Toronto
  - The Gordon Prize for Graduate Fiction: James Miranda; Honorable Mention: Michele Coash
- Playwriting:
  - Undergraduate: Randy Kim; Honorable Mention: Mickey Moses
  - Graduate: Kristian O’Hare; Honorable Mention: Kris Peterson
- Creative Nonfiction
  - Graduate: Kate Dernocoeur; Honorable Mentions: Marin Heinritz and Hilary Selznick
  - The Mary Karr Award for Creative Nonfiction: Marin Heinritz
- Sigma Tau Delta Award for Excellence in Academic Achievement, Leadership, Service, and Character: Patrick Love
- Sigma Tau Delta Outstanding Service Awards: Meghan Dykema and Crystal Kelley

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Grad Poster Day a Success

Approximately 200 faculty, staff, and students attended the Third Annual Research and Creative Activities Poster Day on April 10, 2009 in the Fetzer Center at Western Michigan University. The program featured posters and displays by faculty and graduate students from across the University.

Fifteen awards were granted to 17 graduate students (11 from the College of Arts and Sciences) for their scholarly endeavors.

The 2009 Research Day award winners from the College of Arts and Sciences included:

- Oluwagbóhùnmi Awosoga, Department of Statistics
- Michael Buchalski, Department of Biological Sciences
- Sylvie Coulibaly, Department of Biological Sciences
- Nicole Fonger, Department of Mathematics
- Travis Hayden, Department of Geosciences
- Elsy Thomas Kizhakethalackal, Department of Economics
- Lisa Marie Malischke, Department of Anthropology
- Meghann Meeusen, Department of English
- John Panos, Department of Psychology
- Heather Qualman, Department of Geosciences
- Jezaniah Tena, Department of Statistics

Honors and Awards

FOREIGN LANGUAGES

Faculty Awards
- American Translators Association, Alexander Gode Medal: Peter Krawutschke
- National Endowment for the Arts Translation Grant, $20,000: Jeffrey Angles
- National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Institute participant; Lee Honors College Faculty Fellow Award: Dasha Nisula
- WMU Faculty Research and Creative Activities Grant: Jeffrey Angles and Rika Saito

GEOSCIENCES

- Advisory Council Field Camp Scholarship: Brian Eustice, Thomas Howe, and Jason Asmus
- David Kuenzi Student Research Award: Ryan Sibert, Thomas Reich, Zhanay Sagintayev, and Abdou El-Magd
- Richard Laton Field Camp Scholarship: Kirk Wagenvelt
- Lloyd and Marilyn Schmaltz Undergraduate Scholarship: Patrick Donovan
- Envirologic Technologies Scholarship: Pete Marsala
- Wirgau-McLean Award: Marcel Robinson and Peter Feutz
- Distinguished Service Award: John Thornton
- Department Appreciation Scholarship: Marie Lussier, Susan Jager, Ryan Bos, and Jared Bowen
- Senior Honor Award: Geology: Brian Eustice
- Senior Honor Award: Hydrogeology: Stephanie Ewald
- Senior Honor Award: Geochemistry: Kirk Wagenvelt
- Senior Honor Award: Geophysics: Ryan Sibert
- Senior Honor Award: Earth Science: Jennifer Trout and Marcel Robinson,
- Senior Honor Award: Earth Science Education: Brad Pillen and Samantha Bokor
- Presidential Scholar: Geosciences: Stephanie Ewald
- IMAGIN Student Poster & Paper Competition: First place, Graduate Student Section: Zhanay Sagintayev
- Graduate Research and Creative Scholar Award: Joshua Kirschner and Zhanay Sagintayev
- Graduate Teaching Effectiveness Award: Abdou A. Abou El-Magd and Meghan O. Good

POLITICAL SCIENCE

- Arden J. Elsasser Memorial Scholarship (Graduate): Zachary Cahalan
- Donald Gilmer Scholarship: Noel Johnson

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Honors and Awards

Chemistry Presidential Scholar is Jeffrey Rabe

Garden City resident Jeffrey Rabe is one of 46 Western Michigan University seniors named a 2009 Presidential Scholar. Rabe was recognized March 24 during the 29th annual Presidential Scholars Convocation. He was presented with certificates.

Rabe is a graduate of Divine Child High School in Dearborn, Mich. He is majoring in biochemistry and minoring in Spanish. His current academic interests are biochemistry and medicinal chemistry. He traveled to Spain during summer 2008 for a six-week study abroad program. While there, he participated in the Running of the Bulls in Pamplona.

Rabe has been involved with Big Brothers Big Sisters for nearly three years. As a freshman, he participated in Alternative Spring Break and traveled to Broxton Rocks Nature Conservancy in southern Georgia. There, he and other students helped plant 10,000 longleaf pine trees. The following two years, he spent spring break in New Orleans with Solid Grounds Student Ministry, helping to restore parks as part of Hurricane Katrina relief efforts.

Following graduation, he initially plans to become a pharmacist, followed by work in a research laboratory developing cancer-related drugs.

PUBLIC AFFAIRS AND ADMINISTRATION

- 2009 Nonprofit Leadership Scholarship: Amy L. Gifford Ziegler, M.P.A. student
- Pi Alpha Alpha inductees: Susan M. Germann, Kelly N. Robertson, Teresa L. Kmetz, Elizabeth Drerup-McGaughey, James S. Penix, and Sarah J. Sant
STUDENTS COMPLETE PROJECT PAPERS FOR SPAA

The SPAA M.P.A. Project Paper is the capstone requirement of the M.P.A. It provides students the opportunity to demonstrate their understanding of public administration in the completion of an original research project and analysis.

The SPAA is pleased to recognize the following students for their accomplishment in completing their Project Paper:

- Daniel T. Bartley, Richland, Mich.
- Christian Borg, Kalamazoo, Mich.
- Brody Boucher, Grand Ledge, Mich.
- Sandra Diorka, Holt, Mich.
- Christina M. Drake, Grand Ledge, Mich.
- Christi Fitzgerald, Caledonia, Mich.
- Michelle M. Greenlee, Paw Paw, Mich.
- Maki Hirose, Kalamazoo, Mich.
- Teresa Kmetz, Portland, Mich.
- Ryan Moore, Mason, Mich.
- Nicole Pena, Niles, Mich.
- James S. Penix, Galesburg, Mich.
- Megan A. Russell, Battle Creek, Mich.
- Sarah Sant, East Lansing, Mich.
- Megan Sifuentes, Charlotte, Mich.
- Kristina M. Stroud, Dimondale, Mich.
- Craig Wheeler, Coopersville, Mich.
- Marla Wedge, Allegan, Mich.
- Christian Whitt, Niles, Mich.

Honors and Awards

SOCIOLGY

- Presidential Scholar: Lucas Patton
- Sociology Scholar: Amanda Vig
- Criminal Justice Scholar: Brandon Neidlinger
- Leonard C. Kercher Award: Kristyn Reid
- Lanny Wilde Scholarship: Nicholas Peters and Asa Jay
- Stanley S. and Helenann S. Robin Scholarship: Amanda Vig
- Graduate Student Teaching Effectiveness Award: Lisa Kruse
- All-University Graduate Student Teaching Effectiveness: Kelly Faust
- Graduate Research & Creative Scholar Award: (Ph.D.) Michael Gillespie
- Graduate Research & Creative Scholar Award: (M.A.) David Barry
- All-University Graduate Research & Creative Scholar Award: (Ph.D.) Jessica Edel
- All-University Graduate Research & Creative Scholar Award: (M.A.) Lori Verspoor
- Outstanding Graduate Scholars: David Barry, Elizabeth Bradshaw, Sara Brightman, Nicholas Budimir, Carrie Buist, Carolina Calvillo, Jacquelynn Doyon, Jessica Edel, Kelly Faust, Michael Gillespie, Lisa Kruse, Ladel Lewis, Flora Myamba, David Piacenti, Angela Simon, Andrew Verheek, Lori Verspoor
- Ph.D. Graduates ’08-’09: Flora Myamba, Michael T. Klemp-North, and Daniel White
- Chair’s Excellence Award: Sam King
- Outstanding Graduate Teachers: Jacob Armstrong, David Barry, Elizabeth Bradshaw, Darrick Brake, Sara Brightman, Nicholas Budimir, Carrie Buist, Jacquelynn Doyon, Jessica Edel, Kelly Faust, Michelle Fether-Samtouni, Tamica Frison, Michael Gillespie, Lisa Kruse, Adrienne Trier-Bieniek, Cynthia Visscher

SPANISH

- All-University Graduate Teaching Effectiveness Award: Marcie Noble, Natalie Anne Kachurek
- Department Graduate Research and Creative Scholar Award: Gustavo Jiménez-Vaquero, Berta Carrasco de Miguel
- Department Travel/Study Abroad award: Margaret Glide, Kendra Grieser, Jessica Lach, Brenna Schurkamp
- Herb B. Jones Scholarship in Spanish: Ryan Andrews
- Lori Beth Pattison Scholarship for Literature in Spanish: Tasha Campbell
- Mathilde Steckelberg Scholarship: Criscelda Mordimore of Kalamazoo
- Premio Alfonso X el Sabio: Michael Paeplow
- Premio Antonio de Nebrija award: Kiah Dana
- Premio Inca Garcilaso de la Vega: Rebecca Phelps
- Premio Joan Corominas: Tome Linguovkski
- Premio Jorge Luis Borges: Nicole Dinneweth
- Premio Maria Moliner: Lyndsey Carter

continued on page 16
Honors and Awards

Scott Cressey was named a WMU Presidential Scholar in the Department of Philosophy. The Presidential Scholar is the highest award bestowed to an undergraduate student.

Cressey, a senior in Philosophy at WMU, was interviewed in an article by Kristofer Karol in the Daily Press & Argus (Livingston, Mich.) on May 20, 2009.

According to Karol, Cressey is not your typical 22-year-old thinker. “Don’t expect the Hartland town-ship man to contemplate stereotypical things such as the meaning of life or what happens when you die—the 22-year-old’s curiosity lies within the philosophy of science,” he writes.

“A lot of philosophy of science is interested in parceling apart the language of science and saying ‘Well, this is what you guys are talking about when you’re saying, this,’” Cressey said. “It’s a lot of brush-clearing (and) really making sense of what we’re talking about.”

Cressey will spend the fall semester studying Arabic in Egypt. He hopes to one day teach at a college or university.

Econ Graduate Program Ranked 10th in Applied Economics

The Faculty Scholarly Productivity Index for 2007 ranked the Applied Economics Ph.D. program at Western Michigan University the 10th best program in the field of Applied Economics. The Faculty Scholarly Productivity Index is produced by Academic Analytics and is published in the Chronicle of Higher Education. The Index is a measure designed to measure academic quality in U.S. research universities based on publication, citations, federal research funding and honors and awards. It is based on data gathered from over 230,000 faculty members in 118 academic disciplines at 350 doctoral degree granting universities in the U.S. based on the Carnegie Classification System of the Institution for Higher Learning. The Department of Economics awarded two Ph.D. degrees in the past year.

30/30 Program selects Spanish major

Jordyn R. Frasier, a Spanish major and Chinese minor was selected as a principal candidate to participate in the summer “30/30 Program,” a joint initiative of the U.S. Department of State’s Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs and China’s Ministry of Education that commemorates the thirtieth anniversary of formal diplomatic relations between the two nations.

The “30/30 Program” will consist of tours, lectures and meetings hosted by three of the most prestigious universities in China. In Beijing, grantees will discuss politics and the Chinese system of government at Peking University; culture and society will be the focus of the practicum at Sichuan University in Chengdu; and at Tongi University in Shanghai, students will explore Chinese leadership and economic issues.

The Chinese Ministry is also exploring the possibility of a weekend home stay with a Chinese host family.
A seven-hour, January road trip landed 14 Western Michigan University students on the northern shores of Lake Ontario in Toronto, Canada to participate in the Conference on Historical and Underwater Archaeology with WMU Anthropology Professor Michael Nassaney.

The conference was sponsored by the Society for Historical Archaeology (SHA), the world’s largest professional organization dedicated to the study of the recent past, which provides opportunities for archaeologists from all over the world to network, share research results on topics of mutual interest, and visit significant local archaeological sites.

WMU anthropology graduate student and conference presenter Emily Powell attested to the importance of attending the SHA international conference. “Participating in a meeting of this caliber is not only a wonderful way to network with others who hold similar interests, but it enables us as students to become excited about what we do as archaeologists,” Powell said. “It prepares us for the job market and contributes to our own growing research goals.”

About 1,000 historical archaeologists attended the four-day international event to present papers and posters on a wide range of topics, including eighteenth century French colonial material culture and the fur trade in New France—themes that attracted many of the WMU students involved in the Fort St. Joseph Archaeological Project. Fort St. Joseph served as a hub of commercial, religious, and military activity for a community of French, English, and Native peoples for nearly a century. It was discovered by WMU archaeologists in 1998 and is the focus of the Fort St. Joseph Archaeological Project, a partnership between WMU, the City of Niles, and other community groups.

Western Michigan’s contingent of 14 students made a notable impression at the conference, said Nassaney. Several WMU graduate students presented papers and posters on original research relating to the ongoing WMU-led excavations and analysis of Fort St. Joseph. Three WMU students, Stephanie Barrante, Tori Hawley, and Andrew Robinson, were recognized for their award-winning photographs from the fort project. The WMU group also was recognized for being the largest group of student volunteers from a single university at the event.

Andrew Beaupre, a WMU graduate student and poster presenter, qualified the SHA conference as “the Superbowl” of historical archaeology and the opportunity to present research to the greater community of scholars “an enormous honor.” Fellow anthropology student Ian Kerr echoed the importance of capitalizing on the professional networking and learning opportunities that international conferences like SHA provide.

“The learning environment present in Toronto was incredible,” Kerr said. “The collective breadth and depth of knowledge in conjunction with the plethora of professional developmental opportunities was incredibly useful to me as a first-year grad student.”

The student archaeologists look forward to the 2010 SHA conference, which will be held at Amelia Island Plantation in Florida.

Students and faculty at the SHA conference in the lobby of the historic Fairmont Royal York Hotel. Back row (from left): Meghan Cook, LisaMarie Malischke, Stephanie Barrante, Ian Kerr, Andrew Beaupre, Victoria Hawley (undergrad), Andrew Zink, and Adam Johnson. Front row: Brendan Weaver, Emily Powell, Dr. Michael Nassaney, William Walsh, Amanda Brooks, and Erin Claussen.

—Photo taken by WMU graduate student Andrew Robinson, official SHA photographer.
On April 2, nearly 100 people gathered at Kalamazoo Senior Services for the Students4Giving Grant Celebration hosted by the students in the WMU SPAA chapter of American Humanics Student Association. WMU was one of ten schools nationwide chosen by Campus Compact with the Fidelity Charitable Gift Fund to receive $15,000 to re-grant to local nonprofit organizations. The process gave WMU students the opportunity to assess community needs, set priorities, and interact with local organizations. The students were aided by Greater Kalamazoo United Way, who distributed the requests for proposals.

After receiving over 20 compelling applications, students analyzed each proposal, conducted site visits, and met to come to consensus on grant recipients. At the end of this process, grants were awarded to the following organizations:

- **Specialized Language Development Center**, $5,000 for its Language Links Program that provides two hours per week of individual, specialized instruction to economically disadvantaged children who are significantly below grade level in reading but who do not qualify for special education services.
- **Eastside Neighborhood Association**, $2,725 for a community garden that will provide gardening expertise, garden tools on loan, and fresh produce to families in that neighborhood.
- **YWCA of Kalamazoo**, $2,500 for a speaker at the Kalamazoo Summit on Racism that promotes the elimination of institutional racism.
- **Family and Children’s Service**, $2,350 for its Parenting Education Classes for birth parents and relatives whose children have been or are at risk of being removed from the family home due to abuse or neglect.
- **New Genesis**, $2,350 for its 5-Star After School Program for children who work to improve their skills in reading and math and their parents to learn how to support their children’s academic achievement.

Visit us Thursday, Sept. 17 for Major Excitement!

The fourth annual Major Excitement event, sponsored by the College of Arts and Sciences, will be held from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Thursday, Sept. 17 on the main campus of WMU, near the new Chemistry building. This annual event is designed to help first-year and undecided students look at more than 100 options for majors and minors via information stations sponsored by each department in the college. If you would be interested in attending this event to talk with students about your career choices and experience at WMU, or to network with other alumni, please contact Dorilee Schieble at (269) 387-4399 or email her at dorilee.schieble@wmich.edu.
Western Michigan University students in the fields of communication, theatre, creative writing, and business got a glimpse of independent filmmaking this summer by taking part in an innovative film project shot in Kalamazoo, Covert, and South Haven, Mich.

The film, titled “The Lake Effect,” features the talents of writer and director Tara Miele and producer and Kalamazoo native Jennifer Westin. Various area landmarks were featured in the film, including Heritage Guitars, Bell’s Eccentric Cafe, Fenn Valley Winery and Sherman’s Ice Cream. The film was shot from mid-June through early July.

The students worked as interns in pre-production and on the set as the film was being made. Students assisted in everything from casting and coordinating extras to working with sound and camera units.

Current WMU students who took part in the film and their hometowns are:

- Elizabeth Quinlan, Fraser, Mich.
- Ryan Michael Besch, White Lake, Mich.
- Brian Lane, Ann Arbor, Mich.
- Phillip Wright, Fremont, Mich.
- Megan Stokes, South Haven, Mich.
- Andrew O’Reilly, Beverly Hills, Mich.

Quinlan, Bridenstine, Lane, Wright and Stokes are majoring in film, video and media studies. Besch is a creative writing and marketing student, Markel is specializing in public relations, and O’Reilly is a business major.

Several others with WMU ties also took part in the project.

- Graduates Andrea Flader, of Flushing, Mich., and Emily Pignataro, of Battle Creek, Mich.
  —production and production design responsibilities.
- Dr. Arnie Johnston, who retired in 2008 as professor and chair emeritus of the WMU Department of English—an on-camera speaking role.
- Matthew Runyan, a former WMU student, also participated.

“Working on this film provided an incredible professional opportunity for students, recent alumni and faculty. We were welcomed into a unique professional situation, which provided experience in all aspects of cinema production. The Los Angeles based producer, director and director of photography were incredible mentors and inspiring professionals,” says Dr. Jennifer Machiorlatti, WMU associate professor of communication in the film, video and media studies program and first assistant director on “The Lake Effect.”

“It was a unique experience for students to partner with professionals on a film project. I hope this can be a regular summer learning experience for students, faculty, community and professional partners in cinema production,” adds Machiorlatti.

The film, a “dramedy,” tells the story of a father suddenly facing the prospects of caring for his estranged, pregnant 18-year-old daughter, who shows up with her rock musician boyfriend.

“I’ve been looking for a project to bring back home for a long time and I finally found the right script,” Westin says. “I’m thrilled to be able to showcase the natural beauty, local landmarks, and tremendous artistic talent of Southwest Michigan.”

The film is currently in post-production.

—WMU News
Dave Ansel... CAS grad and Ultimate Bronco Fan?

My father was the third and last head of Western Michigan’s Rural Life & Education program (1961-1975). He followed Dr. William McKinley Robinson and founder Dr. Ernest Burnham. Western Michigan Normal was created in 1903 to train teachers for one room rural school teaching. “Rural” was the first and original department at Western.

Though most of my interactions with WMU Presidents have been with Drs. Miller, Haenicke, and Dunn, I can say that I’ve physically met and interacted with every WMU President except Dr. Waldo. Dr. Waldo had passed on prior to my birth.

A Loyal Bronco Fan

WMU Football. Still with me today. I’ve just completed my 53rd season of actively supporting the Broncos at Waldo Stadium on game day. On Oct. 5, 1957 I attended my first Bronco football game. Marshall defeated WMU 12 to 7 at Waldo Stadium. Though I don’t remember the actual game, my dad found ticket stubs when he cleaned out the family home during his retirement. The stubs are somewhere in his papers in the WMU archives. My earliest memory of Bronco football was the 1960 Homecoming—a 28 to 28 tie to now Division III Baldwin Wallace College.

From 1980-1985, and since 1987, I’ve only missed seven home games. This is a more-than two-hour drive one way each game day. And yes, I have game programs and ticket stubs to prove it. I am a football season ticket holder since 1984, a member of the Mike Gary Athletic Fund, and I often travel with the Broncos to away games.

A Bronco flag flies at my home each football season. Bronco clothing is worn to work each Friday before football game day—a lapel pin if I’m wearing a coat and tie. Several WMU throw-blankets keep me warm in my home sun room in winter. Several WMU ornaments are found on my Christmas tree each year. And Cali the cat, snoozes on my old “W” stadium blanket in my home office.

The Most Useful Part of my WMU Education

- Living it. On July 24, 1969 I began work at the University Bookstore (currently at West Michigan and Howard Street which was not there at the time). The income generated from my employment paid my way (tuition, fees, books, social, etc.). I never once borrowed money, and received no financial benefit from my father’s WMU employment. Most significantly, I can say I have been continuously employed by only three employers since July 1969.
- I love being able to give back to WMU from an academic perspective, including volunteering as a WMU Admissions Ambassador for 12 years from 1988 to 2000.

What I Did With My Degrees

- From 1974-1979, I attended Colorado State University graduate school teaching and research assistantships in the Chemistry Department
- From 1979 to present, I am employed at Wacker Chemical Corporation in Adrian, Mich. From 1979 to 2003, I worked as an applications chemist providing technical support to industrial customers using silicones. Since 2004, I have taken on a technical marketing role to support Wacker’s NAFTA silicone distributor. I currently apply the knowledge base gained in my previous 24 years, daily. I hope to retire in several years and am currently planning something to keep me busy.
- Personally, my interests are my cat (Cali), my music collection (primary interests lie in jazz) and Bronco football. I also have spent a lot of my personal time traveling.

Advice for students

- Learn a language and travel the world. Document the travel with a diary or blog and photos. I never saw myself living and working in Germany when I began a year of German at WMU in the fall of 1971. My parents had the foresight and resources to use travel as a family experience when I was growing up.

“\My WMU memories are lifelong, not just “four years of college.”\”

—Dave Ansel
• Get involved. I like to say my job paid my way through college, but there were many lifelong lessons and experiences realized that could not be obtained in a classroom or looking at the pay stub. Opportunities for involvement are endless—jobs, extra curricular activities, or voluntary contributions to the community. Why not move outside your study discipline? The working world is all about communication and people relationships; not GPA's and majors.

• Understand and respect diversity. I feel I had a head start on many because of exposure to others from other parts of the world. Today global diversity and awareness is part of everyday life for all of us.

• View attending WMU as an investment. Dividends that come from your WMU investment won’t all come at graduation, but at various stages of life. “Grab the Reins Broncos!” It’s definitely not easy but most challenging. And, there are great rewards in doing so.

• Hold onto those WMU friendships and contacts. Careers bring about personal relationships, but those WMU friendships are the ones that keep you focused on who you are and who you become on a grander scale.

• Respect peers and coworkers. “Every generation, blames the one before.” Like it or not, this will always be part of the working order. Respect those with experience. Most will respect you. Respect the incoming and inexperienced. You’ll be surprised what you will learn. Remember, all will have experience someday and incoming non-experience represents the future of the profession you chose. Respect yourself!

• Give back. I’m not the richest person in the world, but I have found ways to give back to WMU through time and voluntary efforts since graduation. My post-WMU experiences continue to allow me to grow.

• Follow “The Desiderata” and ALWAYS LISTEN TO YOUR MOTHER!!

Name: David S. Ansel  
(known to most as Dave)  
Bachelor of Science: Western Michigan University, 1974. Chemistry and Mathematics majors  
Master of Science: Colorado State University, 1980, Inorganic Chemistry  
Residence: Sylvania Township, Ohio (a suburb of Toledo)
Dear Alumni and Friends,

Another year is behind us and we have only just begun to find support for your favorite department or project in the College of Arts and Sciences. In the past year, I have learned a lot about the events and accomplishments on campus that make the College so great! Because of you, projects are gaining support that, in some cases, was never before imagined.

Whether it is unrestricted department support, a scholarship, or financial assistance for a particular program or area of need, the college is leading the way in receiving your backing. You are a partner in accomplishing wonderful things for our students and faculty. Thank you for being there in a time of budgetary challenges.

When traveling the country to meet everyone, I want to learn more about your time on campus, your career since WMU and how you might connect with our students to help them transition from student life to professional career. Many lower classmen are searching for and deciding on a major. Conversations with alumni and supporters like you may help their decision. You can help them see how a particular major might match their interests.

I hope to see you this next year as we support the College of Arts and Sciences and connect you to your favorite area of study.

Cordially,

Dorilee Schieble
Director of Development
College of Arts and Sciences

To discuss your giving plans, call:
Dorilee J. Schieble, CLU, ChFC
(269) 387-4399
dorilee.schieble@wmich.edu
WMU Foundation
117 West Walwood Hall
Kalamazoo, MI 49008-5403

Fort St. Joseph...

In Southwest Michigan, WMU students are involved in uncovering history from 1691-1781. Fort St. Joseph was a French trading post and was well known in its day. Its location was lost until 2002 when WMU archaeologists became involved.

The Fort St. Joseph Archaeology Project recently wrapped up another impressive summer field school. The Open House saw over 1500 attendees and the most treasured artifact found at the site in Niles was a roughly inch-long crucifix.

Dr. Michael Nassaney, professor of anthropology and the principal investigator, termed the remarkably well-preserved artifact “a spectacular find.” The opposite side of the crucifix features “two cherubs placing a crown on what appears to be Mary, in a scene showing her ascension to heaven.”

The Community Support of this project creates a rewarding team effort and everyone celebrates together when artifacts are unearthed. If you have interest in this project, please visit www.wmich.edu/fortstjoseph/ for more information.
1970
Dick Cookman (Geosciences) M.S. ’70, is retired but still involved in the operation of Enerdyne Inc., a science-nature store in Suttons Bay, Mich.

1975
Molly O’Neill (Krajewski) B.S. ’75; M.A. ’82 secondary education - mathematics major and elementary music minor, has retired from Daytona State College in Florida to concentrate on writing math texts.

1980
Kathleen Tiemann (Sociology) M.A. ’80, Ph.D. ’84, professor of sociology and chair of the Sociology Department at the University of North Dakota (UND), was honored as a Chester Fritz Distinguished Scholar. Criteria for the Chester Fritz Distinguished Professorship are: demonstrated achievement across research, teaching, and service with significant national or regional recognition in any one of these missions; as well as significant professional contributions throughout his/her career.

1981
Dale Nesbary (Public Administration) M.P.A. ’81, has been named president of Muskegon Community College.

1986
Patrick Palus (Geosciences) B.S. ’96, University of Pennsylvania M.A. ’08, received certification to teach general science at the secondary level.

1997
Nicholas Maloof (Geosciences) M.S. ’97, is president and general counsel of Associated Environmental Services, LLC (AES) an environmental services, land development and real estate consulting firm based in Bloomfield Hills, Mich. Maloof is an active member of the State Bar of Michigan Real Property, Environmental and Business Law sections, and a Registered Professional Geologist in Tennessee.

1998
Sharon Carr (Public Administration) D.P.A. ’98, was granted the Honorary Alumnus Award by the College of Veterinary Medicine at Michigan State University during the college’s May 2009 Commencement. Carr currently is the business officer in the College of Veterinary Medicine.

1999
Mike Hughes (Public Administration) M.P.A. ’99, is the city manager for the City of Sturgis. He was hired as the assistant to the city manager, then promoted to assistant city manager in Sturgis until 2003 when he was appointed city manager of Buchanan, Mich. He returned to Sturgis in 2005.

2001
Eric Drake (Anthropology) M.A. ’01, Binghamton University.

2002
Jared Barrett (Anthropology) M.A. ’02, is working as an historic archaeologist at TLC in Nashville, Tenn.

2003
Jessica Hansen-Vanabel (Communication) B.A. Organizational Communication ’03, M.A. in Counseling is in private practice as a therapist at Child & Family Psychological Services in Kalamazoo, Mich., and as a life skills instructor for kids and teens at Family & Children Services, also in Kalamazoo.

2005
Brock Giordano (Anthropology) M.A. ’05, has been named adjunct professor of archaeology at Monmouth University, Long Branch, N.J.

2007
Jennifer Messana (Public Administration) M.P.A. ’07, is the new emergency preparedness specialist for the Macomb County Health Department.

2008
Andrew Kuk (Public Administration) M.P.A. ’08 is the assistant to the city manager for the City of Sturgis, Mich.

2009
Todd Gross (Anthropology) B.A. ’09, is attending California State University at Fullerton.

Tell us what you’re up to—see page 28
The Department of History at Western Michigan University has recently gained national attention for efforts related to student success.

The Organization of American Historians (OAH) and the American Historical Association (AHA) have published reports based on the department’s efforts. A book on history teacher preparation also puts the Department of History on the national map.

These published reports discuss undergraduate curriculum reform, working with secondary history teachers, and structure for enhancing graduate student progress toward the degree.

At the request of OAH, WMU historians Linda J. Borish, Mitch Kachun, and Cheryl Lyon-Jenness, wrote about the department’s recently enacted undergraduate curricular reforms in the article, “Rethinking a Curricular ‘Muddle in the Middle:’ Revising the Undergraduate History Major at Western Michigan University,” published in the Journal of American History, 95:4 (2009) 1102-13.

Referencing the successes of a departmental curriculum reform of the early 1990s, the authors describe how institutional changes since then, as well as data obtained from recent assessment reports, led to the newest restructuring of the undergraduate curriculum.

A multi-year departmental reform effort led to the new curriculum, designed to progressively enhance students’ writing and research skills while building a foundation of content knowledge. The article, in one of the leading professional history journals, is designed to promote discussion among history departments nationwide.

Teacher education is the subject of another national publication. Since Western Michigan University’s founding in 1903, the history department has had a special role in working with secondary history teachers.


The department is also committed to maintaining close professional ties with K-12 teachers in the field. Several multi-year Teaching American History grants from the U.S. Department of Education and a 2007 NEH-funded summer workshop for teachers, have brought classroom teachers into interaction with WMU faculty in efforts to assist teachers in updating their disciplinary knowledge and work collaboratively with them on classroom pedagogy.

Wilson Warren summarized the results of six years of TAH grants and suggested new ways to continue to create ties between university historians and secondary history teachers. His article, “Bridging the Gap between K-12 Teachers and Postsecondary Historians,” appeared in Perspectives on History, American Historical Association: 46:7 (Oct. 2008). This article puts Western at the center of a nationwide discussion on the improvement of history in the schools.

In the area of graduate education, at a national AHA workshop for Directors of Graduate Study in history departments, WMU’s James Palmitezza recently reported on the department’s successful strategies to retain and to facilitate the progress of graduate students. Impressed with what they heard, AHA directors asked Palmitezza to submit his report so that it could be published for the profession as a whole. “Retention of Graduate Students,” appeared in Perspectives on History, published by the American Historical Association: 45:9 (Dec. 2007).

WMU historians maintain a century-long tradition as they continue to improve the undergraduate curriculum, maintain professional ties with classroom teachers, and create a structure of success for graduate students. The department continues to take a lead in contributing to national discourse on these topics.

Teacher education is the subject of another national publication. Since Western Michigan University’s founding in 1903, the history department has had a special role in working with secondary history teachers.

The department is committed to maintaining close professional ties with K-12 teachers in the field.
Officials at Western Michigan University and the University of Malta are preparing to launch a collaborative degree program—a dual Master of Arts in Criminology, Law and Public Policy—to be taught at that Mediterranean nation’s flagship university.

WMU President John M. Dunn and University of Malta Rector Juanito Camilleri met May 5 at WMU to sign a memorandum of understanding outlining the new collaboration.

“Now we’ll be working to make this agreement come to life,” said Dunn during the signing ceremony. “We’ll take what’s on paper and make it a reality. This will be a world-class opportunity for students at both institutions ready to take advantage of a program that will give them a unique set of credentials.”

Camilleri pointed out that the agreement will offer an opportunity for the two schools to create a research and instructional environment based on differing cultural perspectives.

“The topic will be criminology with a Mediterranean focus,” Camilleri said. “It will provide a melting pot of ideologies and perspectives.”

The partnering will provide rigorous criminological training at the graduate level that will increase the University’s international engagement.

“By locating the graduate program at the Valletta campus of the University of Malta, and recruiting students through the University of Malta’s reputation in the European Union and the Mediterranean region, WMU will reach a new international constituency,” says Dr. Ashlyn Kuersten, associate professor of the WMU Department of Political Science.

The University of Malta traces its origins to a direct papal intervention in 1592. One of the oldest universities in the Mediterranean, it is a blend of the ancient and the modern and is influenced by many cultures and civilizations. Today, the university has some 10,000 students, 750 of whom are foreign students from nearly 80 different countries.

WMU President John M. Dunn (right) and University of Malta Rector Juanito Camilleri met May 5 at WMU to sign a memorandum of understanding outlining a new dual Master of Arts in Criminology, Law and Public Policy.

Academic Coursework

The program’s classes, which could begin in fall 2010, will be taught at the University of Malta by WMU faculty from the Departments of Sociology and Political Science, as well as faculty from the University of Malta’s Institute of Criminology.

The program will include theory, research methods and data analysis, as well as Mediterranean-based case studies on:

- Gender, crime and justice
- Environmental crime and justice
- Surveillance and security
- State and corporate crime

“The curriculum under development reflects the combined strengths of American and European graduate programs. It brings together the broad-based theoretical inquiry and literary emphases common to European programs along with the training in statistical techniques, spatial analysis and qualitative research strategies common within American programs,” says Dr. Gregory J. Howard, associate professor of Sociology, Criminal Justice Program.
Western Michigan University will become home to a Confucius Institute this fall, providing new Chinese language and cultural studies options for WMU students and faculty and dramatically expanding international opportunities for area K-12 schools and local businesses.

WMU President John M. Dunn and a small campus delegation traveled to China in July to finalize agreements which establish the WMU Confucius Institute and cement a partnership between WMU and the prestigious Beijing Language and Culture University, China’s premier international institution for language instruction.

The international network of institutions WMU is joining includes the world’s premier universities. “A major component of these partnerships and the entire Confucius Institute network is the commitment of each member to provide new opportunities for local school districts and business communities,” says Dunn. The agreement will bring Chinese language faculty members, financially sponsored by the Chinese partners, to the WMU campus each year to help the University expand language arts and cultural offerings on campus. In addition, the Beijing school will designate WMU as one of its major study abroad sites and begin sending as many as 30 students to study in Kalamazoo each year.

“The Confucius Institute program represents the commitment on the part of the Chinese government to extend and expand knowledge about China and its language and culture with people all over the world,” says Dr. Donald G. McCloud, dean of WMU’s Haenicke Institute for Global Education who accompanied Dunn to Beijing.

WMU’s Confucius Institute proposal was developed by Dr. Xiaojun Wang, professor of foreign languages and head of the University’s Chinese language program; Dr. Roger Tang, professor of accountancy and Upjohn Chair of Business Administration; and Dr. Dewei Qi, professor of paper engineering, chemical engineering and imaging. Also involved were Dr. Cynthia Running-Johnson, chair of the Department of Foreign Languages; W. Wilson Woods, associate dean of the Haenicke Institute and Dr. Susan Stapleton, associate dean of College of Arts and Sciences.

Confucius Institute activities are expected to begin immediately, but the University will have a formal ceremonial launch for the initiative in November.

Goals of the WMU Confucius Institute

- Teaching Chinese language and culture to University students and members of the greater community
- Promoting international cooperation and exchange of students
- Strengthening collaborations with local schools and community businesses to train teachers and offer language and culture workshops, summer camps, fine arts events and travel opportunities
- Developing students ready to meet competitive market demands
- Aiding WMU’s development as a dynamic international university with strong ties to Chinese partners

WMU President John M. Dunn (front row, left) signs an agreement to become home to a Confucius Institute with representatives from the Beijing Language and Culture University and WMU.
Fieldwork in West Africa promotes cultural ties

A local contingent of educators, professors, graduate students and others will be headed to West Africa thanks to an initiative being coordinated by two professors at Western Michigan University and with the help of a $70,468 grant.

The Fulbright Hays Group Projects Abroad grant will fund Cultural Connections: A Transnational Curriculum Development Project, which is a trans-disciplinary initiative spearheaded by Dr. W.F. Santiago-Valles, associate professor of Africana studies, and Dr. Yvette D. Hyter, associate professor of speech pathology and audiology. The effort is aimed at developing a transnational curriculum designed to spark critical thinking about the consequences of globalization and global citizenship.

“We’re looking at globalization in a comprehensive sense,” Santiago-Valles says. “We want people to learn about the comparative impact of globalization on countries in West Africa and several states in the Midwest. We’re trying to bring the various perspectives of researchers, educators and community organizations addressing the consequences of globalization into a transnational conversation.”

During the fieldwork phase of the comparative research program, participants will travel to Mali and Senegal. Field work will begin in June 2010 and will take place in two West African countries, Mali and Senegal. Travel is open to applicants who are classroom teachers, principals, special education personnel such as speech-language pathologists, WMU faculty and graduate students in the humanities, social sciences, health and human services areas, and foreign languages.

For more information or to apply for the project, contact Dr. W. F. Santiago-Valles at (269) 388-3809 or Dr. Yvette D. Hyter at yvette.hyter@wmich.edu. Visit the program’s travel blog at http://ciwara.blogspot.com.

In Remembrance...

- Elen M.C. Cutrim, professor of geography, April 15, 2009.
- Richard A. Hoffman, former lab technician in physics and computer science, April 4, 2008.
We love to keep in close touch with our alumni. What are you doing? Send us an email at cheri.bales@wmich.edu or fill this out and return it to the College via one of the methods listed below. To learn more about us, please visit www.wmich.edu/cas.

Name (maiden) married

Year of Graduation/Degree Earned/Major, Minor

Achievements and Accomplishments Since Graduation from WMU

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Contact Coordinator of Communications and Events Cheri Bales, by e-mail at cheri.bales@wmich.edu, fax at (269) 387-3999, or mail to: Office of the Dean, College of Arts & Sciences, Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo, MI 49008-5308.