Items of Academic Interest

**College of Arts and Sciences**

Western Michigan’s Earth Sciences Remote Sensing Facility (ESRS) is becoming an internationally recognized facility for conducting state-of-the-art research on interdisciplinary research addressing environmental and hydrological issues in the Middle East. This reputation is building on decades of active and collaborative research in countries like Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, and Iraq. Postdoctoral fellows that are supported by their native countries are coming to Western Michigan University to work with **Dr. Mohamed Sultan** and his colleagues. This summer, **Dr. Ahmad Wagdy**, an associate professor at Cairo University School of Engineering, will be spending a month working with Sultan on a joint UNDP-funded project aimed at development of methodologies to identify and quantify renewable water resources in arid lands. Dr. Ahmad Fawzy of the Egyptian Desert Research Institute will be spending three months working at ESRS on the assessment of the renewable water resources of the Sinai Peninsula. Mr. Abdou Ismail of the Egyptian Ministry of Water Resources and Irrigation is getting ready to go back home after completing a two-month visit working with the ESRS scientists on the hydrological impact of the Aswan High Dam. In July, Dr. Ahmad Al Dousari of the Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research will come to ESRS to investigate the use of temporal satellite images for monitoring the disintegration of the Mesopotamian marshes over the past two to three decades. In the spring of 2006, Dr. Sultan was one of two U.S. scientists who were invited by the Saudi Survey to participate in a major field campaign to explore the natural resources in the undeveloped Empty Quarter of Saudi Arabia, an extensive terrain that comprises one fourth of the total area of the Saudi Arabian Peninsula. One of the major findings of Sultan and his co-workers in the Saudi Survey was a major fresh groundwater resource that could pave the way to the development of this extensive domain, a finding that attracted the attention of the authorities and the media as well. Negotiations are currently underway for developing joint projects that include training of Saudi scientists in ESRS.

**College of Engineering and Applied Sciences**

Last month, the CEAS sponsored the 38th Conference on Senior Engineering Design Projects (SEDP). The all-day event featured 82 project presentations by 217 seniors in programs from seven departments: Civil and Construction Engineering (CCE); Computer Science (CS); Electrical and Computer Engineering (ECE); Industrial Design (ID); Industrial and Manufacturing Engineering (IME); Mechanical and Aeronautical Engineering (MAE); and Paper Engineering, Chemical Engineering, and Imaging (PCI). CEAS has sponsored the senior project conference since 1987 to showcase the work of its graduating seniors. In the photo, **ID senior Jason Pridmore** describes the compactable wilderness rescue stretcher that was part of “Search and Rescue First Aid Kit,” an ID project he completed with **Dante Zeppa** (pictured standing behind him) for the SEDP Conference. Fifty-two projects were sponsored. Some corporations sponsored multiple projects. Stryker Medical sponsored all eight ID projects. Various divisions of Parker Hannifin supported four engineering projects. Pfizer, Inc. sponsored three projects, and several companies—Dana Corp., Denso Manufacturing Michigan, Inc., Humphrey Products, and Whirlpool Corp.—sponsored two projects. Others who sponsored CCE projects were Competitive Piping Systems, Cornerstone Building Group, Hardman Construction, J.O. A. Construction, Rockford Construction Co., Skanska USA Building Inc., and Smith-Hammond Piping Co. In the photo below, **Kent Widman** presents: The Friends of Poetry Webpage (TFP)—a CS project he completed with **Lisa Mowers** and that was sponsored by The Friends of Poetry. Sponsoring ECE projects

**College of Education**

Congratulations to **Dr. Paul Vellom**, assistant professor in the Department of Teaching, Learning, and Leadership; **Dr. David Schuster**, associate professor in the Department of Physics; and **Dr. Charles Henderson**, assistant professor in the Department of Physics, who have been awarded a $200,000 grant from the National Science Foundation’s CCLI program. Their project, titled “Integrated Apprenticeship in the Teaching of Elementary Science (IATES),” will run for three years. The grant proposes to link Phys1800 and ED4010 by adjusting the Phys1800 curriculum and activities to focus on “thinking like a teacher” in some parts of coursework. This will develop more of an apprenticeship model that will progress throughout a candidate’s experiences. Collaborative instruction for parts of these courses is also in the plan.

Continued on page 2
were Burke E. Porter Machinery Company, Edgewater Automation LLC, Integrated Technologies, Johnson Degree Day, Kohler Engines, and Parker Hannifin Corp.—Pneumatics Division. IME project sponsors included Borgess Medical Center, Bronson Hospital, Goodwill Industries and Employment Service, Humphrey Products Co., JayCam Instruments, LLC, Kalamazoo/Battle Creek International Airport in cooperation with the Transportation Security Administration, and Parker Hannifin Corp.—Brass Products Division. Sponsors for MAE projects were ADAC Plastics Inc., Alliant Engineering, BAITECH, Billy’s Bike Shop, Dana Corp., DENSO Manufacturing, Eaton Corp., Flowserve Corp., Hammond Roto-Finish, Humphrey Products, New Concept Products, Parker Hannifin Corp., Parker Hannifin—Hydraulic Pump Division, Pool Productions, Stryker Instruments, Team Petro Motorsports, and Whirlpool Corp. PCI sponsors were Armstrong International, Excel Press, Inc., and Pfizer, Inc.

Last month the Alpha Gamma Chapter of Epsilon Mu Eta (EMH) made its debut at WMU by initiating 44 members, including professors, alumni, and students. Among the new members were alumni Herb Everss (1965), former automotive supplier executive and now CEO of Global EMERGENT, Inc., and Peter Karadjoff (1986), CEO of Mercy Hospital in Port Huron, who addressed the group and shared the secrets of their successful careers. EMH is the engineering management society. It was established at Old Dominion University in Norfolk, VA, in 2003. At WMU, the Engineering Management Research Laboratory is one of the founding members. IME’s Dr. David Lyth and Dr. Larry Mallak are charter members. According to a letter written by William R. Peterson, EMH president and founder, the society’s goal is “to recognize academic achievements of students in engineering management programs” and its distinguished academic leaders and practitioners. Among the initiates were three generations of engineering management. “Before it became engineering management, it was manufacturing administration, and before that it was industrial supervision,” Lyth said. He noted that Everss was a graduate of industrial supervision; Karadjoff, of manufacturing administration. Both speakers reviewed their careers, connected their successes to their educations, and management, it was manufacturing administration, and before that it was industrial supervision,” Lyth said. He noted that Everss was a graduate of industrial supervision; Karadjoff, of manufacturing administration. Both speakers reviewed their careers, connected their successes to their educations, and offered advice to students and recent grads. Everss told them to find and enhance “the gifts [they] bring to business and industry,” to “do more than what is expected,” and not to underestimate the value of communication. “Focus as much on communication as you do on the technical side because one underestimate the value of communication. “Focus as much on communication as you do on the technical side because one

Everss and Karadjoff, initiates include three IME faculty: Dr. Kailash Bafna, Dr. Betsy Aller, and Mr. Joe Petro, Jr. Alumni initiates from the Engineering Management MS program are Peter Battey, Mike Bosscher, Vincent Dutter, Juhani Engelberg, Terri Estkowski, Tod Grams, William Koepf, Brent Ladd, Kenneth Lee, Michelle Leiterman, Sundaesran Narayan, Rahul Shah, and Greg Williams. Current initiates from the Engineering Management Technology BS program are Nolen Akerman, Aric Carlisle, Michael Gaddes, Bradley Glossner, Joshua Maes, James McCaChen, David Smith, and Nick Yambre. Current initiates from the MS program are Dzinyo Asamoa-Tutu, Chad Beebe, Stewart Gulliver, Aaron Keller, Carlos Tejada Medina, Janna Muller, Peter Oosting, Geoffrey Twietmeyer, and Max Wettlaufer. Current initiates from the BS program include Zachary Armstrong, Ryan Linenfelser, Andrew Nowak, Kevin Orthals, Melissa Saltzman, Thomas Saville, Joshua Schilling, Kyle Swanson, and Quentin Witkowski. CEAS Dean Dr. Tim Greene and IME Chair Dr. Paul Engelmann, and IME emeritus professor Dr. Frank Scott, whom Everss said had been his “favorite professor,” welcomed and celebrated the new society.

**Faculty Accolades**

**COLLEGE OF FINE ARTS**

The contemporary music ensemble Opus 21 was recently awarded the 2005–2006 First Prize for Adventurous Programming from Chamber Music America and ASCAP in the category of new music ensemble. This national prize was accepted by Associate Professor of Music Richard Adams, Opus 21’s artistic director and founder, at the Chamber Music America 28th Annual National Conference in New York City this past January. The ensemble is scheduled to perform on some of the country’s most prestigious concert series, including those at the Library of Congress (May 11, 2007, in Washington, D.C.) and at Carnegie’s Zankel Hall (May 1, 2008, in New York City). The latter will feature the world premiere of a new work written specifically for the ensemble by renowned composer Frederic Rzewski and co-commissioned by Carnegie Hall, the Gilmore International Keyboard Festival, and Opus 21. Many of the musicians in the ensemble are members of the WMU School of Music faculty: Renata Artman Knific, violin; Tom Knific, bass; Trent Kynaston, saxophone; Judy Moenert, percussion; Bradley Wong, clarinet; and Stephen Zegree, piano. Also in the ensemble are Tim Froneck, drums; and WMU alumnus Gregory Secor, percussion.

“Rhythm for Recovery,” an article by Assistant Professor of Music Edward A. Roth, was published in the *Advance for Providers of Post-Acute Care*. The article introduces the publication’s readership to the basic tenants of Neurologic Music Therapy (NMT). The *Advance* is distributed to over 55,000 nurses, rehabilitation managers, physical/occupational/speech therapists, neurologists, and physical medicine and rehabilitation physicians.
Faculty Acclades Continued...

Associate Professor of Music Igor Fedotov was awarded a grant from the Fulbright Scholar Program in support of his sabbatical leave project during the 2006–2007 academic year. The project will include the research and performance of music for viola and piano by 20th century Russian-Soviet composers, and these works will be recorded on three CDs over the course of the sabbatical leave.

C. Curtis-Smith, School of Music, premiered his composition, “Concerto for Violin, Piano and Strings” at the Gilmore International Keyboard Festival on Monday, May 1. The piece was commissioned by the GIKF and the Kuopio Symphony Orchestra.

Barbara Barton, assistant professor in the School of Social Work, has been reappointed by Governor Granholm to the Statewide Independent Living Council.

Dr. Nickola Nelson, professor of speech pathology and audiology, has been named the new editor of the journal Topics in Language Disorders. Dr. Nelson will be working with the former editor, WWU alumna Dr. Kay Butler, who will continue in the role of Editor Emerita. A peer-reviewed, interdisciplinary, international journal, Topics in Language Disorders is published quarterly on thematic issues.

Professor Susan Pozo, Economics, has received a Fulbright Scholar Research Award to conduct research in Uruguay in 2006-2007 on the Remittances by Uruguayan Immigrants and their Impacts on Uruguayan Households. She will have affiliation with the University of Montevideo during her stay there.

Dr. James Carr and Dr. Linda LeBlanc, associate professors of psychology, have been appointed as associate editors of Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis, effective September 2006. Established in 1968, Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis is the flagship applied journal in the behavior analysis discipline. Carr and LeBlanc were also recently appointed to the editorial boards of Research and Developmental Disabilities and Research in Autism Spectrum Disorders, both published by Elsevier, the world’s largest publisher of scientific journals. WMU faculty members since 1999, Carr and LeBlanc are co-directors of the WMU Center for Autism, an outpatient clinic for families of children with autism spectrum disorders. Carr advises graduate students in the behavior analysis program and LeBlanc advises graduate students in the behavior analysis and clinical programs.

Dr. Karen M. Lancendorfer, assistant professor, Marketing, has received funding from a FRACASF grant to collect data this summer in South Korea. The study involves research collaboration with Dr. Byoungkwan Lee, assistant professor in the Department of Advertising at Hanyang University. Dr. Lancendorfer's research will explore the effectiveness of advertising on mobile devices, and consumers' perceptions of such advertising. Mobile commerce (known as m-commerce), which has emerged as the new type of e-commerce transaction, refers to any transaction with monetary value that is conducted through mobile devices using wireless telecommunications networks.

Dr. Pairin Katerattanakul, Dr. Bernard Han, and Dr. Alan Rea, Department of Information Systems, have their co-authored research paper entitled “Is Information Systems a Reference Discipline?” published in Communications of the ACM (Vol. 49, Issue 5, May 2006, pp. 114-118), the flagship journal of the Association of Computing Machinery.

Dr. Jerry Kreuze professor, Department of Accountancy, and Dr. Ola Smith, assistant professor, Department of Accountancy, will attend PricewaterhouseCoopers' University for Faculty in Princeton, NJ, July 18-21, 2006.

Dr. Jerry Kreuze and Dr. Sheldon Langsam, professors in the Department of Accountancy, presented their paper “Corporate Stock Buybacks and Employee Stock Options: Related Transactions” at the March 14-16 annual meeting of the North American Accounting Society.

Ms. Laurie Hays, faculty specialist II, Department of Accountancy, will present her paper “Using Interactive Interface Design to Enhance Student Learning in the First Accounting Principles Course” at the Michigan Accounting Educators Conference, June 2 in Traverse City. The conference is sponsored by the Michigan Association of CPAs.

Dr. Jack Ruhl, professor, Department of Accountancy, presented his paper to the Ohio Chapter of the American Accounting Association, “Heavy Weighs the Crown—Experiences of an Accounting Chair.” Dr. Ruhl will also present this paper at the national meeting of the association in Washington, D.C. in August.

Dr. Sheldon Langsam, professor, Department of Accountancy, will attend the Faculty Consortium, hosted by Deloitte, LLP and the Federation of Schools of Accountancy in Chicago, May 18 and 19.


Dr. Susan Piazza, assistant professor in the Department of Teaching, Learning, and Leadership, will present a portion of her dissertation research at the Ethnographic and Qualitative Research in Education (EQRE) conference in June in Cedarville, OH. The title of the presentation is “Case Studies in Literacy: Transactions between Boys’ Lived Experiences and Texts.”
Joyce State University. Ph.D. in Wood and Paper Science, all earned at North Carolina coating formulations, surface sizing, and wet-end additives. polymers, surface chemistry, paper and ink interactions, paper She has B.S. degrees in Chemical Engineering and in Wood WMU, Joyce heads up the Center for Excellence in Coatings. Paper Reviewer, and Standard Test Method Reviewer. At Committee member, Standard Coating Fundamentals Technical Program Committee member, Coating and Fundamentals Program Committee member, Awards Technical Activities Committee IEEE Region 4, Computer Engineering Curriculum Committee, and the University Graduate Studies Council for virtual classrooms. He earned BS and MS degrees in Electrical engineering from, respectively, the Isfahan University of Technology, Iran, and the Sharif University of Technology, Iran, and a Ph.D. in Electronic Engineering from RMIT University, Melbourne, Australia.

Dr. Massood Atashbar, assistant professor in the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering (ECE), has been appointed to a three-year term as Associate Editor (AE) and member of the Editorial Board of the IEEE Sensors Journal. The appointment was announced in a letter from H. Troy Nagle, an ECE professor from North Carolina State who is also the journal’s editor-in-chief and founding chair, and who says his goal is to make the journal “the No.1 professional publication in the field of sensing.” Atashbar’s engineering education credentials include many consulting and professional services in accreditation evaluation and as a reviewer. He is a member of the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers (IEEE), American Association of Engineering (ASEE), The International Society of Optical Engineering (SPIE), Material Research Society (MRS), Association of Engineers, Scientists, and Managers Australia (APESMA), Technical Activities Committee IEEE Region 4, Computer Engineering Curriculum committee, and the University Graduate Studies Council for virtual classrooms. He earned BS and MS degrees in Electrical Engineering from, respectively, the Isfahan University of Technology, Iran, and the Sharif University of Technology, Iran, and a Ph.D. in Electronic Engineering from RMIT University, Melbourne, Australia.

Dr. Margaret Joyce, associate professor in the Department of Paper Engineering, Chemical Engineering, and Imaging (PCI), has received a TAPPI Fellows Award for her contribution to TAPPI, “the leading association for the worldwide pulp, paper, packaging, and converting industries and co-publisher of Solutions for People, Processes and Paper,” according to its Web site. She has been active in TAPPI as Coating and Graphic Arts Technical Program Committee member, Coating and Fundamentals Program Committee member, Awards Committee member, Standard Coating Fundamentals Technical Paper Reviewer, and Standard Test Method Reviewer. At WMU, Joyce heads up the Center for Excellence in Coatings. Her research involves coating and ink rheology, water-soluble polymers, surface chemistry, paper and ink interactions, paper coating formulations, surface sizing, and wet-end additives. She has B.S. degrees in Chemical Engineering and in Wood and Paper Science, an M.S. in Textile and Polymer, and a Ph.D. in Wood and Paper Science, all earned at North Carolina State University.

Counselor Education doctoral students Darryl Plunkett, Janee Steele and Darryl Steele (pictured left to right) placed second in the Second Annual American Counseling Association Ethics Competition. Students across the country from 18 doctoral programs and 45 masters programs participated in the competition. Each team presented their response to a case study developed by the ACA Ethics Committee in a 15-page paper. Each team had to use appropriate scholarly literature relevant to solving the ethical dilemma and present what action(s) they believed were most ethical to take and justifications for their proposed actions. Each member of the WMU team received an award, and a link to their case study will be published in Counseling Today and on several counseling listservs.

Darryl Plunkett, doctoral student in Counselor Education, has been appointed to the Association for Counselor Education and Supervision (ACES) National Executive Board as their graduate student representative. ACES is the flagship organization for professors and supervisors in the field of counselor education. The graduate student representative position is a coveted position among doctoral students (and faculty) because the position is responsible for the programming and activities for doctoral students across the country involved in ACES. This two-year appointment includes being a voting member of the executive board in the second year. Darryl was offered the appointment by Dr. Harriot Glosoff, director, doctoral program in Counselor Education at The University of Virginia, and president-elect of ACES.

The 2006 edition of The Laureate, WMU’s undergraduate literary magazine, was published by the Lee Honors College. Edited by English major Rose Swartz, The Laureate’s mission is to provide a place for undergraduate students at WMU to publish poetry, fiction, non-fiction, and other creative works. The work of more than 15 undergraduates is represented in its production and writing.

First-year Manufacturing and Aeronautical Engineering (MAE) students won all the prizes in the Engineering Graphics/ AutoCAD Competition for the 330 eligible students who were enrolled in IME 1420 Engineering Graphics class during Fall 2005. The winners were announced by IME 1420 lead professor Slobodan Urdarevik, who organized the three-hour competition, which challenged the students to draw three orthographic views and an isometric offset section of a complicated part. Students had to show all dimensions, symbols, and notes needed for manufacturing. In the photo,
Urdarevik (left) and IME Dept. Chair Dr. Paul Engelmann (right) with Fall 2005 Engineering Graphics AutoCAD winners (left to right): Ryan Davis (3rd), Richard George (2nd), and Jonathan Zolp (1st). Zolp, an aeronautical engineering major from Paw Paw, is also a member of American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics (AIAA). He said that the award complemented his career goals to some day design aircraft but that he was “surprised” by it. Zolp narrowly edged out George, an aeronautical engineering student from Marysville, who earned second-place honors. Third-place winner Davis, a mechanical engineering student from Lincoln Park and an Alpha Lambda Delta member, said his future career goals would be “something to do with CAD.” Engelmann congratulated the winners and encouraged students in the audience—all members of the Fall 2005 IME 1420 class—to take part in this semester’s competition. “This competition allows us to give students recognition for going above and beyond, and it gives those who win a leg-up on the competition when they talk to recruiters who want to know what they have done beyond the classroom.” The winners all received engraved plaques—donated by Dr. Hooks, Inc., a Kalamazoo-based business that specializes in trophies, plaques, and other awards—and Inventor 10 by AutoDesk software, provided by Edutronics LLC, based in Troy. As the first-place winner, Zolp also received a gift certificate from Damons. His parents, Kathy and Chuck Zolp, attended the ceremony.

At its annual Clauising Student Recognition Luncheon, the department of Industrial and Manufacturing Engineering (IME) honored 31 students as winners of several awards and scholarships. The Outstanding Undergraduate Student awards in IME’s four programs went to Scott Seckel (MFT), Erin Brown (IEN), Paul Marsman (EGR), and Quentin Witkowski (UEM). Pam Apotheker (IEN) was honored as this year’s Presidential Scholar and the Dean’s Outstanding IEN Student. The other winners of Dean’s Outstanding Student Awards were Josh Brien (EGR), Josh Schilling (UEM), and Seckel (MFT). Six Outstanding Graduate Student awards were given to students in IME’s postgraduate programs: Geoffrey Twietmeyer (GEM), Janna Muller (GEM), Gordon Peters (IEG), Olubusola Soyode (OR), Hardik Shah (IE Ph.D.), and Jason Trahan (IE Ph.D.). Earning an IME Outstanding Service Award were Kayla Goostrey (IEN) and Renae Hoglen (IEN). Goostrey won for her extensive outreach involvement with the Society of Women Engineers, Habitat for Humanity, Alpha Pi Mu, Institute of Industrial Engineers (IIE), and Tau Beta Pi (Engineering Honor Society). Hoglen won for her extensive leadership involvement in IIE. Brown (IEN) was also acknowledged as one of four Kenneth W. Knight Scholarship winners. The other winners were Supreeta G. Amin (IE Ph.D.), Nikki Crocker (IEG), and Elizabeth B. Evans (IEN). Doctoral students Anil Kumar (IE Ph.D.) and Jai Thomas (IE Ph.D.) were honored for winning All-University Scholar awards. Kumar won for his outstanding research and Thomas won for his outstanding teaching. Recognition was also given to Brad Armstrong and Dana Saltzman for winning the North Central Regional American Society for Engineering Education (ASEE) Conference Best Paper competition. The paper was based on their Senior Design robotics project. Luis Hernandez was honored as the winner of the 2005 Clauising Industrial Scholarship, and Melissa Saltzman won not only the Ellinger Scholarship but also the IEEE Paper Contest. Seckel was the recipient of three scholarships: Foundry Educational Foundation (FEF) Outstanding Student Scholarship; Ford Scholarship; and the AFS Wisconsin Chapter Scholarship. Other FEF scholarship winners were Ryan Miller, Matthew Rutledge, and Michael Tolonen. Rutledge also won the Detroit-Windsor Chapter of the American Foundry Society (AONF) Scholarship. Winners of the IME 1420 TA awards were Laura Wegner (Spring 2005) and Anthony Marciniak (Fall 2005). Justin Hobart won the CADKey competition. Clauising Industrial, Inc. is a Kalamazoo-based company that has been providing support to the IME department and offering scholarships to its students for 54 years. Clauising President Joe Felicijan celebrated with the award winners. IME Professor Tom Swartz emceed the recognition ceremony, and CEAS Dean Tim Greene and IME Chair Paul Engelmann assisted in the award presentation.

Industrial engineering doctoral student Jai Thomas, in the department of Industrial & Manufacturing Engineering (IME), has won the E. Wayne Kay–Graduate Fellowship totaling $8,000 from the Society of Manufacturing Engineering (SME) Education Foundation. He came to WMU in 2001 after earning a B.S. in Mechanical Engineering at the University of Pune. He plans to earn his Ph.D. with a specialty in brake-hose modeling by December 2007. Last month, Thomas, who serves as a secondary instructor for several IME classes, earned one of WMU’s 12 Graduate Student Teaching Effectiveness Award.

Rob Harmer, an aeronautical engineering senior from Northville, has been selected a Tau Beta Pi Scholar by the Fellowship Board of the national engineering honor society, founded at Lehigh University in 1885. Tau Beta Pi, with college chapters in 230 U.S. engineering colleges, awarded $246,000 to 123 Scholars for undergraduate study during the 2006-2007 academic year. The basis for the competitive scholarships included high scholarship, campus leadership and service, and promise of future contributions to the engineering profession. Harmer, a Lee Honors College student who carries a 3.94 GPA, serves as vice president of the WMU chapter of Tau Beta Pi chapter. He is also a member of National Scholars Honor Society, Golden Key National Honor Society, National Dean’s list, and Phi Kappa Phi honor society. This summer, he will serve his second product development internship at Ford Motor Company in Dearborn. Previously he also served an engineering co-op at TRW in Livonia.

Andrew Hyder, a junior in the mechanical engineering program, has won the West Michigan Chapter of Air & Waste Management 2006 Scholarship. In addition to maintaining a 3.57 GPA, Hyder has been an active volunteer in the FIRST Robotics outreach program. He assisted high school students in the design and construction of a competitive robot, and made recruitment presentations at area high schools. During Spring
2005, he also served as a teaching assistant for IME 1420 Engineering Graphics. In a letter nominating Hyder for the award, Dr. Tarun Gupta, a professor in the Department of Industrial and Manufacturing Engineering and the advisor to the Robotics Club, said Hyder, who works 25 hours per week while attending classes, had “demonstrated a very high level of commitment” to the robotics project.

Up to 15 members of WMU’s Society of Automotive Engineering have taken the small formula-style prototype racing car they designed and built to this year’s Formula SAE® competition, being held at a Ford facility in Romulus. Last week, mechanical engineering students (left to right in photo) Nicholas Horsmon, Ed Sackley, and Sat Dixit tweaked the motor in preparation for the event. The WMU team captain is Adam Bell, a mechanical engineering senior who is also the president of WMU’s SAE chapter. Other key students on the team are mechanical engineering seniors Mark Philo and Nate Urban. Advisor to the group is Dr. Bade Shrestha, a professor in the Department of Mechanical and Aeronautical Engineering. Sackley described the year-long effort as “a great experience” and said he’s looking forward to competing in the event, which is governed by 125 pages of rules. The teams were to assume that a manufacturing firm wanted them to produce a prototype car for evaluation as a production item. The target market for the vehicle is a “non-professional weekend autocross racer” who needs high performance in accelerating, braking, and handling, but also requires that the prototype be low-cost, reliable, and easy to maintain. Its design must include aesthetics, comfort, and the use of common parts. The overall objective was to design and fabricate a prototype that best meets the goals and intents set for the vehicle. Horsmon said that being a part of the design team had helped him get a job next fall. “My employer said they liked to hire people who could not only design a project but build it and see it through,” he said.

COllege of Fine Arts

Senior dance major Alex Taylor received an Undergraduate Research and Creative Activities Award to conduct research on prevention of ankle injuries in dancers under the supervision of Assistant Professor of Dance Jane Baas. Taylor will begin her research over the summer.

WMU’s music therapy program was well represented at the recent annual conference of the Great Lakes Region of the American Music Therapy Association. Among the presenters at the conference were Mayumi Hata (graduate student from Tokyo, Japan) and Louis Morand (senior from Litchfield, MI). Another graduate student, Yayoi Nakai (from Wakayama, Japan), presented the findings from her thesis research investigating the relationship between university instructors and international students’ perceptions regarding English proficiency and success in clinical work in music therapy. Yayoi and Mayumi, along with faculty members Ed Roth and Brian Wilson, were participants in an international student roundtable that focused on the challenges and successes of international students studying music therapy in the United States.
Four recent alumni and students of the Psychology Department’s doctoral program in behavior analysis have obtained tenure-track faculty positions, effective fall 2006:

- **Dr. Caio Miguel**, who graduated in 2004, was hired as an assistant professor of psychology at California State University, Sacramento. Dr. Miguel will advise students in the department’s master’s program in behavior analysis. Dr. Miguel is currently a clinical assistant professor at New England Center for Children in Southborough, MA.
- **Dr. Tina Sidener**, who graduated in 2006, was hired as an assistant professor of psychology at Caldwell College in Caldwell, NJ. Dr. Sidener will advise students in the department’s master’s program in applied behavior analysis. Dr. Sidener is currently a parent education coordinator at Hawthorne Country Day School in Hawthorne, NY.
- **Dr. Sigurdur Sigurdsdottir**, who graduated in 2006, was hired as an assistant professor of psychology at University of Maryland, Baltimore County. Dr. Sigurdsdottir will advise students in the department’s master’s program in applied behavior analysis.

Fourteen outstanding students were recently honored by the WMU department of biological sciences. The students received the awards at a departmental spring luncheon on April 20, 2006:

- **Khin P. Sone**: Distinguished Senior in Biomedical Sciences, a $200 award given to an outstanding senior biomedical sciences major with a minimum grade point average of 3.5.
- **John J. Couture**: Hazel Wirick Scholarship, a $1,000 award given by the Federated Garden Clubs of Michigan Foundation to an upper-class biology major with a project in the area of botany or ecology. Students must have a minimum grade point average of 3.5.
- **Chin-Ju Hsiao**: Distinguished Biological Sciences Graduate Student, a $200 award given to a student who has completed the requirements for a Master of Arts degree in biology within the last year and who has shown outstanding research productivity.
- **Stephen L. McGinnis**: Merrill Wiseman Award in Microbiology, a $200 award named in honor of Merrill Wiseman, a distinguished professor who was on the Biological Sciences faculty for 40 years. Made to an outstanding student in the field of microbiology.
- **Shruti Sevak**: MPI Outstanding Undergraduate Research Award, a $500 award given to an outstanding undergraduate research student by MPI Research, Inc. in Mattawan, to encourage students to pursue careers in life sciences and to reward them for outstanding performance in scientific research.
- **Wendy Guat Hoon Tan**: MPI Outstanding Graduate Research Award, a $500 award given to an outstanding graduate research student by MPI Research, Inc. in Mattawan, to encourage students to pursue careers in life sciences and to reward them for outstanding performance in scientific research.
- **Nabeel A. Hasan**: Distinguished Senior in Biology, a $200 award given to an outstanding senior biology major with a minimum grade point average of 3.5.
- **Denise L. Smith**: Distinguished Biological Sciences Graduate Student, a $200 award given to a student who has completed the requirements for a Master of Arts degree in biomedical sciences within the last year and who has shown outstanding research productivity.
- **Gregory M. Korchnak**: Margaret Thomas DuMond Award, a $500 award given to an upper-class biology or biomedical sciences major who has demonstrated outstanding potential for a career in biological sciences. Students must have a minimum grade point average of 3.0. The award honors WMU alumna Margaret Thomas DuMond.
- **Andrea M. Kryger**: Frank Hinds Zoology Award, a $250 award given in honor of Frank Hinds, a dedicated teacher who served WMU for 35 years. This award involves a research or service project in the field of zoology.
- **Christopher S. Fisher**: Distinguished Pre-professional in Biological Sciences, a $200 award given to the student deemed by faculty to be the outstanding biology or biomedical sciences major in a pre-professional curriculum. Students must have a minimum grade point average of 3.5.
- **Jennifer R. Watry**: Colin J. Gould Memorial Scholarship, a $500 scholarship given to a Lee Honors College student majoring in the biological sciences. This award was established as a memorial to the late student Colin J. Gould.
- **Noyle D. McPherson**: Hazel Wirick Scholarship, a $1,000 award given by the Federated Garden Clubs of Michigan Foundation to an upper-class biology major with a project in the area of botany or ecology. Students must have a minimum grade point average of 3.5.
- **Noyle D. McPherson**: Leo C. Vander Beek Graduate Student in Plant Biology Award, a $500 award given to a beginning graduate student in plant biology in memory of the late Leo C. Vander Beek, who was a distinguished faculty member in the Biological Sciences Department for 33 years.

Two advertising and promotion majors, **Nicole Brown** and **Renee Thoma**, from the Haworth College of Business, have been awarded 2006-2007 scholarships from the Adcraft Club of Detroit’s Adcraft Foundation. The Adcraft Club of Detroit is the nation’s largest advertising club. Its foundation annually awards cash grants to advertising and marketing students from Michigan universities. Students are nominated by faculty members and must submit an application and transcript, along with an essay demonstrating their knowledge and understanding of the advertising business. Brown was nominated by **Dr. Betty Parker**, associate professor of marketing, and Thoma was nominated by **Dr. Karen M. Lancellorfer**, assistant professor of marketing. Winners were awarded their scholarships by Governor Jennifer Granholm and honored at a reception and luncheon (along with their faculty advisors) in Troy on April 28.
Additionally, Richter Scholars are guests of ISM at its Annual programs: the Executive Mentoring Program, which pairs the mentoring programs. Winners of the R. Gene Richter the profession through a combination of tuition assistance and Richter Scholars are also offered the benefits of two mentoring future leaders of supply management and fast-track them into management. The purpose of the program is to identify the recognized scholarship program in the field of supply chain Management's (ISM) 91st Annual International Supply Management Conference and Educational Exhibit in these competitions.

Beth Aven, a senior in Integrated Supply Chain Management, was one of six recipients honored at the R. Gene and Nancy D. Richter Foundation Awards Presentation Dinner. The invitation-only event was held during Institute for Supply Management(tm)'s (ISM) 91st Annual International Supply Management Conference and Educational Exhibit in Minneapolis. Now in its third year, the R. Gene Richter Scholarship Program has grown to be the largest nationally recognized scholarship program in the field of supply chain management. The purpose of the program is to identify the future leaders of supply management and fast-track them into the profession through a combination of tuition assistance and mentoring programs. Winners of the R. Gene Richter Scholarship Award receive tuition assistance of up to $5,000. Richter Scholars are also offered the benefits of two mentoring programs: the Executive Mentoring Program, which pairs the student with an established executive in the field; and the Junior Mentoring Program, which pairs the student with a young professional from the Richter Scholar Class of 2004. Additionally, Richter Scholars are guests of ISM at its Annual International Supply Management Conference.

Tiauna Ross, department of accountancy, was selected as a 2006 Thurgood Marshall Fellow.

The Michigan Accountancy Foundation awarded two of its 22 Graduate Scholarships for 2006 to Western students Sunday Bonifas and Thomas Garlock.

A team of seven Advertising and Promotion students competed in the AAF National Student Advertising [District 6] Competition, held in Southfield, MI at the end of April. This competition is one of the most prestigious for students interested in pursuing an advertising-related career. This year the students had to develop a national integrated marketing communication plan for PostalVault, a security mailbox product. The challenge was to build awareness of identity theft via mail fraud, and brand PostalVault as the leader in the security mailbox category. The team placed 6 out of 14 teams representing three states (Michigan, Indiana, and Illinois); however, the team placed 3 in the state (beating out MSU, U of M, and Wayne State). Only Northwood and Central fared better in the state. The student team consisted of the following Advertising and Promotion seniors: Ashley Nyenhuis, Carmen McParland, Cheng-Yee Tan, Andrea Raymond, Shawna Kaiser, Keran Kullar, and Maureen Fencyk. A different team of five Advertising and Promotion students recently competed in the edVenture Partners Cadillac National Case Study Competition. This year the students had to develop a national integrated marketing communication plan for Cadillac that focused on the female car-buying segment. The team placed 5 out of 34 teams that competed in this nationwide competition. The student team consisted of the following seniors: Kira Underwood, Georgienne Niec, Zachary Tocco, Dana Wood, and Erin O’Donoghue. In both instances, these teams had to “beat out” other teams of their peers in their respective MKTG 4810 IMC Campaign Management classes, and “win” the right to represent WMU at these competitions.

On June 6, from 10:30 a.m. to noon, the Charles Van Riper Language, Speech, and Hearing Clinic will be holding a free aphasia training session on how to support the conversation of people with communication disorders. The session will take place on the third floor of the WMU Unified Clinics, located on the corner of Oakland Drive and Oliver Street. The training session will be provided by people who have aphasia and by WMU speech-language pathology students. Anyone from the WMU community is welcome to attend. To register, please call Sandra Glista at 387-8064 or email sandra.glista@wmich.edu.

The month of May is Better Hearing and Speech Month, and the faculty members of WMU’s Speech Pathology and Audiology Department are encouraging Western faculty, staff, and students to take time to be tested for hearing loss and speech disorders. Now covered under the WMU health care policy, faculty and staff can schedule hearing and speech assessments at the WMU Unified Clinics’ Charles Van Riper Speech, Language, and Hearing Clinic, located on the corner of Oakland Drive and Oliver Street in the University Health Sciences building. Appointments may be scheduled by calling 387-8047. Since 1927, the American Speech-Language Hearing Association (ASHA) has been celebrating Better Hearing and Speech Month in May. An estimated 28 million Americans have hearing loss and 14 million have speech or language disorders, most of which can be treated. “Speech and language disorders take many forms and can limit academic achievement, social adjustment, and career advancement,” says Sandra Glista, a speech-language pathologist and faculty
member in WMU's Speech Pathology and Audiology Department. "Most people with speech and language problems can be helped," she adds. According to Teresa Crumpton, an audiologist who is also a faculty member in the Department of Speech Pathology and Audiology, "Hearing loss can affect all aspects of people's lives. It can impact both their relationships and their overall health. By becoming aware and seeking treatment, you can have a positive impact on these areas.

WMU faculty and staff may want to schedule an appointment for a hearing assessment if they experience one or more of the following: frequently have to ask people to repeat themselves; feel as if other people are mumbling; have increased difficulty understanding conversations when background noise is present; have difficulty in group conversations; keep the volume on their radio or TV at a level that others say is too loud; have ringing in their ears; or if they already have a hearing aid but do not use it. Audiologists would also like to remind the University community to keep the volume of their i-Pods and other devices at a safe level. For further information on the services available at the Charles Van Riper Speech, Language and Hearing Clinic, please contact Teresa Crumpton at 387-7209.

What We're Reading

Jerrie Fiala, faculty specialist II in the Department of Industrial and Manufacturing Engineering, recently read The World's Most Powerful Leadership Principle: How to Become a Servant Leader (2004, published by Crown Business, a division of Random House). James C. Hunter, who heads up his own leadership and development firm, wrote the book as a sequel to The Servant, described as an "international bestseller." With many support examples, he advocates for servant leadership, which he defines as having "the skill of influencing people to enthusiastically work toward goals identified as being for the common good." The book has many examples and practical suggestions about being a leader who establishes authority by using influence as opposed to using power. The book is available in the Portage District Library.