Items of Academic Interest

COLLEGE OF AVIATION

The National Training Aircraft Symposium 2006 (NTAS 2006) has been held in Daytona Beach, FL, at the Embry Riddle Aeronautical University campus on March 21-24, 2006. The Symposium was designed as an event that brings university and flight school providers of training together with General Aviation operators and equipment manufacturers. The Symposium addressed issues and opportunities as they affect equipment used in aviation education. Its agenda included panels, exhibits, demonstrations, and discussions of strategic fleet plans and personnel training programs with aviation suppliers, educators, and operators. Captain Dave Powell, the College of Aviation associate dean & managing director, and Dr. Vladimir Risukhin, associate professor, represented the WMU at the Symposium. They had meetings and conversations with national leaders of General Aviation manufacturing, training, and education (John Bingham, Cirrus Design, executive vice-president; Rudi Frasca, Frasca International Inc., director; Gary Kiteley, Frasca International Inc., president; Rudi Frasca, Frasca International Inc., director), as well as with many other prominent members of the national aviation community. Participants of the Symposium in their presentations and speeches recognized the WMU College of Aviation (CoA) as a national leader in introduction of newest technologies into aviation education and training process.

The College is now in the very important phase of transition from older trainer airplanes Cessna-172 to the most modern, glass cockpit equipped airplanes Cirrus-20 and Cirrus-22. Dr. Risukhin made a presentation prepared in collaboration with Stephen Hasenick, the CoA Cirrus training program leader instructor pilot. Main goals and principles of the CoA Cirrus program were described in the presentation. The importance of close working interaction between academic faculty and flight instructors for achieving aviation students’ profound knowledge and airmanship was also emphasized.

The Women in Aviation Chapter at WMU attended the Women in Aviation International Conference in Nashville, TN, March 23-25, 2006. Twenty-two chapter members, all students at the CoA, attended the conference. The theme of the conference was “Reaching New Heights of Success” with the focus on tactics and strategies necessary for successful aviation careers. Over 3,000 women and men representing all segments of the aviation industry were present. The conference featured keynote speakers including Federal Aviation Administration administrators, astronauts, and business leaders. Approximately 150 leading aviation organizations, including aircraft manufacturers, regulatory agencies, U.S. military, aviation schools, and airlines, advertised their products and, most importantly, career opportunities. Scholarships and awards were presented during the banquet on the last day of the conference. This is an excellent educational and networking opportunity for anyone interested in the field of aviation.

EMERITI COUNCIL

Wednesdays II, this well-attended series of presentations by emeriti recently concluded with Walt Turner’s “How are Loh Shu magic squares, Tao Yin and Yang, Latin Squares, Ban Franklin’s Magic squares, and an Albert Durer engraving connected?” The series began in September with George Dales, “Olympic Glory Returns to Greece – 2004,” followed by Bill Stiefel, “Return to Afghanistan” in October; Molly and Roger Williams, “Fire, Ice and the Aurora – An Icelandic Saga” in November; while Dietrich Haenicke’s holiday related reflections closed out the year. Mary Cordier began the new year with “Pioneer Women Teacher: Legends and Legacies;” Woody Ehrle talked about “Michigan’s Champion Trees and The State and National Tree Program” in February; and in March, Robert Poel introduced us to “School Science versus Real Science: Current Changes in the K-12 Science Classroom.” Nearly all Wednesday II openings for 2006-2007 have been filled and we look forward to another year of pleasant and enlightening gatherings.

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

The Commission on Accreditation of Dietetics Education (CADE) of the American Dietetic Association has approved the continued accreditation of the Dietetic Internship Program. The decision was based on a peer review of a self-study report prepared by the dietetic internship faculty. The program enrolls up to eight full-time interns annually with a general emphasis in food, nutrition, and management. The next program review for the dietetic internship will be conducted in 2012. The Career and Technical Education program continues to develop initiatives that serve the educational community in the

Continued on page 2
production of highly qualified teachers in technical subjects. WMU’s post-baccalaureate master’s degree leading to initial certification in the instruction of Career and Technical Education (CTE) allows non-traditional students to obtain their teaching credentials and count the courses for graduate credit. The most exciting development to come from this initiative has been entering into an agreement with the Troops To Teachers (TTT) Program last fall to offer the certification program in an online format. TTT was designed to assist retiring and former military personnel to enter public education as teachers. The program is attracting the types of individuals needed in public education, particularly CTE, and in high demand areas in both urban and rural school districts. More information about the TTT Program is available at www.proudtoservcagain.com.

The Southwest Regional Physical Education Conference sponsored by the Health, Physical Education, and Recreation (HPER) department on March 3, in the Student Recreation Center, was attended by 165 physical educators. Co-sponsored by University Recreation, this conference is planned and hosted by area physical educators, the HPER department, and its intern teachers.

Lee Honors College

Within the past month, the Lee Honors College has completed articulation agreements with Grand Rapids Community College and Lansing Community College. This means we have dramatically simplified the process by which transfer students from five nearby community colleges can enter the Lee Honors College when they transfer to WMU.

On May 1 and 3, 19 high school freshmen and sophomores who are part of the Lee Honors College ATYP program will sit for Advanced Placement exams in Literature and Calculus. Taught by Scott Friesner and Kelly Schultz, these students are likely to continue ATYP’s almost 100% success rate on AP exams.

College of Engineering and Applied Sciences

For the newest hands-on interactive workshop offered by WMU’s Society of Women Engineers (SWE), 36 area Girl Scouts competed for prizes in challenges to build the highest straw tower, transport “radioactive” ping-pong balls in the shortest time possible, and devise the simplest strategy for changing positions in a line. SWE has been providing an annual engineering workshop for elementary-school scouts for the last four years. The new all-day engineering workshop allowed middle and high school scouts to sharpen their problem-solving skills. Scouts from Portage, Kalamazoo, South Haven, Battle Creek, Oshtemo, and Coldwater attended four sessions – three competitive problem solving and one instructional computer session that provided an overview of AutoCAD. They also toured the WMU Parkview Campus, and discussed careers and college with the engineering students. The scouts were assigned to one of four teams for the competitive challenges. Sarah Gerbig, a first-year mechanical engineering student from Grand Blanc, organized the day’s events. “The chair position [for the event] was open, so I took charge,” she said. “It has all worked out quite well.” She directed the Straw Towers competition for which each team was given straws, tape, and 40 minutes to build the highest tower that would support a soccer ball. Team members were encouraged to devise a plan and to work fast. “Radioactive” ping-pong balls challenged the teams to find a variety of ways to transport the balls from the floor to a disposal bag about 10 feet away. They were provided with several tools – spoons, tacks, tongue depressors, and rubber bands. Each team made four runs, and having to dispose of the used tools made each succeeding run more challenging. Jenny Wagg, a first-year engineering student from Warren, discussed the scouts’ techniques and shared other problem-solving ideas. For Traffic Jam, scouts at different ends of a line had to change places in the fewest moves. The only non-competitive session was a hands-on AutoCAD activity directed by Melanie Hancock, an aeronautical engineering senior from Dearborn. SWE President Nikki McCaskey, a third-year electrical engineering student from Dearborn, said that the new workshop resulted from the popularity of SWE’s other workshops. “We’ve really enjoyed doing the workshops for the younger scouts, so when they asked us if we’d like to provide a workshop for the older girls, we really wanted to,” McCaskey said. “We’re enjoying it, and hopefully, the scouts are too.” Three volunteer engineers from DLZ, a civil engineering company located in the BTR Park, judged the competition. DLZ also supported the event and provided prizes – black tote bags for everyone and candy-filled bags for the winners. Jill Hosbein, Glowing Embers Girl Scout Council membership specialist, praised the event. “It’s so good for these younger girls to see what these young women are doing here at the college,” she said.

Faculty Accolades

College of Fine Arts

Moped Army, the first graphic novel from writer/artist/Café Digital publisher Paul Sizer, School of Art, has recently received nominations for several yearly awards in both the comic industry and the library world. The graphic novel originally came out in September 2005 under Sizer’s own Café Digital imprint, and was a hit with comic fans and members of the actual “Moped Army,” the organization that inspired the graphic novel. Within the last month, Moped Army has garnered national nominations for three different annual awards. The American Library Association has nominated Moped Army on the “Best Books for Young Adults” list and the “Great Graphic Novels for Teens” list. Additionally, Moped Army received three category nominations in this year’s Glyph Awards, an award started by online columnist and writer Rich Watson.
Faculty Accolades Continued...

WMU professor of Theatre Von Washington is having a productive sabbatical. In addition to performances of his play Rosa Parks: More Than A Bus Story in three states, he has lined up an impressive array of readings for his work at theatres on the East and West Coasts. On March 27, The Lorraine Hansberry Theatre in San Francisco presented a staged reading of his script Who Taught Socrates Or The Aesopian Conspiracy as part of their Tomorrow/Today series. The series is devoted to developing African-American theatre for the 21st century. On April 10, at the Frank Silvera Writer’s Workshop in Harlem, professor Washington’s new play Brain Storm had a very successful public reading—so successful that they have invited him back again on April 25. On April 25, professor Washington’s play Yesterday will be read publicly at the New Federal Theatre in New York. The New Federal’s history reads like a who’s who of African-American actors, playwrights, and directors, and includes Denzel Washington, Morgan Freeman, and Phylicia Rashad among its distinguished list of collaborators.

David Curwen, Department of Dance, has had one of his dances selected to represent the East Central Regional Conference at the national American College Dance Festival in Washington, DC, May 16-18. It is the first time that a WMU dance has been selected for performance at a national American College Dance Festival conference. The End was selected for this national festival through three levels of adjudication. Dances were selected for the regional gala concert and national festival by three nationally-recognized choreographers. Criteria for selection were overall artistic excellence and quality of performance. This marks the third time in the past four years that the Dance Department has been invited to perform at the Kennedy Center.

John Lychner, School of Music, and colleague John Coggiola from Syracuse University, made a presentation at the International Association of Jazz Educators (IAJE) convention last year. Their article, “A Comparison of Non-Musicians’, Non-Jazz Musicians’, and Jazz Musicians’ Aesthetic Response to Jazz Music with a High Level of Conceptual Advancement” was selected as the featured article for March 2006 on the IAJE website.

The Western Jazz Quartet will tour Italy and Slovenia this summer under the sponsorship of the U.S. Embassy in each country. The tour will culminate with a featured performance at the World Saxophone Congress. Members of the quartet are saxophonist Trent Kynaston, pianist Steve Zegree, bassist Tom Knifie, and drummer Tim Froncek.

Brian Wilson, professor of Music Therapy, was the recipient of the 2006 Honorary Life Member Award for distinguished contributions to the Great Lakes Region of the American Music Therapy Association. The award was presented to him at the regional conference in Novi, MI, March 23-26, 2006.

Dr. Joe Miller, director of Choral Studies, conducted high school and collegiate all-state choruses in Carnegie Hall (New York City) and Symphony Hall (Boston), as well as in Chicago, Tennessee, and Michigan during the spring semester.

Dr. Evelyn Clingerman and Dr. Mary Ann Stark of the Bronson School of Nursing have received Faculty Research and Creative Activities Support Fund (FRACASF) grants.

Bronson School of Nursing faculty member Alberta Bee was awarded the Graduate Student Research Scholarship Award by the Midwest Nursing Research Society (MNRS).

The Executive Committee and members of the Michigan Speech-Language-Hearing Association (MSHA) nominated Dr. Nickola Wolf Nelson, professor of Speech Pathology and Audiology, for the 2006 ASH Foundation Frank R. Kleffner Clinical Career Award. Dr. Nelson was nominated for her lifelong commitment to innovative work in assessing and treating children and adolescents with language disorders extending across listening, speaking, reading, and writing impairments.

Dr. Evelyn Clingerman and Dr. Mary Ann Stark (WMU) have published A Separate Togetherness: Dialectical Tensions and Shadow Realities in Post-Marital Relationships in L. Arnold (Ed.) Research in Family Communication. Boston, MA: Allyn & Bacon.

M.J. Johnson, S.B. Jones, K.D. Ledlow, and Chad Edwards (WMU), have published Using Greek Theater Seating Arrangements to Demonstrate Nonverbal Immediacy in Teaching Ideas for the Basic Communication Course.


Chad Edwards (WMU) with Scott A. Myers, West Virginia University, presented their paper and received the Top Paper Award “College students’ stress and its impact on their motivation and communication with their instructors” at the annual meeting of the Central States Communication Association, April 2006.

This week Ellen Brinkley was invited to serve a three-year term as a member of The College Board’s English Academic Advisory Committee. She has also been elected to represent eight states on NCTE’s SLATE Steering Committee. SLATE seeks to influence public attitudes and policy decisions affecting the teaching of English, to implement and publicize The National Council of Teachers of English policies, and to serve as NCTE’s intellectual freedom network. She is working...
with a team of National Writing Project site directors to lead a week-long summer retreat for directors of NWP sites across the country. She, Allen Webb, and a few others, recently created Michigan’s High School English Language Arts Content Standards and Expectations, which are moving closer to approval by the State Board of Education. In Spring 2005 she co-authored an article titled “Strengthening Partnerships Between National Writing Project Sites and Universities” in the National Writing Project’s newsletter, The Voice.

J.D. Dolan received one of fifty of the National Endowment for the Arts’ 2006 Literature Fellowships in Prose. “He plans to continue working on a screenplay based on the extraordinary life of Ralph Greenleaf, who was world pocket billiard champion for most of the period from 1919 to 1937,” The Western News.

On November 8, 2005, the College of Arts and Sciences designated two faculty as recipients of its annual Faculty Achievement Awards: Meg Dupuis, for professional and community service; and John Saillant, for excellence in research and creative activity. Each received a $500 award to be used in support of their teaching, research, creative activity, or professional development. Meg and John were honored on December 7 by a celebration dinner at Bravo! Restaurant. Congratulations to Meg and John on this well-deserved recognition.

Arnie Johnston and Debby Percy have written an adaptation of Rapunzel for All Ears Theatre, to be recorded late in April at Kalamazoo’s First Baptist Church and broadcast in October over WMUK. In February, Arnie and Debby read three of their short plays at the annual dinner meeting of the Ladies’ Library Association. Their co-edited collection, The Art of the One-Act, will appear in the fall from New Issues Poetry and Prose. Arnie’s novel about Robert Burns, The Witching Voice, has been accepted by Wings Press for publication within the next year. Two musical revues of Arnie’s Jacques Brel translations are in the works, one in Chicago (a revival of last year’s long-running No Exit Café production) and another in New York. Arnie will perform some of his Brel translations for the journal Two Lines at the Ann Arbor Book Festival in May. In March, Arnie took part in a playwriting panel at the AWP conference in Austin, TX. The panel, “Barbarians at the Gates: Pedagogical Possibility and Practice for Playwriting in English Departments,” was organized and moderated by Steve Feffer, and Arnie. Steve will repeat the presentation in Chicago at the Association of Theatre in Higher Education conference in August.


Daneen Wardrop’s articles on Civil War nursing narratives and women’s slave narratives have appeared recently in Walt Whitman Quarterly Review, Arizona Quarterly, Women’s Studies, and Texas Studies in Literature and Language. An essay on Emily Dickinson and fashion is forthcoming in Emily Dickinson Journal, and another on the work of Li-Young Lee is forthcoming in Amerasia Journal.

Ann Miles has received a Senior Fulbright Research Award to Ecuador where she will continue her cutting edge research on Lupus. She will be in Ecuador this summer.

Assistant professor Michael Ryan was a Visiting Research Scholar in the Department of Economics at the University of Otago in Dunedin, New Zealand the week of March 20-26. He was also invited to present “Firm-Specific Characteristics and the Timing of Foreign Direct Investment Projects” at the University of Otago’s Workshop in international Trade on March 24-26. This conference included 22 scholars from around the world, including New Zealand, Australia, Japan, Germany and the UK.

Professor Susan Pozo presented “Evidence on the Impact on Macroeconomic Fluctuations” and “Remittance Decay and Income Risk” at The Effects on Migration on Sending Countries, IIDSES and the Universidad Iberoamericana, Mexico City, Mexico on February 24-25. Professor Pozo also presented “Who Slips Though? Unauthorized Immigration into the United States” at the annual meetings of the Population Association in Los Angeles, March 29.

HAWORTH COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

Ms. Laurie Hays, faculty specialist II, Department of Accountancy, presented in the Principles of Accounting Symposium March 16 through March 18. The conference, held in Pasadena, CA focused on issues in accounting education with a particular emphasis on accounting principles.

Dr. Jerry Kreuze, professor, Department of Accountancy and president of Midwest Business Administration Association, and Dr. Sheldon Langsam, professor, Department of Accountancy presented the paper “Corporate Stock Buybacks and Employee Stock Options: Related Transactions?” at the Midwest Business Administration yearly meeting held March 15-17, in Chicago.

Dr. Jack Ruhl, professor, Department of Accountancy reviewed two papers for the American Accounting Association Midwest Conference held March 30-31, in Chicago.

Dr. Ola Smith, assistant professor, Department of Accountancy, presented “Service Efforts and Accomplishments Certificate of Achievement: Is There Potential for Excellence?” at the midyear conference of the American Accounting Association (Government and Nonprofit Section) in Miami February 24-25. Dr. Smith also reviewed and discussed two research papers at the same conference. Dr. Smith represented the Government and Nonprofit Section at the Midwest American Accounting Association meeting in Chicago on March 30-31, and coordinated the review process of papers submitted to the conference. Dr. Smith also reviewed two of the papers that were submitted.

Dr. Henry H. Beam, professor, Department of Management has two cases published. Kellogg Company – 2005, in David, Continued on page 5
Dr. Sime Curkovic, associate professor, Department of Management, presented “The New Economy and America’s Future College Graduates” as keynote speaker for the Grand Rapids/Kalamazoo Institute of Management Accountants Meeting, in Grand Rapids, MI on March 21, 2006. Dr. Curkovic also presented “Advancements in Supply Chain Management Curriculums and Career Paths” as keynote speaker for the Grand Rapids, MI APICS (American Production and Inventory Control Society) meeting on April 12, 2006. He will present “The New Economy and Supply Chain Management” as keynote speaker for the Midwest Foreign Commerce Club Meeting, Chicago, Forthcoming June 15, 2006 as well as “The New Economy and Supply Chain Management” as keynote speaker for the Central Indiana APICS (American Production and Inventory Control Society) meeting, Indianapolis, Forthcoming July 13, 2006.

The College of Education Annual Awards were presented to the following faculty and staff on April 21, 2006: Esprit de Corps Award—Ms. Kathy Mitchell, coordinator in the Office of Field Placements. The Esprit de Corps Award recognizes an individual who personifies the vision of the College of Education, especially in reference to respectful civility, collegiality and academic citizenship, which work to lift the overall spirit of the College’s environment. Staff Excellence Award—Jane Kramer, certification officer in the Office of Teacher Certification. This award recognizes a staff member in the College of Education who consistently makes outstanding contributions in support of faculty, staff, students, administrators, and all those served by the College of Education. Strengthening Community Connections Award—Dr. Debra Berkey, chair of the Department of Health, Physical Education, and Recreation. This award recognizes an individual who has made significant contributions to establishing or strengthening meaningful ties between the University and community partners. The awardees actions have furthered the University as a vital component of the community by advocating greater involvement between the University and community sectors while building lasting community collaborations. Mary L. Dawson Teaching Excellence Award—Dr. James Croteau, professor in the Department of Counselor Education & Counseling Psychology and Margaret McGovern, instructor in the Department of Family and Consumer Sciences. This award recognizes one “regular” faculty member and one part-time or adjunct faculty member who demonstrate exceptional creativity, enthusiasm and passion for teaching at the undergraduate and/or graduate level (s). Trailblazer Award—Dr. Marlene Breu, assistant professor in the Department of Family and Consumer Sciences. This award recognizes a single faculty member or team of faculty who engage(s) in cutting edge scholarship (which may include but is not limited to creative activity, research, software development or other scholarly pursuits) which impacts the discipline.

Dr. Kelly McDonnell, assistant professor, Department of Counselor Education and Counseling Psychology, was recently appointed to the Editorial Board for the official journal of the Association for Specialists in Group Work, a Division of the American Counseling Association.

Dr. Gary Bischof, associate professor, and Karen Helmeke, part-time faculty member, both in the Department of Counselor Education and Counseling Psychology, co-authored an article on the integration of religion and spirituality with couple therapy. This article was accepted as part of a special issue on the state of the art of couple therapy for the Journal of Couple and Relationship Therapy.

Dr. Phillip Johnson, assistant professor in the Department of Counselor Education and Counseling Psychology, authored Counseling African American Men: A Contextualized Humanistic Perspective which appeared in the April 2006 issue of Counseling and Values.

Dr. Jill Herrmann-Wilmarth, assistant professor in the Department of Teaching, Learning, and Leadership, co-authored a book “No Deposit, No Return”: Enriching Literacy Teaching and Learning Through Critical Inquiry Pedagogy which was published by the International Reading Association in February. Dr. Jill M. Herrmann-Wilmarth was also awarded a Queer Studies SIG Scholar Activist Award for her dissertation work at the American Educational Research Association Conference, April 7-11, in San Francisco.

Dr. Cynthia Carver, assistant professor in the Department of Teaching, Learning, and Leadership presented a paper, High School/University Partnerships: What We Know, What We Need to Know at the American Educational Research Association Conference, April 7-11, in San Francisco.
Naghshineh but he teaches a variety of graduate and undergraduate classes. "I teach machine design, dynamics, and mechanisms analysis," he said. "It all depends on what the department needs." While he is also involved with noise and vibration research, he said that teaching adds to his overall satisfaction. "I love my job," he said. "I enjoy my interactions with the students, and I really feel I’m blessed because I’m doing what I enjoy doing. This is his second Theta Tau teaching award; he also won in 1999.

Dr. Betsy Aller, assistant professor in the Department of Industrial and Manufacturing Engineering, has acquired two new grants. One grant is from the Michigan Space Grant Consortium for her project “Engineering as an Everyday Activity: Community Outreach and Exploration.” The project, which starts in May, includes offering a series of discussions and hands-on engineering activities to community teachers and parents, who studies show do not understand engineering. She plans to have participants involved in extruding plastics, making paper, exploring robotics, and trying rapid prototyping, among other activities, so that they understand and become more comfortable with engineering. "The participants will actually have hands-on experiences so they understand that engineering influences the everyday quality of life for all of us," she said. "The goal is to get teachers and parents to understand it so they can promote and support students’ going into engineering." Included in the activities at Parkview will be conversations with engineers and an “Ask an Engineer” forum.

Aller also received a grant in January from AlcoaEPC of Mattawan, MI, for “Improving Global Workplace Skills Through the Enhancement of the Senior Engineering Technology Experience,” with co-principal investigator, Dr. Larry Mallak, a professor in the Department of Industrial and Manufacturing Engineering. The grant will be used to provide funds for six undergraduate and two graduate students to attend the ANTEC National Conference for Society of Plastics Engineers in Charlotte, NC, in May. Funds are also being used to support a senior engineering design project to reduce potential injuries to workers changing dies in machines. This project, which includes an ergonomics study and system analysis, will be presented at the Conference of Senior Engineering Design Projects in December 2006.

The College of Education Rising Star Award (recognizing three College of Education students who have demonstrated outstanding potential in scholarship, teaching and/or professional leadership) was presented to the following students on April 21, 2006: Milan W. Bird, Department of Family and Consumer Sciences undergraduate student; Sharon Carney, Department of Counselor Education and Counseling Psychology doctoral student; Sharon Peterson, Department of Educational Studies doctoral student.

The Department of Counselor Education and Counseling Psychology (CECP) held an awards reception and presented endowed scholarships, student awards and the outstanding alumna award on April 11. Recipients included: (first row left to right) Katherine DeKoning, Outstanding Master’s Student in CECP; Melissa Lidderdale, Robert & Diane Betz Award for Doctoral Studies in Counseling Psychology; Charmeka Whitehead, CECP Alumni Doctoral Scholarship; (standing left to right) Judith Snow, Outstanding Alumni Award; Stephanie Bierlein, The Paul & Phyllis Griffeth Outstanding Master’s Student in Student Affairs; Darryl Plunkett, Robert & Diane Betz Award for Doctoral Studies in Counselor Education; Glinda Rawls, Outstanding Doctoral Student in Counselor Education; Donald Knight, Kenneth Bullmer Scholarship for Doctoral Studies in Counseling Psychology; Chris Richmond, Outstanding Doctoral Student in Counseling Psychology; Jill Ann Tatun, CECP Alumni Master’s Scholarship. (Not pictured) Jean Arteaga, The Arthur & Margaret Manske Outstanding Master’s Student in School Counseling.

The Department of Health, Physical Education, and Recreation awarded 14 scholarships on April 1. The Howard Thompson Scholarship for Physical Education was awarded to the following physical education majors: Andrew Holodnick; Kelsey Kelm; Rachel Lindemann; Fred Marsh; Katherine Niemi; Dylan Patterson; Joshua Scott; Steven Walters; Bradley Wilson; and Chad Woodbull. They each received $1,000 scholarships honoring Mr. Thompson, a retired physical educator and athletic administrator from Jackson, MI. Three $500 Harriett Kiser Creed Scholarships were awarded to: Kevin Daus; Jeffery Oney; and Brian Stewart. Ms. Harriett Creed was a faculty member in the Department of Health, Physical Education, and Recreation from 1957 until her retirement in the early 1990’s. The Dr. Candace Roell Graduate Scholarship for Pedagogy was awarded to Eveta Linebaugh who is pursuing a master’s degree in pedagogy. Dr. Roell served as chair of the Women’s Physical Education Department from 1960-1967 and was a stellar professional leader in her time.

The State Farm Foundation has made it possible for the College of Education to provide financial assistance to thirty students pursuing intern teaching during the 2006 Spring Semester.
Awards, valued at $1,000 each, were made based upon the following criteria:

- commitment to pursue a career in public education
- experience in urban settings and/or schools struggling to meet AYP (Adequate Yearly Progress)
- financial need
- preparation to teach in core academic subject areas
- special circumstances impacting the applicant
- scholarship

A reception will be held on Tuesday, May 2 from 5:00-7:00 p.m. in Lansing to honor recipients of the State Farm Foundation Intern Teaching Scholarship and State Farm for its gift to the College of Education. Legislators from the hometowns of all recipients have been invited to participate in this event, hosted by WMU’s Development Office. In addition, selected members of the College of Education and student’s family members, mentor teachers, and University Coordinators are also invited to this ceremony. For further information, please contact the Office of Field Placements (269-387-3466).

Seven interior design students in FCS 459 Studio V in the Department of Family and Consumer Sciences designed an exhibit featuring their projects. The exhibit, “The Final Draft,” was held in the Design Gallery, 2202 Kohrman Hall, and included an open house on Saturday, April 1. Students Cynthia Adams, Angela DeLaurentis, Marissa Jekabson, Katherine Palecki, Nicole Rice, Erin Vankoevering, and Lisa Green will be graduating this month. Their work can be viewed at: www.wmich.edu/fcs/td/sr_project

Lee Honors College

LHC students made the following presentations at the annual meeting of the Mid-East Honors Association during its February meeting in Toledo, OH.

- Living with Honor – Michael Center & Caroline Lampinen
- Cultural Events: A New Way to Get Involved – Katie Nelson
- Cultural Collage: A Student’s Grand Tour of Europe through the Honors College – Sarah Warner

College of Engineering and Applied Sciences

Three CEAS graduate students have earned All-University Graduate awards. They are part of a select group of 20 who were recently honored by the Graduate College in a ceremony at the Bernhard Center. Anil Kumar, a doctoral student in the Department of Industrial & Manufacturing Engineering’s Human Performance Institute, was awarded one of eight Graduate Research and Creative Scholar Awards for his chair research. In a 10-minute presentation at the awards ceremony, Kumar presented “snippets from the chair study” that he’s been working on for about two and a half years and that has considered human factors and cognitive usability issues related to chair seating. Specializing in biomechanics and ergonomics, Kumar has participated on biomedical projects involving the evaluation of EMS personnel, labor and delivery nurses, lifting during manual material handling, and the ergonomic of hand tools. He has numerous publications and presentations. Kumar’s dissertation and chair research involved Haworth Company, which has provided support for him. He has already influenced product design and been invited to establish protocols in this area. His other clients include Stryker Medical and Bronson Methodist Hospital. Kumar earned a BS in Mechanical Engineering at the University of Pune in India. He came to WMU in 2002, from Wichita State University in Kansas where he had earned a MS in Industrial Engineering with emphasis on ergonomics. His plans included graduating in December 2006 and gaining experience, implementing what he’s learned, consulting, teaching, and continuing research in seating and ergonomics. Doctoral students Jai Thomas, in the Department of Industrial & Manufacturing Engineering, and Kamlesh Suthar, from the Department of Mechanical & Aeronautical Engineering, were among 12 students awarded Graduate Student Teaching Effectiveness Awards. Thomas has served as a secondary instructor for four years in many courses, including descriptive geometry, introduction to CAD, CAD applications, and CAD programming. He received one of 12 Graduate Student Teaching Effectiveness Award. “My teaching experience at Western has been very rewarding and encouraging,” he said. The engineering technology courses that he teaches are particularly difficult because they require the use of tools that are constantly being updated and the understanding of underlying concepts. He reinforces theory with practical and real-life examples and motivates students to do well, encourages “independent thinking,” and makes students “work more to learn more.” In the teaching evaluations, his students describe his presentation of the material as “excellent.” Thomas came to WMU in 2001 and plans to earn a Ph.D. with a specialty in brake-hose modeling. He is impressed by the IME faculty’s “dedication to making students think” in the classroom. “I would like to pass on that dedication to the students,” he said. Suthar has served as a secondary instructor in the laboratory sections of ME 335 Instrumentation course where he set up and explained experiments. For the last two years he has assisted Dr. Muralidhar K. Ghantasala in the modification of the course’s overall content and methodology. His contributions included setting new experiments, developing laboratory instructional material, adding an introduction of LabVIEW programming skill acquisition and delivering the course. He is patient, has a practical and efficient way of running the lab sessions, and is effective in being available to help students in class and outside of class. He says that providing students with “overly detailed instructions to perform an experiment can be counterproductive in training students to explore new concepts and more importantly in nurturing and independent learning process.” He does not give answers. “We should teach those questions and (help them) develop the courage to find their own answers.” Four CEAS grad students were also honored as department scholars: Osama A. Awwad and Mark Gary Terwilliger in Computer Science; Anil Kumar in Industrial & Manufacturing Engineering, and John A. Tomasi in Mechanical & Aeronautical Engineering. Five CEAS grad students selected as department teachers included Zillie Huma Kamal and Yvette Yoder in Computer Science, Lokendra Pal in Paper Engineering, Chemical Engineering, and Imaging; Kamlesh Suthar in Mechanical & Aeronautical Engineering.
Engineering, and Jai Thomas in Industrial & Manufacturing Engineering. A total of 59 grad students competed for the university awards. The grad students received news of the awards via e-mail. In the 21 years that the research and creative scholar award has been offered, 565 grad students have won the award, and in the eight years that the graduate teaching award has been made, 225 grad students have been recognized.

Last month, 23 members of the student chapter of WMU’s Institute of Industrial Engineers (IIE) traveled to the 2006 IIE Region 4 Conference at Purdue University in West Lafayette, IN. The WMU group won an award for having more students in attendance than any other chapter. Renae Hoglen, president of the WMU IIE chapter, praised the quality of the conference and the all the speakers for offering valuable insights. “We had a great time, and we were impressed with the professionalism,” she said. “We went to everything to learn what others are doing so that we could come away with as much of the experience as possible.” The conference included breakout sessions covering career experiences, a technical paper contest, a leadership forum, and a job fair for those in the Purdue area. Also offered were tours of Purdue’s IE facilities, including the machine shop and two human factors facilities. The WMU students were joined by IIE students from not only Purdue University, but also Kettering University, Ohio University, Ohio State University, University of Michigan – Ann Arbor, University of Michigan – Dearborn, University of Louisville, Youngstown State University, and Wayne State University. Conference speakers included Michael Eskew, CEO and chairman of UPS; Charles Armstrong, president of the Seattle Mariners; Andy Poosuthasee from Halliburton; Carrie Ehrlich from United Airlines; and Rick McNamee, CEO of Quadrus Consulting. On behalf of the national IIE, IME professor Dr. Steven Butt, one of WMU’s IIE advisors and current IIE Region IV vice president, presented an appreciation award to Purdue for hosting the event. IME professors Dr. Tycho Fredericks, a co-advisor of WMU’s IIE chapter, and Dr. Kailash Bafna also attended the conference.

The Kappa Chapter of Tau Beta Pi, the only honor society that represents the entire engineering profession, initiated 22 new CEAS students into its membership at the celebratory banquet on April 4. The inductees included 12 mechanical engineering students: Jacob Adleman, Corey Case, Chris Cooley, Aaron Gilbert, Mike Kupiecki, Brad Lund, Claire Ott, Alison Pearce, Kevin Schaefer, James Stander, Leonard Stoehr, and Amanda Vander Ploeg; 4 electrical engineering students: Ira Bilancio, Jeremy Jensen, Ivana Krneta, and Preston Van Deusen; 2 aeronautical engineering students: Martin Grassik and Mike Weller; two chemical engineering students: Samantha Friedlander and Brianna Gagnon; construction engineering student Paul Tulikangas; and industrial engineering student Laith Kobaisil. Guest speaker for the event was Dr. Linda Delene, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, who spoke on "Engagement and Leadership." Chapter President Shazia Peeran presented the Smoothest Shiniest Bent Award, a check for $75, to Alison Pearce, recognizing her skills and diligence in polishing a rough bronze casting of the society’s emblem. Students are eligible to join Tau Beta Pi if they rank academically in the top 1/5 of their senior class or the top 1/8 of their junior class. The active members also consider character and community service before approving eligible members for full membership. The WMU Tau Beta Pi chapter was formed in 1989. The present membership includes 52 students representing all of the engineering disciplines and 20 faculty members: Dean Timothy Greene, Osama Abudayyeh, Brad Bazuin, John Cameron, Dave Florida, John Gesink, Philip Guichelaar, Azim Houshyar, Leonard Lamberson, Daniel Litynski, Larry Mallak, John Mason, Damon Miller, Koorhosh Naghshineh, Tom Piatkowski, Norali Pernalete, Ralph Tanner, Dennis Vandenbrink, Bob White, and Molly Williams.

**COLLEGE OF FINE ARTS**

WMU’s acclaimed vocal jazz ensemble Gold Company will perform two concerts on April 23 in New York during their annual spring tour performances. At 2:00 p.m., the group will appear at Carnegie Hall, followed by a 7:30 p.m. performance at the Lincoln Center.

Many current students and recent alumnus of the Music Theatre Performance program have been hired to work professionally this summer. Chicago audiences are enjoying the hilarious performance of Christine Werny in The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee. Lars Haglund will be featured in the Wagon Wheel Theatre’s production of Damn Yankees. Patrick Newton will appear in the Mason Street Warehouse production of The Great Trailer Park Musical he will be joined by MTPs Caitlin Sams, Lindsay Foreman and Prescott Seymour for their production of Cabaret. Beau Hutchings, Brynn Curry, and Justin Goodemoot will be featured in productions at the Tibbits Playhouse this summer. Jana Debusk will return for a second season at the Barn Theatre. Allison Hendrix, Jeffrey Fauer, Nicole Horton, and Karrie Kinsman will be heading out to Iowa to work for MTP Director Jay Berkow who is producing his ninth season at the Clinton Area Showboat Theatre. This summer’s season includes production of The King And I, The Mousetrap, Anything Goes and Cabaret.

The Department of Theatre is pleased to announce that the following students have been accepted to prestigious graduate schools: Joel Johnson, University of California – Irvine; Joel Gelman, University of California – San Diego; Jessica Bocade, University of Iowa; Kevin O’Callaghan, Florida State University; Beth Lach, University of South Carolina; and Joshua Steadman, University of California – Los Angeles. Singer David Gailey, a freshman from Haslett, MI, has been selected to perform in the World Youth Choir for its 2006 summer session in Italy. Out of 150 applications from around the globe, 47 members were selected. Two WMU students who were in last year’s choir have also confirmed their participation again this summer: bass/baritone Joseph Beutel, a senior from Fort Wayne, IN, and mezzo-soprano Alexis Stark, a senior from Albion, MI.

From April 27 to May 8, the University Symphonic Band, directed by Dr. Robert Spradling, will tour The People’s
Republic of China by invitation of its government. The itinerary includes performances at the Central Conservatory of Music and Renmin University in Beijing, Tianjin University, and Xian University of Architecture and Technology. There will be ample time for sightseeing, as well, with visits planned to Tiananmen Square, the Forbidden City, The Great Wall, the Ming Dynasty Tombs, and a martial arts school for tai-chi exercises.

Trombonist Andrew Mitchell, a senior from Plymouth, MI, was named a semi-finalist in the National Solo Competition sponsored by the U.S. Army Band “Pershing’s Own” as part of the 2006 Eastern Trombone Workshop. Over 70 recorded auditions were submitted in the first round, and five were selected to participate in the live semi-final round of auditions in Washington, D.C.

Two WMU dance majors were selected through audition to participate in the River North Chicago Dance Company (RNCDC) Intensive Summer Workshop this August. Senior Sarah Ivory and junior Adam Crain will spend two weeks in Chicago studying jazz dance technique and learning repertoire from RNCDC company members. Crain and Ivory were selected by RNCDC’s artistic director, Frank Chaves.

**College of Health and Human Services**

Mary Ann Solberg, WMU alumna and White House Deputy Director of the Office of National Drug Control Policy, hosted three WMU students and a faculty member in Washington D.C. on March 21. The visit was part of a three day trip sponsored by the College of Health and Human Services as a response to Ms. Solberg’s invitation that came during a Fall 2005 visit to the college. Timothy Gottwald, a senior majoring in Social Work, Amy Allen, a senior majoring in Sociology, and Michael Holland, a member of a joint WMU-KVCC program, traveled to Washington with Dr. Kieran Fogarty, associate professor in the Interdisciplinary Health Studies Doctoral Program. Dr. Fogarty and the students visited Congressman Fred Upton’s office and spent time with Ms. Solberg, who brought the group on a tour of the West Wing and the Oval Office, and to lunch at the White House. Ms. Solberg also hosted them at her National Drug Control Policy office where they met with her key staff and advisors. “Ms. Solberg was very generous with her time,” Fogarty said. “The trip gave students an awareness that Washington D.C. contains real advocates like Ms. Solberg, who are dealing with key issues of the day.” He adds that, “The college’s hope was that the students would be more inspired than impressed and that they would take back home Ms. Solberg’s powerful message to ‘serve your communities.’” Solberg, who was named the White House Deputy Director in 2002, brought with her deep experience as a leader in community-based anti-drug coalitions. Prior to her appointment, she served in Michigan as the Executive Director of both the Troy Community Coalition for the Prevention of Drug and Alcohol Abuse and the Coalition of Healthy Communities. Solberg also has served as a member of numerous other advisory, civic, and community organizations, including as a member of the Board of Directors of the Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America (CADCA); as a member of the Advisory Committee to Develop a National Prevention System at the National Center for Substance Abuse Prevention; and as a member of the Advisory Committee for the National Ad Council’s Community Anti-Drug Campaign. In 1998 she was named to the President’s Commission on Drug-Free Communities and was elected Co-chairperson. Amy Allen said that, “Ms. Solberg portrayed more knowledge and passion about drug control policy than I had ever imagined one person could know about any subject.” Solberg told the WMU contingent that Western gave her a good foundation and made her well-prepared for the future through a variety of experiences, including community involvement and campus activities. At WMU, she developed a passion for community groups. She explained that most problems communities face are local, and that solutions to these problems are unique to their locations. Solberg encouraged the students to “get involved” in grassroots efforts to change community norms for the better. “I plan to take the knowledge I have gained from Ms. Solberg and apply it in my hometown,” says Amy Allen. She adds that Solberg “has given me hope that I can make a difference in my community through prevention, treatment, and disruption.” Dr. Fogarty invited Solberg to come back to WMU for another visit, and hopes that she will when her busy schedule permits it. Western’s College of Health and Human Services hopes to send more students to Washington D.C. in the future to see first hand how U.S. government agencies and offices operate. “I want to thank Western Michigan University and the College of Health and Human Services for this opportunity,” says Timothy Gottwald. “Washington D.C. is much more than monuments and cherry blossoms... It is a place that enables dreams to come true.”

Barbara Cliff, a student in the Interdisciplinary Health Studies Doctoral Program, won the 2006 Innovation in Health Care Award for excellence in cardiovascular disease prevention and treatment for her project, “The Healthy Heart Program,” at the annual Innovations in Health Care Ceremony of the National Kidney Foundation of Michigan.

Speech Pathology and Audiology graduate student Rebecca Hague presented data from her work last fall at the MSU/KCMS research day, April 12, at the Fetzer Center. Her poster presentation was titled: “Caregiver and Patient-Reported Outcomes of Cleft Lip and Palate Repair in the Philippines.”

In March members of the Student Dietetic Association increased awareness of healthy eating and the new food pyramid during National Nutrition Month by hosting various programs and displaying information in the Student Recreation Center. Their participation was recognized by the American Dietetic Association.
**Student Acclades Continued...**

**EXTENDED UNIVERSITY PROGRAMS**

A student at the WMU – Lansing campus, Ph.D. candidate Robert Sobie (Public Administration), was awarded the “Outstanding Adult Learner Award” by the Capital Area Higher Education Network (CAHEN) in a ceremony in Lansing on April 19. CAHEN was formed in Lansing in 1997 to enhance cooperation among the colleges and universities that offer degree programs locally. The Lansing Campus has been a part of this group since it began and now, for the fourth consecutive year, CAHEN members are honoring students with the “Outstanding Adult Learner Award” for each member institution. These students epitomize scholarship in their programs, community leadership, and professional achievement. Students are nominated by their faculty members and department chairs. This year’s winner for the Lansing Campus is Robert Sobie, Director of Information Systems for Eaton County and adjunct instructor at Baker College. Bob exemplifies the very best in continuing education: striving to learn while meeting family, professional, and community commitments. He has contributed to his community by serving in Eaton County 4-H, was a former board member for a domestic violence/homeless shelter; also served on the Foster Care Review Board for a 7-county region. In addition, he and his wife have adopted two children in the last 7 years. Bob is also a WMU graduate of the MPA program. He has completed all of his coursework for the Ph.D. in Public Administration in less than three years and plans to defend his dissertation within the year. Bob is the first Ph.D. candidate to win this award.

**COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES**


Timothy Terrentine, WMU—“Guns or Butter: A semiotic analysis of how success is signified through mainstream hip-hop music,” paper presented at the annual meeting of the Central States Communication Association, April 2006.

Jacob Arndt, WMU—“A walk in the pasture: Ideological perspectives on masculinity and mental grazing in college men,” paper presented at the annual meeting of the Central States Communication Association, April 2006.


Kevin Kane was named the Presidential Scholar for 2006 by the faculty of the Department of English. He was also elected president last fall of the new WMU chapter of Sigma Tau Delta, and was interviewed earlier this semester on WIDR radio to talk about the English honor society and its role at Western. Kevin, Caitlin McAndrew, and Julie Roos presented papers at the national Sigma Tau Delta conference in Portland, OR, at the end of March.

Doctoral associate Nathanael O’Reilly recently had his article entitled “Imagined England: Robinson Crusoe’s Nationalism” accepted for publication in Symbolism: An International Annual of Critical Aesthetics. Nat thanks Jil Larson and Allen Webb for their extensive feedback on drafts of the essay. In January, Nat attended an Irish Studies conference held at Trinity College, Dublin, where he presented a paper entitled “Constructions of Irishness in Four Contemporary Australian Novels.” In April, he will present a paper in Montreal at the annual conference of the American Association of Australian Literary Studies. Nat thanks Lisa Minnick for her help with his paper, “Is that an Accent I Detect?: Accent, Identity and the Australian Diaspora.” Nat’s poem “Beyond” has been accepted by The Oklahoma Review.

On November 28 Kara Dunn’s play Red Light Spectrum received a staged reading on the tenth floor of Sprau. Kara received an Arts and Sciences Undergraduate Research and Creative Activities Award to develop and write this play under the supervision of Steve Feffer.

Seven graduate students from the Economics Department presented papers at the Midwest Economics Association Meetings in Chicago, March 24-26.

**HAWORTH COLLEGE OF BUSINESS**

The WMU Student Chapter of the Financial Management Association International hosted its annual banquet on Saturday, April 8 at 6:00 p.m. in the Presidents Dining Room at the Bernhard Center. Dr. Ajay Samant, chairperson of the Department of Finance and Commercial Law, was the featured speaker. Mr. Scott Burns, the FMA president during the 2005-2006 academic year, announced that Ms. Corey Adams has been elected president for the 2006-2007 academic year. The WMU chapter was recognized by the National Financial Management Association with a Bronze Membership Development Reward for its large increase in membership over the previous year.

The Department of Accountancy of WMU honored the first two recipients of the Robert D. Neubig Scholarship at a luncheon in the Fetzer Center, Friday, March 24. Dr. Neubig was a full professor in accounting at WMU for 24 years. He passed away in 2004. The first two Neubig Scholars are Katherine A. Paris of New Lenox, IL and Sunday M. Bonifas of Portage, MI. They will both pursue the Master of Science in Accountancy degree at WMU. Friends and former students have contributed to the Robert D. Neubig Endowment Fund to provide scholarships for graduate study in accounting at WMU. Mr. James Leisenring, former faculty ember in the Department of Accountancy and currently an executive with the Financial Accounting Standards Board, and Dr. Jack Ruhl of the Department of Accountancy are directing the Neubig Endowment Fund drive.
**EMERITI COUNCIL**

The WEMU Emeriti Council is sponsor a forum entitled “Achieving Peace in an Embattled World” on October 2, 2006 from 1 to 5 p.m. in the Lecture Hall at the Haworth College of Business. Howard Wolpe will be the featured speaker and panelist. Dr. Wolpe, a former professor of Political Science at WMU and seven terms U.S. Congressman, is currently director of the Africa Program at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars. He will speak about and demonstrate the techniques he used to bring peaceful negotiations amongst the warring Tutsi and Hutu leaderships in Burundi. The final afternoon session will be a panel discussion on Collaborative Decision Making in Iraq. In addition to Dr. Wolpe, panelists will be History professor Howard Dooley and Physics professor Emanuel Kamber of WMU. It will be chaired by Public Administration professor emeritus Peter Kobrak.

**HAWORTH COLLEGE OF BUSINESS**

The Haworth College of Business is pleased to announce the sixth presentation in the sixth year of the Keystone Community Bank Breakfast Speaker Series at the Haworth College of Business. Mr. Gregory DeHaan, senior vice president & part-owner of Allen Edwin Homes will be the speaker. The talk will take place in the Dean’s Conference Room (Room 2150 Schneider Hall) of the Haworth College at 7:30 a.m. on Friday, May 19, 2006. Parking will be available in the Fetzer Center parking lot. Please RSVP to the Haworth College of Business Office of the Dean at (269) 387-5050.

**COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING AND APPLIED SCIENCES**

Engineering student who are members of WMU’s Society of Flight Test Engineers (SFTE), a newly formed organization for students who are preparing for careers associated with flight testing, have been folding paper airplanes to prepare for the qualifying round that could take them to the Red Bull Paper Wings World Finals in Salzburg Austria in early May. SFTE president Jonathan Rombeck, an aeronautical engineering senior, organized SFTE earlier this year after attending the Aerospace Testing Expo in Long Beach, CA, “I thought it would be a good idea,” he said. The group now has about 10 members, mostly aeronautical engineering students who are also members of American Institute of Astronautics and Aeronautics (AIAA). They have been putting their aeronautical understanding to work making paper planes. SFTE vice president Anne Saad, an aeronautical engineering senior, said that the rules for the Red Bull paper planes limit the competitor to one piece of 8 1/2 by 11 paper. No ripping, gluing, cutting, stapling or ballasting is allowed. Paper planes are judged in three categories: largest distance (world’s record is 193 feet), longest airtime (record is 27.6 seconds), and most creative aerobatics (judges measure loops, turns, and waves). The top two qualifiers from the east side of the Mississippi and the top two qualifiers from the west side of the Mississippi will go to Austria to compete.

**COLLEGE OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

On Thursday, April 20, the Department of Occupational Therapy will hold its sixth annual Graduate Research Poster Session in room 4010 of the College of Health and Human Services. The session will take place between 3 and 5 p.m. and will feature faculty-student research. The following are presentation titles with Principal and Student Investigators:

*An Exploratory Intervention of the Effect of a Haptic Robotic Device on Components of Handwriting*

Principal Investigator: Sandra Edwards, MA, OTR, FAOTA
Student Investigators: Jill Haskin, MOTS and Dana Janiak, MOTS

*The School Intervention Team Classroom-Based Model for Children Exposed to Trauma*

Principal Investigators: Ben Atchison, Ph.D., OTR, FAOTA; James Henry, Ph.D.; Yvette Hyter, Ph.D. CCC-SLP; Mary Blashill, MSW
Student Investigators: Jennifer Forgach, MOTS; Joel Hawkins, BS, SLP; Katya Hofmockel, OTR, MOTS; Maureen Kileyone, BS, SLP; Jomie Goerge, BS; Erin Sullivan, MOTS

*The Effectiveness of the Handwriting Without Tears Instruction Method on Handwriting Skills in First to Third Graders*

Principal Investigator: Paula Jamison, Ph.D., OTR
Co-Investigator: Richard Cooper, Ed.D., OTR, FAOTA
Student Investigators: Julie Blue, MOTS; Karen Petrov, OTR, MOTS; Debbie Swierenga, COTA, MOTS

*Maximizing Workers’ Postural Comfort and Safety in a New Office Furniture Environment: How Much Ergonomic Consultation is Actually Needed?*

Principal Investigator: Debra Lindstrom-Hazel, Ph.D., OTR
Student Investigator: Eileen Gallagher, BS, COTA

*Child Resistant Drug Packaging and Arthritis: Can People with Arthritis Access their Medications?*

Principal Investigator: Debra Lindstrom-Hazel, Ph.D., OTR
Student Investigators: Nancy Kiddo, OTR, MOTS; Andrew Kratt, MOTS; Kelly Sullivan, MOTS

*Head Start School Intervention Project Safe Start: Reducing the Effects of Violence on Children (Project EVOC)*

Principal Investigators: James Henry, Ph.D.; Love Schlage, Ph.D., MSW; Connie Black-Pond, MA; Ben Atchison, Ph.D.; Yvette Hyter, Ph.D., CCC-SLP
Student Investigators: Brandy Harveth, SLP; Abigail Shepherd, MOTS; Mary Nestell, SLP; Laine McVicker, OTR, MOTS

*Effectiveness of Occupational Therapy in Treating Cognitive Deficits in Students in Alternative Education*

Principal Investigator: Diane Dirette, Ph.D., OT
Student Investigators: Jennifer Lusford, MOTS and Jessie Wyers, MOTS

*A Pilot Study on the Potential Effectiveness of Community-Based Occupational Therapy to the Promotion of Awareness and Compensatory Strategy Use after TBI*

Principal Investigator: Diane Dirette, Ph.D., OT
Student Investigator: Ginny Erickson, MOTS

*Fetal Hand Grasp, Bone Growth, Grasp and Reaching and Handwriting Grasps: A Review of the Literature*

Principal Investigator: Sandra Edwards, MA, OTR, FAOTA
Student Investigator: Carmen Lockwitz, MOTS
Resiliency Factors Among Adopted Children with a History of Pre-Adoptive Trauma
Principal Investigator: Ben Atchison, Ph.D., OTR, FAOTA
Student Investigators: Anna Edwards, MOTS and Brandon Rosenberg, MOTS

Should the Arts be Used in Occupational Therapy?
Principal Investigator: Richard Cooper, Ed.D., OTR, FAOTA
Student Investigators: Brandon Morkut, MOTS and Heidi Wentz, MOTS

Updating and Validating Normative Data on the Purdue Pegboard, Pinch and Grip Tests
Principal Investigator: Debra Lindstrom Hazel, Ph.D., OTR
Student Investigators: Erin Courtnay, OTR, MOTS; Samantha Harrow, OTR, MOTS; Theresa Lynch, MOTS.

COLLEGE OF AVIATION
Dr. William Hamman, co-director of WMU’s Center of Excellence for Simulation Research in the College of Aviation, will speak at the April 17-19 event, which is expected to attract more than 1,500 CEO’s, senior executives and government officials from hospitals, health systems, health plans, pharmaceutical and biotech companies, the nation’s largest employers, and government agencies. The congress, co-sponsored by the Wall Street Journal, is one of the world’s most prestigious gatherings of executives from all sectors of the health care arena. Hamman will speak as part of an executive seminar during the congress. The session will focus on “Advances in Patient Safety-Reporting, Simulation and Innovative Health System Improvements,” and the moderator will be Dr. Dennis O’Leary, president and CEO of the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations. Hamman will discuss research being done by WMU’s Center of Excellence for Simulation Research, which focuses on the use of medical simulations to improve patient care. Hamman and Dr. William Rutherford, who co-directs the center, have been testing simulation scenarios on teams in academic medical centers and regional health care systems. Better patient care, reduced health care costs and the possibility of developing spin-off companies that produce simulation hardware and simulation software and courseware packages are among the long-term outcomes Rutherford and Hamman see as a result of their work.

COLLEGE OF FINE ARTS
The College of Fine Arts will host the Michigan Youth Arts Festival May 11-13, 2006. The Festival brings approximately 1,000 of the most talented high school students in the arts to campus to rehearse, perform and exhibit their talents while participating in master classes. Karen Bondarchuk, Kimberly Eberstein, and Charles Stroh from the School of Art will teach workshops in watercolor monotypes, book binding, Chihuly paintings and mail art. A schedule of public performances is available on the website at www.mvafonline.org

The School of Music’s 55th annual summer music camp, Seminar 2006, will be held July 9-22. Several performances will be presented during the two weeks, including a series of three evening concerts. The first event, on Monday July 10,