The Western Michigan University Newsletter for Academic Affairs

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Items of Academic Interest

**COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES**

Debasri Mukherjee, faculty member in economics, has received a $2,500 grant from the W.E. Upjohn Institute for Employment Research to support her research on the impact of monopsony in the labor market for nurses.

A study reported in a paper presented at the August 2005 national conference of the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication examined the status of public relations research in the leading PR journals between 1995 and 2004. Faculty in WMU’s School of Communication did very well. For all journals Dr. Maureen Taylor is the discipline’s most published scholar. For the journal Public Relations Review, Dr. Taylor is again the top-ranked scholar, WMU’s Dr. Michael Kent is ranked 4th, and WMU’s Dr. Keith Hearit is ranked 6th.

New Issues Poetry & Prose is pleased to announce that it has been awarded a $13,300 grant from the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs for the fiscal year of 2006. The grant will be used to publish and promote five books in the Inland Seas series, a series which publishes Michigan writers. This will be the ninth grant awarded New Issues from MCACA in support of the Inland Seas series, bringing the total amount the press has received close to $169,000. For a complete listing of titles and for other information, please visit http://www.wmich.edu/newissues.

**HAWORTH COLLEGE OF BUSINESS**

Dr. Hanjoon Lee, professor of marketing, presented a paper at an open workshop on Korean Corporate Philanthropy co-hosted by the Korean Association of Nonprofit Sector Research and the Federation of Korean Industries (FKI) on November 14, 2005 at the FKI conference center in Seoul, Korea. The FKI has 432 members including Samsung Electronics, Hyundai Motors, and LG. It was founded in 1961 as a non-profit independent organization that acts as a voice for the Korean business community. Over 160 corporate managers, NGOs, and journalists participated in the open workshop. Dr. Lee’s presentation described consumer perceptions of Korean companies’ philanthropic activities and explained the perceptual gaps that exist between how the corporations and the general public view these activities.

**COLLEGE OF EDUCATION**

Dr. Kathy Cummings, associate dean of the College of Education, is spearheading the electronic portfolio effort in the new Center for Electronic Portfolios and Assessment (CEPA). This state-of-the-art technology center could serve as a national model for speeding the spread of student electronic portfolios and managing the assessment of student learning outcomes. The sweeping, high-tech plan is among the largest of its kind, according to Sungard SCT and Nuventive, the corporate firms supplying the new center with two software products needed to make it a reality.

**COLLEGE OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

U.S. News and World Report Magazine has named audiology as one of its top career choices for 2006. WMU’s Department of Speech Pathology and Audiology began its Doctor of Audiology (Au.D.) degree in Fall of 2003. For more information about the U.S. News and World Report article, go to: http://www.usnews.com/usnews/biztech/articles/060105/5careers_excellent.htm

On Thursday, December 8, 2005, the Kalamazoo Regional Educational Service Agency’s Allied Health and Health Occupations Program held an open house at the College of Health and Human Services at which potential future students were introduced to the CHHS building, its programs, and its faculty.

**EXTENDED UNIVERSITY PROGRAMS**

The Lansing campus of WMU has been selected to be a partner in the Lansing Community College University Center, scheduled to open in Fall 2007 on Capitol Avenue in downtown Lansing. Other University Center partners are: the University of Michigan-Flint, Spring Arbor University, Siena Heights University, Northwood University, Lawrence Technological University, Ferris State University, and Central Michigan University. The institutions selected will provide more opportunities for mid-Michigan residents to achieve a bachelor’s, master’s, or doctoral degree in downtown Lansing at the LCC University Center. Tentatively, over forty diverse degree options are scheduled to be offered at the Center.

With the groundbreaking of the Center scheduled for this Spring 2006, the 35,000 square feet University Center will be located at the northwest corner of Capitol Avenue and Shiawassee Street. Current plans include incorporating the Carnegie Library as part of LCC’s newest facility. Like the rest of LCC’s buildings, the Center will have wireless computer access, and planned capacity for approximately 4,500 people.

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Faculty Accolades

College of Fine Arts

Karen Bondarchuk, School of Art, co-authored a text that was published this past November. The text is “The Best Test Prep for the Michigan Test for Teaching Certification,” published by the Research & Education Association (REA). She wrote the visual arts section. Additionally, Bondarchuk has been accepted into a juried exhibition, Great Lakes Drawing Biennial, at Eastern Michigan University. The exhibit runs from February 6 to March 10, 2006. The opening reception is Tuesday, February 7, and the juror is the president, director and CEO of the Toledo Museum of Art, Dr. Don Bacigalupi.

School of Art Professor of Photography Bill Davis was awarded a cash honor in the “ArtAbility” exhibition at the Bryn Mawr Rehabilitation Center in Philadelphia. The juried exhibition qualified artists with physical, cognitive related to brain injury or stroke, visual and hearing disabilities. The photograph awarded is part of the “Manifest Rites” project, which addresses chronic conditions. Work from this project is also currently installed in Kalamazoo at the Union Cabaret Restaurant. Professor Davis’ work has additionally been selected for juried shows at venues in Utah, Washington, Ohio, Kentucky, and Massachusetts this fall.

Paul Flickinger, School of Art, was awarded a Fulbright Award under the category of Senior Specialist. In September, he conducted a symposium in Bratislava, Slovakia with students from four Eastern European countries, then traveled to the Czech Republic to lecture on Contemporary Sculpture at the Prague Academy of Fine Arts.

Caroline Gore, School of Art, will be presenting a paper entitled “The Blurring of Sculpture and Adornment-Spaces: Bodies” at the Jewelers and Metalsmiths Group Biennial Conference in Sydney, Australia, January 27-29, 2006. Professor Gore will also be presenting a two-day post-conference workshop entitled “Where Does Sculpture End and Adornment Begin?” at the University of Sydney. In October 2005, Gore served as a visiting artist at Boise State University, presenting a lecture on her own work and conducting individual critiques with graduate students at the University. She also presented a two-day hands-on workshop on the Kumboo process to the Idaho Metal Arts Guild.

At the CORPS de Ballet International conference in San Francisco, Department of Dance professor Sharon Garber gave a presentation entitled “Introducing our University Students to the Professional Dance World: WMU Department of Dance Collaborative Projects – Milwaukee Ballet (2002) and BalletMet (2005).” WMU students attended three-day residencies during which they took company classes with the professional dancers, watched and/or participated in rehearsals, had private coaching with the ballet mistress and Q & A sessions with the artistic director and development director. A magazine representative who had heard Professor Garber’s presentation invited her to write an article about the project for Dance Teacher magazine. The article was rewritten in an interview by Kathryn Holmes entitled “Into the Real World” in the Teaching/Higher Ed column and was published in the January 2006 issue of Dance Teacher (pp. 94-96).

Trumpeter Stephen Jones, Professor of Music, has been selected to receive the Award of Merit from the International Trumpet Guild. Jones will receive the award at the guild’s conference in June 2006 at Rowan University in Glassboro, NJ. The ITG Award of Merit is given to those individuals who have made substantial contributions to the art of trumpet playing through performance, teaching, publishing, research, composition, and/or support of the goals of the International Trumpet Guild. The award can be given only by the Officers and Board of Directors of ITG through a strict nomination/election process.

Department of Dance Professor Natalie Marrone has recently been accepted to present at the World Dance Alliance Global Assembly Conference this summer, July 17-21, at York University. Marrone has also been invited as a guest artist this February at California State University, Northridge, where she will conduct a workshop for the University’s dance and anthropology students about courtship rituals from Salento, Italy.

Dance Department Associate Professor Jane Baas has been invited to serve as a member of the visiting team in March to Point Park University for the National Association of Schools of Dance. Baas was also recently invited to review proposals for presentations at the Fifteenth Annual Conference for the International Association for Dance Medicine and Science. The Western Brass Quintet, a resident faculty ensemble in the School of Music, toured northern Michigan at the beginning of November 2005, giving performances and clinics to hundreds of junior high and high school students. The host schools were Benzonia High School, Kalkaska Middle School, Cadillac High School, Cheboygan High School, Grayling High School, and Traverse City West High School. The quintet made direct contact with several students who intend to major in music in college and who are particularly interested in WMU’s programs. The ensemble also offered much-appreciated pedagogical information.

“Teaching much more than concerti,” an article by Professor of Music Silvia Roederer, was published in the Winter 2005 issue of Keyboard Companion magazine. The article examines how “the inspired Mozart concerto can be the perfect vehicles for teaching qualities of good musicianship.” In the article, Roederer provides prerequisites to consider before assigning a concerto to a student, some suggestions on choosing a first Mozart concerto, and the benefits of concerto study.

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The School of Art will be welcoming a guest from India, Sushma Yadav. Ms. Yadav will be in residence in the Printmaking area of the SOA for the spring semester. She will be studying and working with School of Art professors Charles Stroh and Nichole Maury in the areas of intaglio, relief, lithography, and screen printing. Her residency at WMU is co-sponsored by USEFI (United States Educational Foundation India), which administers Fulbright Fellowships, and by IIE (Institute for International Education) in New York City. Her mentor in India is a long-term friend of Professor Stroh’s, and together they worked out this educational opportunity for Ms. Yadav. She was scheduled to arrive in Kalamazoo between January 10 and 15, 2006.

Opus 21 was awarded this year’s Chamber Music America First Prize for Adventurous Programming in the category of New Music Ensemble. Opus 21 was chosen from among professional chamber music groups throughout the United States to receive CMA’s highest recognition for innovative programming. The award was given in New York City on January 14, 2006, at a special ceremony being held by Chamber Music America and ASCAP. Members of Opus 21 from the School of Music include artistic director and founder, Richard Adams, violin; Tom Knific, bass; Trent Kynaston, saxophone; Judy Moonert, percussion; Bradley Wong, clarinet; and Steve Zegree, piano. School of Music alumnus Gregory Secor, percussion, is also a member of the ensemble.

Lacy Professor of Community Health Nursing Dr. Joyce E. Thompson, RN, CNM, DrPH, FAAN, FACNM, will be presented with an honorary Doctor of Laws from the University of Dundee (Scotland, UK) in recognition of her contribution to midwifery and to improving maternal and child health throughout the world.

Takashi Yoshida, Assistant Professor of History, has been awarded the Abe Fellowship by the Social Science Research Council (SSRC) in coordination with the Japan Foundation Center for Global Partnership. The Abe Fellowship is named for a former prominent Japanese Statesman. The grant will enable Professor Yoshida to take a year’s leave of absence to devote himself full time to the research of his new project, “Remembering War, Commemorating Colonialism: A Comparative Analysis of Postwar Japanese Peace Activism and Museums.” He will conduct research in Japan, China, Korea and the US.

Lynne Heasley, Assistant Professor of History and Environmental Studies, recently published A Thousand Pieces of Paradise: Landscape and Property in the Kickapoo Valley. The University of Wisconsin Press published this innovative work in late 2005. Heasley charts the environmental history of this Wisconsin valley by contrasting the very divergent cultural practices of three neighboring communities, including an Amish settlement, a Corps of Engineers project, and Native American efforts to assert historic land claims. Reviewers praise her interdisciplinary methodology, including techniques used in the fields of forestry, wildlife biology, historical geography, oral history, and ecology.


Congratulations to Sue Ellen Christian on her most recent publication in Quill: Christian, S.E. “What purpose do academic journals really serve?” Quill Magazine, November 2005.


Congratulations to Maureen Taylor, Michael Kent, and Keith Hearit of the School of Communication. A recent publication by the Institute for Public Relations identifies Dr. Taylor as the author with the most publications in the field of international public relations.

Dr. Kristal Ehrhardt, associate professor in the Department of Educational Studies, recently completed a chapter with one of her former school psychology students, Mike Hixson. Mike now teaches at Central Michigan University.


Dr. Jill Hermann-Wilmarth, assistant professor in the Department of Teaching, Learning and Leadership, was a finalist in the 2005 National Reading Conference for her paper entitled “Text Plus Dialogue Equals Change: Homosexuality, Religion and Power in Teacher Education.” She was recognized at the NRC 55th Annual Meeting on November 30, 2005.

Dr. Nancy Mansberger, assistant professor in the Department of Teaching, Learning, and Leadership, recently completed two articles:


Dr. Esther Gray, assistant professor, Department of Teaching, Learning and Leadership, is a founding member of the National Council of Teachers of English Commission on Arts and Literacies (COALS). The Commission supports literacy instruction that includes but goes beyond reading verbal texts. According to the Commission, today's learners need to be able to “create, interpret and access multiple forms of expression from a critical stance.” At the November 2005 annual NCTE conference in Pittsburgh, PA, Dr. Gray led a roundtable for COALS, “Evoking voice and propelling learning with visual representations and multi-genre projects,” and also presented a refereed session titled “Collaborative Multi-Genre Writing: Understanding the Civil War Era by Creating Fictional Multiple Perspectives Based on Inquiry.” Dr. Gray has also written an article, “Children’s Use of Language and Pictures in Classroom Inquiry,” recently published in the NCTE publication, Language Arts, Vol. 83(3), January 2006, pages 227-237.

College of Education staff took time to operate the help desk and offer assistance to students taking classes in Sangren Hall. Staff gave directions and information to new and returning students on their way to classes during the first week of the semester.

Dr. Jennifer Wiebold, assistant professor in the Department of Counselor Education and Counseling Psychology, and several RCT students recently presented at the Michigan Rehabilitation Conference and the National Rehabilitation Counseling Association Professional Development Symposium. These presentations included:

“Rehabilitation Immersion Experience: A Journey Into Living And Learning About Blindness.” Wiebold, J., Lindsey, M., & Shull, J., Michigan Rehabilitation Association Conference – Grand Rapids, MI.

“Services for Persons with Blindness or Low Vision in Kenya.” Ngali, P., Michigan Rehabilitation Association Conference – Grand Rapids, MI.


“Helping Professionals: Identifying and Coping with Stress, Burnout and Compassion Fatigue.” Wiebold, J. & Willmering, P., Michigan Rehabilitation Association Conference – Grand Rapids, MI.


Students in the Fall 2005 session of ED 3500 “Children, their families and society” taught by Dr. Josephine Davis, assistant professor of Teaching, Learning and Leadership, participated in “Academic Service Learning,” helping homeless families. Students identified an area of need and decided on a mode of action which benefited the families. The exercise explored extreme poverty and included a visit to the HRI Shelter on...
Student Accolades Continued...

Eleanor Street, during which the students worked with the children and helped run the shelter. The students gathered items valued at approximately $4,800. Students who took the lead were: Angela Bates, Elana Fontana, Haneen Abubakr, Chelsey Nichols, Josh Hines, and Jeremie Coplin.

For the fourth consecutive year, several former students of the course EMR 6520 “Evaluation Practicum in the Evaluation, Measurement, and Research (EMR) Program” represented WMU at the American Evaluation Association (AEA) Conference. Dr. Liliana Rodriguez-Campos, assistant professor in the Department of Educational Studies, motivated her students to go beyond the course objectives in order to represent WMU in important evaluation events. As a result, proposals from the following students were accepted and presented at the conference in Toronto, Canada: Michelle Bakerson, June E. Bothberg, Xiaofan Cai, P. Cristian Gugiu, Nadini Persaud, Mukaria Itang’ata, Michael S. Nokes, Susan E. Nyce, Hong Zhong, David MacQuarrie, Xuejin Lu and Donghai Xie.

Dave Gaunt, a recent graduate from the Educational Leadership doctoral program, had an article published on his dissertation research, along with one of his committee members, Dr. Louann Bierlein Palmer, assistant professor in the Department of Teaching, Learning and Leadership: Gaunt, D., & Bierlein Palmer, L. (2005, November/December). “Positive student attitudes toward CTE.” Techniques, 80(8), 44-46.

Western Michigan University School of Art photography student Rose Swartz placed second in the Society of Photographic Education’s Midwest Regional Conference Juried Exhibit. Bradley Post received an honorable mention in the same exhibit.

Recent Music Theatre graduate Tammy Ballard has been cast in the National Tour of Rent. She will be the soloist on the famous song, “Seasons of Love.” In addition, senior Christine Werney will be opening this March in the Chicago production of the Broadway smash hit, The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee, to be directed by James Lapine. Christine will be playing the role of Logaine Schwartzengruber.

John McFarland, a senior composition major from Farmington Hills, MI, received an Honorable Mention award in the Metropolitan Wind Symphony’s 2005 North American Student Composer Competition. The Metropolitan Wind Symphony is a thirty-four-year-old, 65-member amateur wind ensemble based in Boston, MA. John’s award-winning piece, From Chaos..., is scored for wind band and choir.

Makiko Sato, a junior piano performance major from Japan, was selected to compete in the Kobe International Student Piano Competition in January 2006 in Japan. Competitors were selected by recorded audition.

In November, four music therapy graduate students made presentations at the American Music Therapy Association’s annual conference in Orlando, FL. Those who presented were Alie Chandler (from Heiskell, TN), Beth Clark (from Orono, ME), Julie Guy (from San Diego, CA), and Shea Althoff (from Marion, IL). School of Music faculty member Edward Roth was a co-presenter with Shea Althoff.

College of Health and Human Services

The College of Health and Human Services Student Leadership Council will host its first college-wide blood drive. It will be located in the CHHS atrium from 11-5 on February 7.

Upcoming Events

COLLEGE OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

On Friday, January 27, from 12:30-2:00 p.m., the College of Health and Human Services will hold a minority student reception in room 1284 of the CHHS building. The reception will introduce CHHS students to a new organization called Multi-Cultural Bridges to Health Care.

On Tuesday, January 31, the College of Health and Human Services will hold its monthly faculty brown bag lunch series. Michael Scriven will speak about “Causal Wars.” The brown bag lunch series promotes CHHS faculty research and teaching.

COLLEGE OF FINE ARTS

The Department of Dance and School of Music present the Great Works in Dance and Music Gala Concert, February 4 and 5, 2006, in Miller Auditorium. Renowned choreographers and guest artists traveled to WMU to stage and rehearse these master works. Featured dances include Serenade, choreographed by George Balanchine; The 40s, choreographed by Lou Conte; Fire Dance, choreographed by Loie Fuller; and How Long, Brethren?, choreographed by Helen Tamiris. Featured School of Music Ensembles include the University Symphony Orchestra, the University Chorale, and the University Jazz Orchestra. Tickets are available through the Miller Auditorium Box Office.
Walter Darby Bannard was a member of the original minimalist group and showed in the Post Painterly Abstraction exhibit organized by the Los Angeles County Museum in 1964. Along with John Link of the WMU School of Art, he is co-editor of newCrit (www.newcrit.org), a web site committed to plain talk about art, where you can access his recent writing. His exhibition of paintings in Sangren Hall during February will include Rolling Cobalt, which is part of the WMU Art Collection.

The School of Music will present Giuseppe Verdi’s rollicking comic opera Falstaff February 9-12, 2006, in the Dalton Center Multi-Media Room. Falstaff, based on Shakespeare’s The Merry Wives of Windsor, tells the story of the legendary fat knight’s hilarious attempts to seduce two married women, and the humorous way the “Merry Wives” teach Falstaff the error of his ways. Verdi’s score captures every twist and turn of the fun, including Falstaff’s famous honor monologue, Ford’s rage aria, and Nannetta’s ravishing fairy song. The opera will be sung by alternating student casts in Andrew Porter’s excellent English translation accompanied by an instrumental chamber ensemble conducted by faculty member David Little, Professor of Voice. Carl Ratner, Director of Opera at WMU, will direct, and he will sing the role of Falstaff in the performances on February 10 and 12. In addition, children from Kalamazoo’s Ballet Arts School of Dance will participate under the direction of Janelle Holland. Tickets are $16, $12 for seniors and WMU faculty, and $7 for students. Tickets will be available at the door, or after January 13 from Miller Auditorium (269-387-2300 or 1-800-228-9858).

The Department of Theatre presents The Wild Party, February 16-25, in the Multiform Theatre. A raucous musical based on the poem by Joseph Moncure March, The Wild Party recounts a lavish celebration that one woman threw to teach her boyfriend a lesson he would never forget. Set in the misbehaving 1920s, this crazy show offers the memorable tunes “Raise the Roof” and “The Life of the Party.” Tickets are available through the Gilmore Theatre box office.

Several stories from The Coast of Chicago by award-winning author Stuart Dybek have been adapted for the stage and are scheduled for performances January 12 through February 19 at Chicago’s Lookingglass Theatre in the Water Tower Water Works.

Originally published in 1990, The Coast of Chicago was a New York Times Notable Books selection and was the sixth book chosen for the award-winning One Book, One Chicago citywide reading program. A Western Michigan University faculty member since 1973, Dybek teaches creative writing at the University and has served as a permanent faculty member for WMU’s Prague Summer Writers Seminars since 1997.