Items of Academic Interest

The 8th Annual WMU-Information Technology (IT) Forum is scheduled for Fri., April 3, from 7:30 a.m. - 3:50 p.m. at the Fetzer Center. Keynote speakers include John Dean, executive information technology advisor for the Information Technology Management Association, and Ann Harten, vice president of global information systems and human resources for Haworth, Inc. Student teams will present their e-Firm Projects for two different companies. Over 120 students participated in the e-Firm projects. Pictured are the team leaders, joined by corporate mentors, graduate assistants and faculty team members of the BlueGranite and Steelcase projects. Dr. Andrew Targowski, professor, Department of BIS, is the faculty team advisor for the BlueGranite Sales Dashboard Project; and Dr. Alan Rea, associate professor, Department of BIS, is the faculty team advisor for the Steelcase Operations Review Board Project.

Advertising and marketing students have completed some travels this academic year. In November, 25 students attended the AdCraft Conference in Auburn Hills, joining about 100 students from other universities throughout Michigan. AdCraft is one of the largest advertising professional organizations in the area, and WMU has consistently had a strong presence at the event.

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Then they were on to New York to attend the Advertising Women of New York (AWNY) Career Fair, where they focused on agency tours, and resume and portfolio workshops. Most recently, some of the students joined other students representing academic institutions from the Midwest and traveled to Chicago for the Chicago Advertising Federation’s Annual Career Day program. At the conclusion of the Chicago event, students had the opportunity to meet WMU alumni working in the advertising field in and around Chicago at the Second Annual WMU Chicago Advertising Alumni dinner. “Each event is a great opportunity for students to increase their knowledge of advertising careers, and to really network with professionals in the field,” said Dr. Karen M. Lancendorfer, assistant professor, Department of Marketing, who accompanied the students to Auburn Hills and Chicago.

**Faculty and Staff Accolades**

Dr. Karen M. Lancendorfer, assistant professor, Department of Marketing, Dr. JoAnn L. Atkin, assistant professor, Department of Marketing, and Dr. Bonnie B. Reece (MSU) have had their paper titled, “Animals in Advertising: Love Dogs? Love the Ad!” published recently in the *Journal of Business Research.*

Dr. Duke Leingpibul, assistant professor of Logistics and Supply Chain in the Department of Marketing, has had an article accepted for publication by the *Journal of Product and Brand Management.* The paper, co-authored with Dr. Allen Broyles (California State at Fullerton) and Dr. Robert H. Ross (Wichita State University), is titled: “Examination of Satisfaction in Cross-Product Group Settings,” and is due to be released in Spring 2009.

**Student Accolades**

A team of business students placed third in a statewide competition designed to test students’ knowledge of the human resources field. The student team members are Tyra Harris of Mount Morris, Mich.; Elizabeth Gartner of Midland, Mich; Ashley Heckman of Portage, Mich.; and Evan Escamilla of Lawton, Mich. “I think the team did exceedingly well given that two of the participants are just starting the human resources management program, and the team was formed two weeks prior to the competition,” says Dr. Satish Deshpande, professor in the Department of Management and advisor to the group. The Michigan HR Games competition is sponsored by the Society for Human Resource Management and open to all schools in Michigan. The HR Games consist of a series of Jeopardy-style matches between teams where the students are tested in a number of different HR areas such as strategic management, total rewards, employee and labor relations, selection, leadership and risk management. The competition is timed to help prepare students for the upcoming professional human resources certification tests.

A team of WMU Integrated Supply Management (ISM) students earned second place in the 14th annual APICS Case Competition—an event that includes teams of undergraduate and graduate students from around the Great Lakes region. This year’s event was the organization's largest ever with 28 teams representing 26 universities. “It was a great experience as it allows us to work together to solve a case related to material we have covered in class. This opportunity also allowed our team to interact with fellow ISM students from different schools. This year’s case was extremely challenging and I am proud of all the work of our entire team from Western,” said Lawrence Robling, ISM senior and president of the WMU student chapter of APICS. APICS, the national Association for Operations Management,
hosts the annual competition, which may include a manufacturing, supply chain or operations case study. This year’s case involved evaluating the future of lean manufacturing for Toyota. Lean manufacturing is a generic process management philosophy that focuses on the reduction of wastes to improve overall customer value and efficiency in manufacturing processes. After receiving the case on Friday night, students submitted their analysis in a 3-page paper, outlining their recommendations to solve the case, and PowerPoint slides to use in a five minute presentation at 10:30 a.m. Saturday. Papers were scored by one set of judges before the afternoon presentations. Teams earn cash prizes for their student chapter account. This year’s team included Mark Antonuk, Ann Arbor; Jeff Diegel, Trenton, MI; Ania Ferdyn, Swierkaniec, Poland; Heather Ferris, Portage, MI; Kevin Little, Kalamazoo; Ashley McKenzie, Kalamazoo; Chelsey Meyer, Schoolcraft, MI; Ted Oberts, Novi, MI; Lawrence Robling, West Bloomfield, MI; and Trisha Terns, Chelsea, MI.

For the seventh straight year, a team of students representing Western Michigan University has finished in the top ten in a prestigious nationwide sales competition. The two-person team tied for ninth place with last year’s winner Florida State, in the National Collegiate Sales Competition Feb. 25 – March 1 at Kennesaw State University in Kennesaw, Ga. The competition is widely regarded as the nation’s most prestigious university sales competition. Ohio University won the event. Members of the WMU team are Shannon Lapsley and Rob Little, both from Saline, MI. Both Lapsley and Little are seniors in the sales and business marketing program. The duo competed against approximately 108 students from 55 universities. James Eckert, associate professor in the Department of Marketing, coached the team and accompanied them to the competition. Lapsley finished in a tie for 16th place while Little tied for 24th place.

College of Aviation

Student Accolades

On Sat., March 16, 2009, WMU’s College of Aviation hosted the 1st Annual WMU Skybronco Alumni Scrimmage. On Saturday our current team scrimmaged the alumni in our 3 primary ground events (Manual Flight Computer aka E6B, Simulated Comprehensive Aircraft Navigation aka SCAN, and Aircraft Recognition aka REC). In addition to these primary ground events, they also competed in an aircraft preflight event, as well as a simulator event called Ground Trainer. In all, more than 20 Skybronco Alumni took part in the competition, along with several others that attended the evening awards ceremony. It was a very close competition, with the Alumni ultimately taking the title, earning just 7 points more than the current team. Everyone had a great experience over the two-day scrimmage event, and can't wait for next year’s scrimmage.
Jared Neterer, an Aviation Flight Science major, will receive the 2009 Presidential Scholar Award from the College of Aviation. This award recognizes and honors outstanding undergraduate students and is presented annually by each department within the University. Students selected for this award should possess general academic excellence, general intellectual and/or artistic excellence and promise and, they must be of senior class standing. Based on the criteria set forth, Jared won the majority of nominations from members of the faculty. Jared will graduate this year with a perfect 4.0 GPA. He is a member and twice captain of Western Michigan University's Sky Broncos flight team. He will compete for a fourth time at the NIFA national competition and twice previously has taken first place in the E6B (manual flight computer) event beating over 150 other competitors from around the country. This event is one of seven that he will be competing in when the team travels to St. Louis this spring. Additionally, Jared is a member of the Alpha Lambda Delta National Honor Society and an Eagle Scout. He is also currently Assistant Scoutmaster with Boy Scout Troop 169 in Paw Paw, MI. Jared also worked with Associate Professor Bill Rantz on a checklist performance improvement research project and used that experience to write his honors thesis project titled, "Developing a Standardized Checklist Curriculum Utilizing Graphic Feedback to Reinforce Salient Stimuli Recognition in Simulated Flight." In addition to taking classes, Jared just finished the College of Aviation Jet Equivalency Training (JET) course. He is currently employed by the College of Aviation as a flight instructor and manages four flight students. He plans to continue on to complete a master’s degree before heading off to fly for a regional airline.

Chris Murray graduated in April 2006 and became a flight instructor at WMU shortly thereafter. In the year and a half that he worked as a flight instructor at WMU, he taught private, instrument and commercial students, and eventually became a check instructor and standards instructor. He also took the Jet Equivalency Training (JET) course which he said "proved to be the best thing I ever could have done". He further stated "when I went for my interview with American Eagle, they saw I had done the JET course at WMU and seemed relieved and excited to hear about the training students and instructors received at WMU". In fact, he said, American Eagle picked up all seven WMU instructors who had received the JET course training. One of the Captains doing his interview mentioned to him that American Eagle has had proven success with WMU graduates who have completed the JET course. Needless to say, our program impresses and so do graduates like Chris. Because of Chris's training at WMU, he is happy to say he is now a First Officer on the Embraer 135/140/145 with American Eagle based out of Chicago's O'Hare International Airport. Every day is an adventure for Chris. He loves flying the big planes and is living his dream. Keep up the good work Chris and thanks for making us proud of yet another one of our outstanding graduates.

Associate Professor Bill Rantz, graduate student Bryan Hilton, and undergraduate student Jared Neterer completed a research project which examined pilot performance using paper and digital checklists in the Cirrus SR20 simulators. The study compared the accuracy and timing of completing checklist items using both presentation methods during an instrument approach. Data revealed the number of correct checklist items varied considerably between participants during baseline in the experiment. However paper and digital presentations varied only slightly within participants. Once exposed to the graphic feedback intervention, all participants improved performance in both paper and digital to nearly perfect levels. Implications of the results may lead to modifications in curriculum, standards, and evaluation in educational training and standard operating procedures, especially with regard to checklist feedback and recognition of salient checklist cues in the environment. For further information please contact Professor Rantz.

Several events were scheduled the week of Feb. 9-13 as part of Western Michigan University’s observance of Lesbian, Bisexual, Gay and Transgender Awareness Week. The main event was a presentation by CoA alumnus Gregory Sumner from the National Gay Pilot's Association. Sumner, a former Medallion Scholar who received a B.S. in Aviation Technology and Operations in 1997 from Western Michigan University, presented on Feb. 11 and was followed by a panel discussion about being “out” in the workplace. The event was co-sponsored by the Office of LBGT Student Services and the College of Aviation. While visiting campus Sumner met with Captain Dave Powell and others at the college and took a tour of the Battle Creek aviation campus.
Graduate College

Items of Academic Interest

Ms. Alyssa H. Kalata, doctoral student in Clinical Psychology and Graduate Student Advisory Committee (GSAC) Vice-Chair, and Ms. Brandi Pritchett, doctoral student in Counseling Psychology and GSAC Chair, hosted graduate student representatives from several universities and colleges in Michigan who attended the Second Annual Michigan Graduate Student Summit on WMU’s campus on Sat., March 14, from 9 p.m. to 5 p.m. President Dunn welcomed graduate student leaders from Eastern Michigan University, Grand Valley State University, Michigan State University, Michigan Tech University, Northern Michigan University, University of Michigan (Ann Arbor), University of Michigan (Flint), Wayne State University, and Western Michigan University. Mr. Greg Rosine, senior vice president for Advancement and Legislative Affairs gave a presentation on legislative concerns in Michigan. The First Annual Michigan Graduate Student Summit was held on the campus of Eastern Michigan University in September of 2007. Graduate students from a number of colleges and universities in Michigan gathered to exchange perspectives and explore the possibility of creating a Michigan Association of Graduate Students which would advocate for higher education generally and graduate students in particular. Students attending the Second Annual Graduate Student Summit met all their goals: ratifying a Constitution, setting Bylaws, creating an agenda and holding elections to guide their new organization, The Michigan Association of Graduate-Professional Students. Items of interest included legislative concerns at the state level that are likely to impact graduate students, and familiarizing themselves with graduate student organizations across the state. Sarita Sankey, a doctoral student from Ohio State and former president of their graduate student association, gave a talk with guidelines and tips for creating a successful state-wide organization. Dr. Lewis Pyenson, Graduate College dean, hosted a working luncheon for administrators who accompanied their student representatives. Enthusiasm was high as three schools expressed interest in hosting the Third Annual Graduate Student Summit next year.

The Human Subjects Institutional Review Board (HSIRB) is a local review board whose mission is to interpret and apply federal regulations, state law, and research sponsor requirements for the use of human subjects in research. Since graduate students in many fields, including Educational Leadership and Educational Technology, Counseling Education and Counseling Psychology, Health Education and Physical Recreation, Psychology, Evaluation Measurement and Research, and Speech Pathology and Audiology, require HSIRB clearance for their theses or dissertations, workshops on HSIRB protocols are valuable for students and faculty who supervise them. Presenters Dr. Amy Naugle, associate professor of Psychology, and also chair of the Human Subjects Institutional Review Board, and Ms. Victoria Janson, research compliance coordinator, Office of the Vice President for Research, will be giving a workshop on Fri., March 27 from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. in the Putney Lecture Hall at Fetzer Center on WMU’s campus. Titled “Preparing to Write your HSIRB Protocol: What Researchers Need to Know,” the objectives of this workshop are to familiarize students with the distinct elements of the HSIRB application, understand the HSIRB process, learn about mandatory training and learn how to manage and protect data.

Another workshop which should be invaluable to every student who suffers from the effects of stress will be held on Mon., April 6 from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. in the Putney Lecture Hall at Fetzer Center. Titled “Graduate School and Stress: Toward a Productive Alliance,” this workshop will be led by Dr. Scott Gaynor, associate professor, Department of Psychology, WMU. Attendees can expect to become oriented to the scientific concepts of stress and stress related developments and understand how stress can enhance and inhibit functioning. Dr. Gaynor will introduce proactive and reactive strategies for navigating stressors that are familiar to all students: balancing work, family and school responsibilities, taking care of oneself physically and emotionally. In this context, graduate school stressors will be considered in the context of overall well-being. This workshop is sponsored by the Graduate Center for Research and Retention as part of a wide-ranging effort to help students navigate the pitfalls of graduate study and come out successfully attaining their degree. For more information, please call Dr. Marianne Di Pierro, director of the Graduate Center for Research and Retention at (269) 387-8249. To register, please visit www.wmich.edu/grad.

Faculty and Staff Accolades

Dr. Lewis Pyenson, Graduate College dean, and Christophe Verbruggen of the University of Ghent (Belgium), recently presented a paper on “Henri Pirenne, George Sarton and Hendrik De Man: A Three-Cornered Relationship of History, Science, and Humanism.” The conference “Henri Pirenne (1862-1935): A Belgian Historian in his Relation to the Development of Social Sciences and History,” was sponsored by the University of Ghent and the Free University of Brussels. University of Ghent is one of the major universities in the Dutch-speaking region. Their paper focused upon the possibilities of a relational approach towards social movements and scientific/intellectual movements. The case of George Sarton and his journal Isis can illustrate this point. Isis (founded in 1913) and by extension the field of history of science as it was conceived by George Sarton were products of intertwining transnational intellectual and social movements, including the socialism and pacifism embodied by intellectuals such as Paul Otlet and Henri La Fontaine.
Student Accolades

Several Western Michigan University Graduate Students gave papers at the 19th Annual Students of Color at Rackham (SCOR) Conference held at University of Michigan's Rackham Graduate School in Ann Arbor. The title of this year’s conference is “Crossing Borders, Creating Alliances: Collaborating within the Academy and Beyond.” SCOR’s mandate is to cultivate a campus and community environment conducive to the academic, social and professional development of graduate students of all colors. The annual SCOR Conference has been instrumental in propelling the organization toward achieving this goal. Ms. Cheyla Milo, Thurgood Marshall Master’s Fellow in Counseling Psychology and Graduate Students of Color Chair, presented “Graduate Students Influencing the Community.” Other presenters associated with the Graduate College at Western Michigan University through Fellowships are Ms. Carolina Calvillo, Thurgood Marshall Master’s Fellow in Sociology, who spoke on “Effects of Immigration Experiences, School Support and Teacher Expectations on the Academic Self-Concept and Success of Students.” Also presenting was King-Chavez-Parks Future Faculty Master’s Fellowship holder from Sociology, Mr. Ladel Lewis, whose paper “Ensuring an Equitable Representation of African Americans in Evaluation” was well received by the audience.

Upcoming Events

The Graduate College, in association with The Haenicke Institute for Global Education and the Departments of Geography, Political Science, Economics, and Anthropology, will host Dr. J. Christopher Brown, associate professor, Department of Geography at the University of Kansas. On Fri., April 10 at 10 a.m., Dr. Brown will speak on “Responding to Deforestation: Productive Conservation, the World Bank, and Beekeeping in Rondonia, Brazil.” His lecture will take place in the Library Room on the third floor of Friedmann Hall. Dr. Brown’s research interests include Social Relations in Amazonian Rural Development, the Expansion of Soybean Production in Amazonia, and Development and the Politics of Scale.

College of Health and Human Services

Faculty and Staff Accolades

Dr. Helen Sharp, assistant professor in the Department of Speech Pathology and Audiology, will serve as an invited “Content Expert” on Interdisciplinary Team Care for a national symposium on Disorders of Sexual Development April 1-3, 2009. The symposium will be held at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor.


The Michigan Speech-Language-Hearing Association (MSHA) announced that Gary D. Lawson-- Ph.D., CCC-A, associate professor, Au.D. program coordinator, and clinical supervisor in the Department of Speech Pathology and Audiology at Western Michigan University (WMU)—will receive the Honors of the Association on March 27, 2009, during the MSHA Annual Conference in Dearborn, Mich. This award is MSHA’s highest honor and recognizes sustained, outstanding accomplishments in the profession of speech, language, and hearing. It is conveyed to individuals who actively demonstrate their expertise through

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ongoing service which directly benefits MSHA and the field as a whole, and who have a significant impact on persons with communication impairments. MSHA Honors is a coveted and earned award given to truly deserving individuals. It recognizes Dr. Lawson’s academic work in teaching and creating curriculum which advances the preparation of audiologists. It also honors his steadfast support in the advancement of best practices of the professions and “his generosity as he quietly and humbly works for the benefit of others - clients, students, and colleagues.” Dr. Lawson has been a member of the Department of Speech Pathology and Audiology at WMU since 1978. He holds a B.A. degree in speech and theater and an M.A. degree in speech pathology from the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, and he received his Ph.D. in audiology from Michigan State University. He has completed post-doctoral work at the University of Michigan at the Vestibular Testing Center, Department of Otolaryngology. During his tenure at WMU, Dr. Lawson has overseen the clinical education and preparation of student audiology clinicians and the successful implementation of the WMU Au.D. program. Under his guidance and leadership, a whole generation of student clinicians has become educated to practice audiology. His service to MSHA includes serving on its Executive Council and contributing to the MSHA’s strategic plan, and contributing to the MSHA’s legislative efforts.

Student Accolades

School of Social Work students Sasha Acker and Allen Hearn were recently named 2009 Whitney Young Scholarship recipients. A committee of faculty and staff selected them based on their representation of Whitney M. Young Jr.’s ideals in scholarship, community service, awards and recognitions, and social justice leadership roles. Young shaped and inspired significant advancements in the field of social work and the cause of civil rights. In 1968, he spoke at convocation and dedicated the newly established WMU School of Social Work. After he drowned in Nigeria in 1971, the school initiated the Whitney Young Scholarship and a celebration which features a speaker whose life and work exemplify Young’s spirit. Vandana Shiva, Ph.D.—physicist, environmental activist and author—is such a person. She spoke at the 2009 Whitney Young Scholarship Award Celebration on Thurs., March 12 in the East Ball Room of the Bernhard Center. Acker and Hearn were recognized at the event and awarded a certificate and monetary stipend.

In April 2008, occupational therapy graduate Erin Muston-Firsch presented her research, Establishing Convergent Validity Between the Cognitive Performance Test and The Large Allen Cognitive Level Screen, at the American Occupational Therapy Association’s (AOTA) national conference in Long Beach, California. Her research was accepted for presentation through a competitive process; an award from the Barbara J. Hemphill Endowment for Professional Student Development helped fund her trip to the conference. Erin, the first Hemphill award recipient to present at the AOTA conference, shared her experiences with College of Health and Human Services (CHHS) faculty and students on Wednesday, March 11 in room 1093 of CHHS. She discussed various aspects of her three-year journey, including data collection and analysis, manuscript development, and attending the AOTA conference. She noted that it was exhilarating to articulate her research before peers and leaders in the field of OT there. Barbara Hemphill was present at the CHHS presentation, and Erin expressed her gratitude for the endowment award. She is also grateful to OT professor Debra Lindstrom Hazel for encouraging her to apply for the presentation and the award in 2007. Erin is currently a practicing occupational therapist with the rehabilitation department of the University of Michigan Hospital.

College of Education

Items of Academic Interest

Students from the Department of Health, Physical Education and Recreation, WMU student athletes and Special Olympics Michigan Area 16 athletes and family members, educated others about the impact of thoughtless language on March 24 during WMU End the “R” Word Day. They handed out education information and encouraged people to pledge not to use the “R” word. The “R” Word Campaign asks everyone to stop and think before using the word ‘retard’. This grass roots effort raises awareness that people with intellectual disabilities and their families are offended by the use of the words “retard” or “retarded”. This national awareness day is designed to educate and inform the public that while mental retardation is not a bad word, when

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it’s used to describe someone or something negative it becomes another thoughtless hurtful word. People with mental retardation are not bad, their condition is not bad. The prejudice and discrimination to people with mental retardation is bad…and wrong.

**Faculty and Staff Accolades**

Dr. Shaila Rao, associate professor in the Department of Special Education and Literacy Studies, co-authored an article with former MA in special education student, Lynette Mallow. The article, “Simultaneous Prompting: A teaching method to promote the recall of multiplication facts by students with cognitive impairments,” will be published in the March issue of Education and Training in Developmental Disabilities. In addition, Dr. Rao and co-author special education senior Elisabeth Barkley, wrote “Read and Reach the Whole Child: Using Adapted/Created/Enhanced (ACE) Stories for Content Representation” published in the Spring 2009 volume of Reading Improvement.

Dr. Shaila Rao, in collaboration with faculty from Spain, has completed two data collection projects in five Southwest Michigan elementary and middle schools. The studies were conducted with the help of teachers from Battle Creek, Kalamazoo, and Gull Lake school districts. The first studied the teaming process in schools and how it contributes to the successful embracing of diversity. The second study looked at how diversity is viewed by educators in schools. The findings of the projects will be presented in July in Alicante, Spain.

In the fall of 2009, Dr. Paula Kohler, professor in the Department of Special Education and Literacy Studies, gave a lecture “Working Together to Improve Transition Outcomes” in Kalamazoo. The presentation highlighted the main challenges people with special needs face in becoming active and full members of society and gave possible solutions for overcoming such challenges.

**Student Accolades**

On Sat., April 18 the Department of Health, Physical Education and Recreation will host the Alumni Honor Academy, recognizing the outstanding professional accomplishments, contributions, and service of distinguished graduates. The 2009 award recipients are:

- **Rolla Anderson** - B.S. in Physical Education, 1944. Kalamazoo College’s athletic director from 1953-1985, Rolla was instrumental in bringing the USTA Boys’ 16 & 18 Nationals to Kalamazoo.
- **Frances Jewell** - B.S., 1980; M.A. in Athletic Administration, 1993, Frances, a Certified Parks and Recreation Professional, is the City of Kalamazoo’s Parks and Recreation director.
- **Diane Morea** - B.S. in Physical Ed., 1975; M.A. in Education, 1979. Diane began her career as a Physical Ed. instructor and head coach/women’s basketball, then moved into athletic administration, spending nearly 20 years as either assistant athletic director or athletic director. Vern Norris - B.S, 1950 in Physical Ed. Vern was Michigan High School Athletic Association’s assistant/associate director/executive director from 1963-1986. Vern was a teacher/coach in the public schools. For 5 years prior to his crowning career with MHSAA, Vern was the assistant director of Placement at WMU.
- **Phoebe Wienke** - B.S., 1959 in Physical Ed. Phoebe’s teaching experience began in Wheeling, Ill. In 1967 she moved into administration. She then spent some time in Ohio and in 1998 moved to Calumet, MI where she finished her administrative career at the C-L-K Elementary School & Early Childhood Center.

**Upcoming Events**

The College of Education is co-sponsoring a lecture by James H. Bray, associate professor at Baylor University, Mon., April 6 at 3 p.m. at the Fetzer Center Kirch Auditorium. Bray is an acclaimed researcher, author, and lecturer on adolescent alcohol and drug abuse prevention and treatment, and stepfamily therapy. He has held numerous leadership roles with and is the current president of the American Psychological Association.
The third senior interior design show “Set me free…” features the work of Amy Vinson, Trisha Latta, Shannon Krushlin, Kaitlyn Simonsen, and Mary Farnsworth. Their work can be seen in the Kohrman Hall Gallery from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. until April 3.

College of Arts and Sciences

Items of Academic Interest

College of Arts & Sciences Faculty Achievement Awards announced 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
- Daneen Wardrop, English

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

The Third Coast Writing Project has announced lineup of summer workshops classes:
- 16th Annual Invitational Summer Institute (June 22-July 17)
- Writing 2.0: Teaching Writing in the Digital Age (June 15-19)
- Teacher as Writer Workshops
  — Workshop I: Teaching Writing through the Lens of Poetry (June 22-July 3)
  — Workshop II: Teaching Writing through the Lens of Narrative (July 6-17)
- Workshop for Thinking and Comprehension (June 15-19)
- Connecting with ELLs in the Classroom (July 6-8)

Applications now being accepted—apply soon at www.wmich.edu/thirdcoastwp.

TCWP Camps for Young Writers June 15-26, 2009:
- What Do Authors Do? (ages 8-10)
- Grammar Schmammar (ages 11 - 13)
- The Writer’s Choices (ages 14 - 17)

The camps meet daily on campus at Western Michigan University (Monday- Friday) for two weeks from 9 a.m.-noon. Tuition is $150, and includes computer fees, snacks, T-shirt, and all writing materials. A limited number of reduced-tuition scholarships are available. To apply, download the flyer and application at http://www.wmich.edu/thirdcoastwp/tcwpanyoungwriters.htm. For more information, contact Jonathan Bush, co-director Third Coast Writing Project, jbush@wmich.edu or (269) 387-2607.

Faculty and Staff Accolades

Beginning Nov. 1, 2008, Charles Henderson (Mallinson Institute) became 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. It is published monthly January through December and has a print circulation of 6,500 copies.
A paper by Emily Hauptmann (Political Science), “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 this summer at the École Normale Supérieure in Paris. She will present work on the effect of the Ford Foundation’s behavioral sciences program on postwar political science.

Priscilla Lambert (Political Science) recently published an article in Social Politics: “Comparative Political Economy of Parental Leave and Child Care: Evidence from 20 OECD Countries.” (Vol. 15, No.3). She also published a co-authored article with Merike Bloflied 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” (No. 34). She presented a paper with Dru Scribner at the 2008 Annual Meeting 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.

Student Accolades

Communication student Alex Inkster has been selected to participate in the Adobe Reel Ideas program at the Sundance Film Festival in Park City, Utah.

Sara Waisanen has been selected as this year’s Presidential Scholar to represent the School of Communication.

Matt James (Communication, ’82) has been elected to a three-year term as Chairman of the board of directors of the Lucile Packard Foundation for Children’s Health.

Walter Jones III (Political Sciences) has founded the non-profit Constructive Community Builders Inc. Jones taught political science in high school and colleges in the Flint area, and is in the process of earning a law degree from the Miles School of Law in Birmingham, Ala.

Chris Schermerhorn (History) has been promoted to office manager in the Stadium Drive office of Consumer Credit Union.

Upcoming Events

April 2:
- Event: Canadian Studies Lecture
  - Title: “A Question of Power: A Century of Hydroelectricity in Québec,” presented by David Massell, University of Vermont
  - Location: 2028 Brown Hall
  - Time: 6:30 p.m.

April 3:
- Event: Geography Lucia Harrison Colloquium
  - Title: TBA, presented by Theresa Heller, WMU
  - Location: 2708 Wood Hall
  - Time: 3 p.m.

April 7:
- Event: Biological Sciences Seminar Series
  - Title: “Predator spreaders; ‘friendly competition’, and ‘quality matters’ three stories at the interface of species interactions and disease,” presented by Spencer Hall, Indiana University
  - Location: 1220 Chemistry Building
  - Time: 12:30 – 1:45 p.m.

April 9:
- Event: English Scholarly Speakers Series
  - Title: “True and False Knowledge in the Teaching and Learning of Literature” presented by Sheridan Blau, University of California, Santa Barbara
  - Location: 2028 Brown Hall
  - Time: 7 p.m.
Extended University Programs

Items of Academic Interest

The Office of Faculty Development will be hosting the Academic Leadership Colloquium 2009 on April 16, 2009 from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. at the Fetzer Center. There will be a discussion on “Leadership Opportunities and Challenges across the Academy” moderated by Provost Tim Greene followed by a reception and poster session highlighting the Leadership projects of the current Academic Leadership Academy. Look for posters and postcards for the Colloquium. Please RSVP to atis-facdev@wmich.edu or 7-4196. Applications for the 2009-2010 Academic Leadership Academy are due April 17, 2009. The Academic Leadership Academy is a year-long learning community in which the participants and facilitators meet bi-weekly to engage with invited speakers, work through literature on leadership together, discuss specific situations in which leadership skills are used, and develop, implement, and troubleshoot leadership projects. An application should include a letter of intent, resume/CV, and a letter of support from your direct supervisor. For information regarding the Academic Leadership Academy please contact Dr. Andrea Beach at 7-4196 or at andrea.beach@wmich.edu.

Faculty and Staff Accolades

The marketing and communications team for Extended University Programs has won a national award for the semester course catalog of branch campus and e-learning offerings. The EUP schedule book earned a Bronze Award in the Print Publication: General Catalog or Tabloid category in the University Continuing Education Association’s 2009 Marketing and Publications Awards program. The EUP marketing and communications team, led by Director Amy Routhier, publishes the piece three times per year. The publication is managed by Megan Anderson, coordinator of marketing of communications, and design work is done by Kalamazoo-area graphic designer Sandy Wachowski of Husky Graphics. In total, there were 348 entries from 78 institutions. The 2009 competition marks a new record for the number of institutions that submitted entries. Visit www.ucea.edu/profdev/awards/marketing.html for a complete list of winners. Award winners will be recognized at the Marketing Awards Lunch, held Fri., April 3 at 12:15 p.m. in Boston at the Marriott Copley Place Hotel. This is also when the Best in Show is announced. The winning entries will be on display in the Exhibit Hall.

Extended University Programs acknowledges the contributions made by Bryon J. Glock with his recent promotion to Director of Information Technology for EUP. Bryon began his career at WMU in 2002 as a LAN Specialist II with EUP and was, most recently, Academic Technology Operations Manager for ATIS. A WMU alum from ’02 and ’07, Bryon also taught a section of First Year Experience this past fall. In his new role, Bryon will provide IT support and leadership to EUP staff in Ellsworth Hall as well as WMU’s six branch campus locations and e-learning.

Upcoming Events

Dr. Betty Dennis, associate dean of Extended University Programs, will join several southwest Michigan women panelists for a discussion on the glass ceiling. The term glass ceiling refers to situations where the advancement of a qualified person within the hierarchy of an organization is stopped at a lower level because of some form of discrimination, most commonly sexism or racism. The situation is referred to as a “ceiling” as there is a limitation blocking upward advancement, and “glass” (transparent) because the limitation is not immediately apparent and is normally an unwritten and unofficial policy. This invisible barrier continues to exist, even though there are no explicit obstacles keeping individuals from acquiring advanced job positions. However, these barriers are real and lie beneath the surface. While this phenomenon may affect all underrepresented groups, it tends to cripple working women the most. The barrier prevents large numbers of women from obtaining and securing the most powerful, prestigious, and highest-grossing jobs in the workforce. Panelists will discuss their experiences with Continued on next page
the “glass ceiling,” including how they negotiated or managed their current level of success. The discussion will take place at Lake Michigan College in the Blue Lecture Hall on Tues., March 31, 2009 from 2 to 4 p.m. In addition to Dr. Dennis, other panelists include: Ms. Brenda Layne, talk show host and radio personality, WSJM and Mid-West Family Broadcasting; Dr. Michelle Stone, instructor of sociology, Lake Michigan College; and Ms. Mary Jo Tomasini, president and owner, Competitive Edge.

University Libraries

Items of Academic Interest

University Libraries lost a dear friend and supporter with the passing of Diether H. Haenicke. President Haenicke acknowledged University Libraries as the intellectual center of campus by advocating for the renovation of Waldo Library in the early 1990’s and by financially supporting annual increases and one-time funding for Library Acquisitions in alignment with his vision of a Research II Institution. A good friend and fund raiser for the entire University community, Dr. Haenicke cultivated friends who supported special collections, such as the American Women’s Poetry Collection, and special spaces, such as the eye-catching rotunda entrance to Waldo Library and the Edwin and Mary Meader Rare Book Room located on third floor. To honor President Haenicke’s legacy, Waldo Library features display cases in the first floor of the rotunda and bulletin boards on the north side of the third floor that highlight his interest in the life of the mind, his contributions to the campus physical plant, and his friends among faculty, staff and students.

The WMU Libraries is pleased to announce the first beta release of its new library catalog search system. We invite faculty and students to try this system and help us improve it so that we may release version 1.0 during summer 2009. We plan to make version 1.0 the main library catalog search system for WMU beginning fall semester 2009. Throughout the month of April, faculty and students will have ample opportunity to test the new system with library faculty Michael Whang, Sheila Bair, and Birong Ho. Interested participants should contact Michael Whang by phone or e-mail at 387-5184 or michael.whang@wmich.edu.

Faculty and Staff Accolades

Prof. Birong Ho, systems librarian, received a Faculty Scholars Award for $2,000 to pursue further customization of WMU’s VuFind, an open-source library resource portal designed and developed for libraries by libraries. The title of her project is “Vocabulary Control for the Web 2.0 Catalogue.” The goal of VuFind is to enable users to search and browse through all of the library’s resources such as the Catalog Records, Locally Cached Journals, Digital Library Items, Institutional Bibliography, and other Library Collections and Resources. The portal was first developed at Villanova University.

Prof. Maira Bundza, public services, reference librarian, presented a paper, “Education in the Latvian Community,” at The Peoples Conference: Ethnic and Racial Diversity in Michigan, held at WMU, Oct. 9, 2008. She delivered a second paper titled “Baltic National Bibliographies Minus the Book Chambers,” as part of the panel, “The Fate of the Book Chambers and National Bibliographies in the Former Soviet Republics Since 1991.” Her participation was part of the November 2008 conference of the American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies held in Philadelphia.

Prof. Susan Steuer, special collection librarian, has been selected to participate in a National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) Summer Seminar for College and University Teachers. Titled “The Reformation of the Book: 1450-1650,” the seminar will be conducted in Antwerp, London, and Oxford. This program is sponsored by The Ohio State University with support from the National Endowment for the Humanities and is co-directed by Prof. John N. King, Department of English, and Prof. James K. Bracken, Assistant Director, University Libraries.

Dr. Barbara Cockrell, associate dean for Collections and Technical Services, is one of 145 participants who have been invited to attend the Oxford Acquisitions Conference at Oxford University, England April 15-17. The conference is centered on issues concerning monographic acquisitions in the electronic information environment and will bring together leading librarians and publishers from around the world.

Upcoming Events

The Friends of the WMU Libraries will sponsored the Second Antique Book Road Show on Sat., March 28, 1:00 – 2:30 p.m. in the Edwin and Mary Meader Rare Book Room, Waldo Library, Third Floor. Admission is free and open to the public. Local book experts will appraise books, maps, and ephemeral items like postcards and pamphlets. A donation of $5 is requested for each appraisal.

Prof. Sheila Bair, metadata librarian, will present a workshop at the forthcoming WMU Medieval Congress, May 2009. Titled “Metadata for Medievalists I: Introduction to Metadata Formats,” this workshop offers an introduction to best practices for digital scholarship. Instruction will include an introduction to the concept of metadata, an overview of metadata types of interest to medievalists working in a variety of textual and image formats, and an overview of methods for metadata implementations (database, encoded data, printed copy, etc.). Assignments will be completed during the following clinic. Registration is required. The fee is

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$40/$55 students, $50/$65 non-students (Medieval Academy members/nonmembers) for pre-registration, $60/$75 for walk-ins (pending available space). To register, contact Dot Porter at dot.porter@gmail.com. The workshop is limited to 35 participants.

Haenicke Institute

Items of Academic Interest

The Haenicke Institute hosts an international-topic “brown bag” series led by WMU faculty engaged in scholarly and research work throughout the fall and spring semesters. More than 120 faculty have participated thus far in the 2008-2009 sessions. The series’ purpose is to bring together faculty, graduate and undergraduate students who share research interests to exchange information and ideas, present papers, and to plan joint projects/initiatives. WMU staff are also encouraged to attend. Most sessions run from 12 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. and include a complimentary buffet lunch (RSVP required).

The spring series will conclude with the following sessions:
- March 31 – Japan
- April 2 – Globalization
- April 8 – Russian
- April 9 – South Asia
- April 10 – Latin America
- April 14 – China Interest Group
- April 15 – Europe

For more information or to RSVP, contact Renata Lynema at (269) 387-3985, or renata.lynema@wmich.edu.

Faculty and Staff Accolades

The Haenicke Institute for Global Education is running a record number (18) of study abroad programs taught by WMU faculty this summer. These programs are supported by the Dean’s Scholarship for Summer Study Abroad. Eighty-three need-based grants ranging from $100-$1,500 ($500 average) have been awarded to students enrolled in these programs. A comprehensive profile for each program is accessible on the Study Abroad website: www.wmich.edu/studyabroad.

- International Perspectives on Care of Older Persons (Ireland) Carla Chase and Maureen Mickus
- Global Business in Thailand & Japan Duke Leingpibul
- Tropical Biology in Belize Maarten Vonhof
- The Grand Tour of Europe Larry ten Harsel
- Civilization and Geology, Egypt Robb Gillespie and Mustafa Mughazy
- Arabic Language and Culture in Egypt Mustafa Mughazy
- Engineering in China Dewei Qi
- International Comparative Healthcare in Slovakia Judith Sadler
- Life & Leisure in Ancient Rome Lee Delisle
- Exploring Health & Healthcare Systems in South Africa Robert Bensley
- Intensive Spanish in Santander (Spain) Mariola Perez de la Cruz
- Modern and Contemporary Art in Paris Jeff Thompson
- Nanotechnology Research in Brazil Pnina Ari-Gur
- Graduate Spanish in Queretaro (Mexico) Holly Nibert
- Mexican Language and Culture in Queretaro Holly Nibert
- French Language and Culture in Lyon (France) Kathryn Curtis-Smith
- Prague Summer Program Richard Katrovas
- Chinese Language and Culture (Beijing) Xiaojun Wang
Students from Gagie School, a private Kalamazoo elementary and middle school, examined the world of engineering and applied sciences for four consecutive Friday mornings earlier this semester. CEAS faculty, administrators, and students from three CEAS departments and from career services offered each new group a taste of engineering. Dr. Tycho Fredericks Department of Industrial and Manufacturing Engineering (IME) faculty, and Heather Highhouse, CEAS career adviser organized the community outreach program. Each Friday, students from two grade levels were welcomed by Dr. Paul Engelman, IME chair. Then, Scot Conant, CEAS outreach coordinator, provided guided CEAS tours led by Jennifer Soetaert and John Ihling, student ambassadors. The tours began with a Sunseeker presentation by Fred Sitkins, CEAS director of co-operative education. Demos and hands-on activities followed. In the Noise and Vibration lab of MAE faculty Dr. Koorosh Naghshineh, Kyle Myers, a graduate student, demonstrated a Shaker table and the Acoustical Chamber. In the manufacturing lab directed by IME faculty Dr. Tarun Gupta, Srinivas Ghattamaneni, a graduate student, described the FIRST robotics competition and encouraged the Gagie student to interact with RoboBronco. Dr. James Kamman, MAE faculty, answered questions about the hydraulic bicycle, which has won several awards. For the first / second grade and third / fourth grades, Larry Ahleman, Lois Lemon and Matt Stoops – PCI faculty – provided hands-on experience with paper engineering and paper production. Each week, various age-appropriate design challenges were provided by Fredericks and Dr. Steven Butt, IME faculty, with the assistance of graduate students Supreeta Amin, Fehime Utkan, Amanda Glick, Ilgin Acar, and Ashley Hovenkamp. Conant said that similar visits for other area elementary and middle school students are in the works. “We’re thrilled to provide these exciting hands-on opportunities,” he said. “We’re looking for those future Bronco engineers.”

More than 100 students attended the third annual IME Night last month at the CEAS Parkview Campus. For three hours, attendees ate pizza and learned about IME programs and projects. They also received advice on preparing for employment and dialogue with representatives from local companies, faculty, and students doing co-ops and internships. Slobodan Urdarevik, IME faculty, coordinated the event, which included prizes and games. All students were welcomed, including the 28 students who registered with undecided majors. The Department of Industrial and Manufacturing Engineering (IME) offers four undergraduate programs: manufacturing engineering technology (MFT), engineering management technology (UEM), engineering graphics and design technology (EGR), and the new industrial and entrepreneurial engineering (IEE). Fred Sitkins, IME faculty and CEAS director of co-operative education, emceed the event. Stryker's Mike Ziemelis, Glassmaster Controls' Wayne Nicolen, and Tenneco's Mark Wallace shared information about their respective companies. Nicole Maggio, career development and cooperative education graduate assistant, and Anna Perez, a first-year chemical engineering student, coordinated the check in and collected names for the 14 prizes offered. Several IME students participated in the event. Josh Weise, an UEM senior who is presently interning at Post, shared information about the work he is doing. Timothy Gaston, a MFT senior, explained the value of belonging to professional organizations such as Sunseeker and engineering fraternities. Trent Kenworthy shared his experiences with attendees, and MFT senior Jordan Kimble displayed the IME hydraulic bike. Srinivas Ghattamaneni, an IE graduate assistant, supervised RoboBronco, who welcomed the attendees electronically.
The Department of Civil and Construction Engineering (CCE) conducted a two-day national workshop on Finite Element Basics & Refined Bridge Structural Analysis to 14 engineers from Indiana, Michigan, Ohio, and Missouri. Dr. Upul Attanayake, CCE assistant professor, and Dr. Haluk Aktan, CCE chair and professor, directed the event held at the Parkview Campus computer center in early March. “The aim of the workshop was to train bridge engineers on fundamentals of finite element analysis and provide opportunity for hands-on knowledge and experience to analyze complex bridge structural systems,” Attanayake said. This is the third workshop conducted by Attanayake and Aktan as a joint outreach activity of the CCE and the Center for Structural Durability to help professional engineers fulfill their continuing education requirements. The workshop was co-sponsored by the Michigan’s Local Technical Assistance Program (LTAP), National Association of County Engineers (NACE), American Council of Engineering Companies (ACEC) of Michigan, and Western Michigan University (WMU). Several people assisted in coordinating and organizing the workshop. Terry McNinch from Michigan’s LTAP was instrumental in dissemination of workshop information throughout the U.S. Evren Ulku, a graduate student, provided the technical support to the workshop participants who needed help with the software program used for bridge modeling and analysis. Perry Lyford-Stojic, a student assistant, organized workshop materials and folders. Carrie Zimmerman, CCE office coordinator, assisted in numerous tasks such as ordering food and refreshments and securing parking facilities for the participants with the help of Krystal Jansen, CCE office assistant. Those interested in future bridge conferences should contact Attanayake at upul.attanayake@wmich.edu.

Dr. Zijiang (James) Yang, assistant professor in the Department of Computer Science (CS), was recently awarded a two-year research grant from Department of Defense. The project, entitled “Continuously Monitoring and Checking Software in the Era of Multicore Systems,” will be funded by Office of Naval Research (ONR) in the amount of $142,965, and it runs from June 2009 through May 2011. The research will be collaboratively conducted with Dr. Liqiang Wang at the University of Wyoming. The project aims to dramatically improve the reliability and security of complex concurrent software systems by performing monitoring and analysis continuously even after such systems have been released. In addition to the new ONR-funded project, Dr. Yang also leads a research project on “Trace-Driven Verification of Multithreaded Software,” funded by a $400,000 from the National Science Foundation (NSF). The 3-year project runs from 2008 to 2011 and is being conducted collaboratively with Dr. Karem Sakallah at the University of Michigan.

Dr. Dan Kujawski, a professor in the Department of Mechanical and Aeronautical Engineering, is studying degradation of rubber as part of a project in the Center for Advanced Vehicle Design and Simulations (CAViDS). “I’m part of the bigger team,” he said. Kujawski, who directs the CEAS fatigue and fracture lab, aims to develop an experimental methodology to investigate degradation and fatigue resistance in tank rubber pads under service loading conditions. “The prediction of such degradation is difficult using conventional stress- and strain-life approaches because they rely on crack initiation data and do not account for pre-existing flaws in a rubber.” According to Kujawski, the fracture mechanics approach is used because it utilizes...
tearing energy as an indicator of rubber degradation that is consistent with that observed in service failure modes and can effectively correlate the fatigue life. Experimental investigation has been conducted to examine the changes in physical properties of rubber from running pads on a tank at the Yuma Proving Grounds in terms of hardness, stress-strain behavior, hysteresis energy, crack growth and residual tearing energy. "It was found that tearing energy and strain to failure decrease with increasing mileage," he said. "On the other hand, stress to failure and hardness increase with increasing mileage." So far the results indicate that the tearing energy and the strain to failure can be used as effective indicators of the actual state of damage in pad rubber subjected to different mileage of proving ground testing. Presently, the on-going investigation is focused on an analytical description of rubber material subjected to different mileage. According to Dr. William Liou, a MAE professor and the director of CAViDS, this and a few other CAViDS projects are made possible through funding support provided by the U.S. Army Tank Automotive Research, Development and Engineering Center (TARDEC).

Prior to the formal dinner and ceremony of the 30th Annual Engineers’ Week Dinner (EWD), held in February to celebrate the engineering profession, four CEAS professors opened their labs and research to EWD attendees, many of whom were area high school students. Dr. Bade Shrestha, a faculty member from the Department of Mechanical and Aeronautical Engineering (MAE), introduced the students to the work done in the Fuel Cell Evaluation and Research Center. Dr. John Patten, the manufacturing engineering department chair, demonstrated how the CEAS is presently tracking the energy savings provided by the wind turbine and showcased the plug-in hybrid electric vehicle. Harold Hladky, a master faculty specialist in the Department of Paper Engineering, Chemical Engineering, and Imaging, explained bio-diesel and offered an update on its role in the realm of renewable energy sources; and Abe Poot, the engineering lab coordinator responsible for electronics support for the Departments of Industrial and Manufacturing Engineering and MAE and a Sunseeker adviser, discussed solar-powered vehicles and displayed the Sunseeker. An audience of nearly 300 enjoyed food, camaraderie, and a presentation on how algae may be the biomass for future bio-diesel. EWD was sponsored by the Southwestern Michigan engineering societies. Contributors included WMU, Pfizer, Post Foods, AIAA, SAE, ASCE, AIChE, ASME of Central Michigan, Haworth, IEEE, SW Mich. Chapter of MSPE, SPE of West Michigan, CEAS, Bye and Associates, Consumers Energy, Eaton Corp., Prein & Newhof, Soil and Materials Engineers Inc., and Tower Pinkster. The EWD committee, chaired by Mike Schwartz of Prein & Newhof, included several from the CEAS: Dr. Jorge Rodriguez, Dr. Peter Parker, Dr. Dean Johnson, Scot Conant, Johanna Wells, Tamara Bergman, Samuel Kallen, Jenni Soetaert, Michael Romkema, and Heather Highhouse. Other members are Dave Caldwell (DENSO), John Lobo (Eaton), Pradip Sagdeo (AIAA), Tim Mitchell (SME), and David Anderson (VBISD).

Student Accolades

Five CEAS students were awarded scholarships at the 30th Annual Engineers’ Week Dinner (EWD), held in February to celebrate the engineering profession. The awards were made at the event themed “Engineers Make it Work” before an audience of nearly 300. Joshua Wiese, an engineering management technology senior from Belleville, Mich., is Epsilon Mu Eta president and the Tau Alpha Pi VP. He graduates this spring. He is presently interning at Post Foods and spent four summers interning at GM. Greg Vosters, an electrical engineering senior from Otsego, Mich., graduates in Dec. He is currently working at Eaton in a co-op, working full time in the summer and part time while he’s in school. As the Tau Beta Pi president, he is involved with Relay for Life. Eventually he would like to work in power distribution. Britney Richmond, a civil

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engineering junior from Chesaning, Mich., is a member of ASC, the concrete canoe team, and Tau Beta Pi, and has been active in the development of service learning projects for local schools. She interned with MDOT last summer and is planning a career in the structural aspect of civil engineering and the completion of a master’s degree. Nicholas Pohl, a mechanical engineering (ME) senior with math and science minors, is from Fowler, Mich. He wants an aerospace career after graduating. Peter Feldpausch, a ME junior from Hastings, Mich., has career aspirations in engines and transportation. Both Pohl and Feldpausch are members of Alpha Lambda Delta and St. Thomas’ Parish. The five scholarships included two sponsored by Eaton Corp. and one each from the American Institute of Chemical Engineers (AIChE), Consumers Energy, and the Society of Plastic Engineers (SPE).

Jordan Kimble, a senior in the manufacturing engineering technology program, recently received two scholarships. He has been designated as this year’s top senior in the manufacturing technology program, for which he will be honored at a special luncheon next month at the Parkview Campus. In a ceremony held in Toledo over spring break, Kimble was presented with a $2,000 scholarship from the Toledo Chapter of the American Foundry Society (AFS). Furthermore, he has also earned a $1650 scholarship from the Foundry Education Foundation (FEF) for his outstanding work in the IME 3520 Metal Casting course taught by Dr. Sam Ramrattan. The Hastings native, who carries a 3.83 GPA and who graduates in December, said the scholarship funds will be used for his final semester. For his senior engineering design project, he is part of a five-man team that is designing a new hydraulic bicycle. WMU’s present bike, which has been successful in national competitions held each summer in Cleveland, is a recumbent style. “We’re going to design an upright version,” he said. “It will be completed in the fall and be ready for a competition in California in June 2010.” Kimble serves as president of Tau Alpha Pi, the national honor society of engineering technology. He is also active in the student chapters of both the AFS and the Society of Manufacturing Engineers (SME). He was recently acknowledged in Who’s Who Among American Universities. He presently works as a lab technician in the CEAS fabrication and machine shop and has interned at Viking Corp., in Hastings for the past three summers. As part of the FEF scholarship, Kimble will serve as an assistant in a summer metal-casting outreach program for high school students, which is directed each summer by Ramrattan.

Attending the Institute of Industrial Engineers (IIE) 2009 Great Lakes Region Student Conference held at Wayne State University at the end of February were 16 students majoring in either industrial engineering (IE) or industrial and entrepreneurial engineering (IEE). Yenni Chen, an IIE junior, won the singles division of OrderCards, a card-shuffling competition to determine the best technique to sort a deck of cards and place them in order. In a similar competition held at the 2008 regional conference, Chen placed third. The conference theme was “Industrial Engineering & Global Entrepreneurship.” “This year’s entrepreneurship theme benefits us given that WMU has just offered a new industrial and entrepreneurial engineering degree program,” said Chen. Students had the chance to learn more on how these two different components go together. The key note address was delivered by Jim Anderson, president of Urban Science, and a women’s networking breakfast and panel discussion was hosted by Nancy Philippart, former director of GM’s Accessories Division. One of the panelists was Courtney (Miller) Stevens (BSE IE ’04), who is now a management engineer at Henry Ford Health System in Detroit. The event also featured an IE-focused job fair. According to IEE senior Aarti Valsadia, the conference was “a good opportunity to network with potential employers and individuals in the field of industrial engineering.” She especially enjoyed the negotiation and multi-cultural activities. Other CEAS students who attended include Fawaz Al Ghamdi, Bryan Dopkins, Ryan Buurstra, Amanda Glick, Krisana Gutierrez, Kim Harms, Ella Lambrix, Danielle Larson-Jaramillo, Evan Maltas, Nick Mayes, Prachi Chandrana, Mariam Ouazar, Napoleon Perez, Ryan Buurstra, Ben Smith, and David Treier. Accompanying the CEAS students were Dr. Tycho Fredericks and Dr. Steven Butt, faculty in the Department of Industrial and Manufacturing Engineering and advisers to the WMU IIE student organization.
For the first time, WMU will have an entry in the Student Steel Bridge Competition at the 2008-2009 North Central Regional Student Conference (NCRC) hosted by the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) at Lawrence Technical University on April 2. The competition is sponsored by the American Institute of Steel Construction (AISC) and ASCE. Teams of college students work together to design, fabricate, build and test a scale model steel bridge. This year’s bridge must be 20 feet long and stand 2.5 feet tall. During competition, bridge models are erected under simulated field conditions, and then the bridge is load tested. The winning bridge will be the bridge that can be built the fastest, weighs the least, and can hold the required load with minimal deflection. Nick Francis, a civil engineering senior who is leading the project, said that the bridge is judged on how much the bridge bends when 2,500 pounds are positioned on it at a position that is determined at the time of the competition. “None of the bridges break; they’re judged on how much they bend from their original positions,” he said. Other features that are considered include truss design and the size, thickness and type of steel used. Francis said that most schools design the bridge and then have it built by a fabricator. “Our entry is unique in that we built our own,” he said. Senior team members Alberta Landa and Thomas Carlson have been dubbed “the kings of construction” because they will direct the team during the actual competition. Other members of the team include Andrew Grimes, David Schmidt, Alberto Landa, Thomas Carlson, and team leader Nick Francis. Carlson majors in construction engineering; all others major in civil engineering.

The CEAS's new Student Innovation and Design Center (SIDC), with 24/7 access for engineering students to work on projects, is a popular spot. “I am very pleased with the use this center is getting,” said Dr. Richard Hathaway, a Department of Mechanical and Aeronautical Engineering professor who proposed the idea for the SIDC as a work area for senior engineering design project (SEDPs) 18 months ago and who took part in the ribbon-cutting ceremony in February. Based on results of a voluntary sign-in sheet, Hathaway said that in five days (including a weekend), 156 human-hours were logged, for an average of 31 person-hours per day. “The students are using the white boards and computers, communicating their progress, and advancing designs and concerns more effectively than ever before,” he said. “I anticipate this use will increase as we move closer to their project closure at the end of the semester.” He also reported increased interaction among industrial mentors, faculty, and students. He said that students are putting much more computational effort into their projects as they now have the ability to do so with minimum interruption. “The faster machines and dedicated space help make this all possible,” he said. Hathaway acknowledged several who were involved in providing the SIDC: Provost Tim Greene, CEAS Dean Dan Litynski, Custer Office furniture president Dave Custer, SIDC designer at Custer office Jane Minich, Fabri-Kal Owner and Executive V.P. Rob Kittridge, CEAS Director of IT & Facilities Karlis Kaugars, Director of Development for CEAS Pat Resetar, the University facilities' staff and Steelcase Corp. “These people and groups have enhanced education and put smiles on the faces of our students during their last semesters at WMU,” he said.
Nine WMU students, all participants in the Michigan-Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation (MI-LSAMP), traveled to Wayne State University in January for the MI-LSAMP Research Day, a symposium that also included MI-LSAMP students from Michigan State University, University of Michigan, and Wayne State. The LSAMP program is designed for minority students with interests in the areas of science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM). WMU’s MI-LSAMP program manager is Dr. Andrew Kline, CEAS associate professor. Kline praised the symposium for its networking. “Student panelists who have research experience identified research fundamentals, answered questions, and encouraged others to get involved in research,” he said. WMU student Vanessa Armstrong changed her idea of research at the symposium. “Before when I thought about research, I automatically figured that I would have to know and understand exactly what I would have to do with the research in the lab before I got there, but now I know that the professors, graduate assistants, and other students will work with you and help you understand exactly how to do a project,” she said. In addition to the student presentations, students attended workshops in which they were asked to develop strategies to deal with issues presented in research scenarios. They also learned how to apply for research grants through the MI-LSAMP website. “The Research Day was a great experience,” said WMU’s Don Jones. “It helped me learn how to find research opportunities through the [LSAMP] Web site, and I know that will be very useful in the future.” Other WMU students who attended include Stephanie Brown, Gina Cross, Danielle Lewis, Estreberto Marin, Lance Brown, Paul Pagano, and Wanda Rodriguez-Rivera.

College of Fine Arts

Faculty and Staff Accolades

Diana R. Spradling, adjunct professor of voice, will serve as curriculum consultant for the HALI Foundation’s groundbreaking program that uses the piano to teach children with autism.

Upcoming Events

The University Theatre proudly presents Mother Courage and Her Children. Bertolt Brecht’s chilling condemnation of war follows the wily Mother Courage as she scrambles to profit from a war that threatens her children. This sobering drama with music uses modern-day technology to examine the influence of the media on how we experience war. Join the students in the Department of Theatre for their production staged in Shaw Theatre March 26 at 7:30 p.m., March 27-28 and April 2-4 at 8 p.m. and Sun., April 5 at 2 p.m. Tickets are available by calling the theatre box office at (269) 387-6222.

Beginning April 2, Western Michigan University’s James W. and Lois I. Richmond Center for Visual Arts (RCVA) will host the Frostic School of Art Annual Student in the Albertine Monroe-Brown Gallery. An awards ceremony for the Frostic School of Art will be held in Dalton Center, beginning at 4 p.m. Scholarships, exhibit awards, and outstanding student achievements will be honored at this time. A tour of the Kohrman Hall studio facilities and the Frostic School of Art will follow. Students and faculty will demonstrate a bronze pour in the new foundry, printmaking, and shaping clay on pottery wheels. Featured in the DeVries Gallery will be Graphic Design Thesis show as well as BFA thesis exhibitions by Lynn Batchelder, Alissa Lamarre, Brad Zenz, Morgan Richardson, and Greg Woody.

Senior BFA dance majors, Jessie Cosentino, Sarah Rabbers, and Tercell Waters, will present their Graduating Presentation Concert entitled 6X6 in Dance Studio B, 3rd Floor Dalton Center. Performances will run April 3-5, Friday and Saturday at 8 p.m., and Saturday and Sunday at 2 p.m. Tickets are $3 at the door.