Items of Academic Interest

**University Archives and Regional History Collection:**
1) **Sharon Carlson**, director of University Archives and Region History Collections, presented a session at the Michigan Health Sciences Libraries Association on basic archival techniques.

2) **Dr. Sharon Carlson** was elected secretary to the Board of Trustees of the Historical Society of Michigan.

3) New records have been added to the Regional History Collections. The incoming president of the Michigan General Federation of Women’s Clubs (GFWC) visited the Archives and Regional History Collections and made a deposit of organizational records. The WMU Archives and Regional History Collections is the official repository of Michigan GFWC records, and has materials dating back to the 1890s for this statewide umbrella organization.

**New electronic technologies available for faculty and student researchers:**

Find It @ WMU is a new tool provided by the University Libraries for student and faculty researchers. Find It @ WMU creates shortcuts to the full text of online articles as well as links to other Library services. When searching in many of the University Libraries’ databases, researchers will see a Find It @ WMU button or a link that connects to a menu of options. For example, if patrons have pre-registered for interlibrary loan service and the article is not available at WMU, then they can submit requests directly from the menu. Enhancements to the system are being made and the system will continue to grow.

RefWorks, a web-based bibliography and database manager, is being provided to faculty and students by the University Libraries. Located on the Libraries web site under Services for Faculty & Staff [https://www.refworks.com/Refworks](https://www.refworks.com/Refworks). RefWorks allows users to create personal citation databases by importing references from text files of online database’s. RefWorks features facilitated manuscript preparation, allowing for automatic formatting of the paper and the bibliography. It is similar in function to software products such as EndNote, Reference Manager, and ProCite. A tutorial [http://www.refworks.com/tutorial](http://www.refworks.com/tutorial) provides the best introduction of the capabilities and use of RefWorks.

**HAWORTH COLLEGE OF BUSINESS**

**Dr. Edwards**, dean of the Haworth College of Business, Ms. Barb Caras-Tomczak, advisor in the Office of Student Development (Haworth College of Business) and **Bill Woods**, director of operations at International Affairs (OIA) are traveling to Asia from January 8th to January 24th. The Dean, Ms. Caras-Tomczak and Mr. Woods are visiting Singapore, Kuala Lumpur and Hong Kong to update relations with several of our partners in the region.

The group will meet with the US Embassy, US Commercial Service in Singapore, which is interested in promoting US education to foreign students. Meetings are arranged with various parties that already sponsor or partner with WMU. The Haworth College of Business and OIA have delivered the MBA program in Singapore in partnership with the Center for American Education (CAE) in the past. CAE and our trio will discuss the market for graduate business education in Singapore.

In Kuala Lumpur, Dr. Edwards, Ms. Caras-Tomczak and Mr. Woods will meet with Dr. T.A. Chew, director of the WMU Twinning Program, and Assistant Head Mr. Purush, to assess our Sunway twinning relationship. The visiting group will spend two days with the students, staff and faculty at Sunway to strengthen and re-affirm our twinning relationship with them. The presentation of the Dean’s List Certificates will take place for our twinning students on January 18th.

On January 19th the group moves on to Hong Kong. A visit is expected with the US Embassy in Hong Kong on the 20th and an initial meeting with Saint Too College is planned. Over the following two days, campus visits at Saint Too, meetings with faculty and students, and a luncheon sponsored by WMU are also planned. There will also be a broader exploration of the Hong Kong market before the trio heads back to Kalamazoo on January 24th.

**COLLEGE OF EDUCATION**

**Design Symposium Findings:** What would a room full of designers think are the current trends in the design of public spaces? The interior design students in the Department of Family and Consumer Sciences found out Wednesday, January 12th that flexibility, technology, connectivity, quality and integration are the buzzwords being discussed by professionals in the environmental design community. Richard Heriford, architect and vice president of
sales and marketing, presented a report that was the result of research completed recently by Landscape Forms of Kalamazoo and Frog Design, an international product design company. These two firms collaborated in conducting a symposium for professional designers located in five cities around the country. They asked a group of professionals to answer the following question: What are the common themes in the way we think about living spaces? The presentation included examples of how designers must address current cultural trends to be successful. The presentation was held in the new Multicultural Center in the Adrian Trimpe Distributive Education Building. Their report is available as a “white paper” on the web at http://www.landscapeforms.com (Installations and Trends in the Landscape).

Seminar on Brazil: The Department of Family and Consumer Education is offering a “Seminar on Brazil” that examines family life, interior design/architecture, nutrition, textiles and apparel, education, history, and music. During the first weekend of the Seminar, January 14 and 15, visiting scholars Drs. Helena Moussatche and Alberto Rodriguez will present on Brazilian architecture and design, and on educational reform and youth development. Other guest speakers will address Brazilian history and government structure as well as experiences of attending school in Brazil.

During the second weekend of the Seminar, February 11 and 12, visiting scholar Ms. Ingrid Muzy Murray, MSW, will speak on family life in Brazil and the experiences of Brazilian immigrants to the US. She will be joined by Brazilians who live locally, who will reflect on their experiences of living in both countries. Other topics covered that weekend include the textiles and apparel industry and Brazilian music.

Battle Creek resident and registered dietitian, Raquel Pereira, will focus on nutrition and the foods of Brazil during the last weekend of the Seminar, March 18 and 19.

In addition to adding to students’ general knowledge of South America’s largest country, the Seminar also prepares students who have elected to go on the Study Tour to Brazil, planned for April 24 to May 8, 2005.

The community is welcome to attend presentations made by visiting scholars. For presentation times and for more information, please contact Dr. Karen Blaisure at karen.blaisure@wmich.edu or 387-3663.

Leadership academy for aspiring administrators held at West Main Professional Center: The Educational Leadership Academy was held at the West Main Professional Center on December 7 and 8. Twenty-five aspiring administrators from Southwest Michigan school districts participated in the two-day workshop. Following the workshop, each participant will be assigned to a principal for 15 months. During this period, academy participants serve in an internship with a participating principal. Students complete 13 investigative activities under the supervision of their mentor. Academy participants also complete a second district experience and participate in a weekday simulation, which consists of case students, role playing, and developing a decision-making model. According to project director, Van Cooley, the Leadership Academy is designed to provide teachers with a realistic overview of educational leadership. The Leadership Academy is funded through a $2,100,000 grant from the United States Department of Education. The initiative is a partnership between Kalamazoo RESA and the Department of Teaching, Learning, and Leadership.

Lee Honors College

On February 12 and 19, the University will be playing host to some 800 talented high school students and their parents as part of our annual Medallion Program. In order to help determine who will be the winners of the prestigious Medallion Scholarship, each of the students will be interviewed by WMU faculty members. These students, who have all expressed an interest in coming to WMU, will have an opportunity to see the campus, to familiarize themselves with our programs at a University Showcase, attend sample classes, and participate in many other ways to see the life of the university.

A significant part of the on-campus hospitality will be provided by students from the Lee Honors College. Some 80 current Medallion Scholars as well as members of the Honors Student Association will be guiding campus tours, helping with a multitude of logistical concerns, and welcoming some of the prospective students for overnight stays on campus.

College of Engineering

Cimatron helps WMU bring manufacturing professionals up to speed with advanced CAD/CAM solution: Continuing a tradition of collaboration with educational institutions, Cimatron Technologies has donated $12.6m, worth of its leading tooling industry CAD/CAM software to Western Michigan University. In partnership with Cimatron, Intelligent Manufacturing Software Inc. (IMS) has also donated $1m in post-processing software.

Cimatron’s software will be used primarily by students in WMU’s manufacturing engineering technology program, as well as the manufacturing engineering off-campus program located in Muskegon and Battle Creek, Michigan. The latter program is held in multiple locations around the state, allowing full-time workers to keep their jobs while acquiring advanced education at a local facility. Students attending the program come from diverse manufacturing industries, including mold and die shops, fabricating, metal, plastics, automotive, aerospace, and heavy equipment. Program graduates hold a range of manufacturing engineering positions, with responsibilities ranging from design to manufacturing processes, quality control, and a variety of management positions.

Leadership academy for aspiring administrators held at West Main Professional Center: The Educational Leadership Academy was held at the West Main Professional Center on December 7 and 8. Twenty-five aspiring administrators from Southwest Michigan school districts participated in the two-day workshop. Following the workshop, each participant will be assigned to a principal for 15 months. During this period, academy participants serve in an internship with a participating principal. Students complete 13 investigative activities under the supervision of their mentor. Academy participants also complete a second district experience and participate in a weekday simulation, which consists of case students, role playing, and developing a decision-making model. According to project director, Van Cooley, the Leadership Academy is designed to provide teachers with a realistic overview of educational leadership. The Leadership Academy is funded through a $2,100,000 grant from the United States Department of Education. The initiative is a partnership between Kalamazoo RESA and the Department of Teaching, Learning, and Leadership.

Lee Honors College

On February 12 and 19, the University will be playing host to some 800 talented high school students and their parents as part of our annual Medallion Program. In order to help determine who will be the winners of the prestigious Medallion Scholarship, each of the students will be interviewed by WMU faculty members. These students, who have all expressed an interest in coming to WMU, will have an opportunity to see the campus, to familiarize themselves with our programs at a University Showcase, attend sample classes, and participate in many other ways to see the life of the university.

A significant part of the on-campus hospitality will be provided by students from the Lee Honors College. Some 80 current Medallion Scholars as well as members of the Honors Student Association will be guiding campus tours, helping with a multitude of logistical concerns, and welcoming some of the prospective students for overnight stays on campus.

College of Engineering

Cimatron helps WMU bring manufacturing professionals up to speed with advanced CAD/CAM solution: Continuing a tradition of collaboration with educational institutions, Cimatron Technologies has donated $12.6m, worth of its leading tooling industry CAD/CAM software to Western Michigan University. In partnership with Cimatron, Intelligent Manufacturing Software Inc. (IMS) has also donated $1m in post-processing software.

Cimatron’s software will be used primarily by students in WMU’s manufacturing engineering technology program, as well as the manufacturing engineering off-campus program located in Muskegon and Battle Creek, Michigan. The latter program is held in multiple locations around the state, allowing full-time workers to keep their jobs while acquiring advanced education at a local facility. Students attending the program come from diverse manufacturing industries, including mold and die shops, fabricating, metal, plastics, automotive, aerospace, and heavy equipment. Program graduates hold a range of manufacturing engineering positions, with responsibilities ranging from design to manufacturing processes, quality control, and a variety of management positions.

Continued on page 3
Items of Academic Interest Continued...

“Having access to such advanced educational programs in a local setting helps students advance their careers and knowledge, while helping the manufacturing industry upgrade its overall employee skill level,” says John Patten, professor and chair of Manufacturing Engineering at Western Michigan University. “It’s a win-win situation for all involved.”

Cimatron is a leading developer of integrated CAD/CAM solutions for the tooling industry. For over twenty years, Cimatron has been helping mold, tool and die makers streamline manufacturing cycles and shorten product delivery times. As described in a recent independent review by the leading industry research firm, “CIMdata is favorably impressed by Cimatron’s focus on the tooling industry, the breadth of product offerings for toolmakers from design to manufacturing, and the continued introduction of advanced product capabilities to meet user needs.”

Cimatron E is the company’s flagship product suite, providing a single integrated solution for design and NC, including data import, manufacturing modeling, core and cavity parting, mold base design, electrode design and machining, drafting, NC programming, and engineering change orders.

“We are excited for our students to have access to the Cimatron software,” says Patten. “We see it as a unifying platform that can be used throughout the curriculum with seamless integration from design to manufacturing, versus using different programs for each task.”

In December, the WMU Board of Trustees approved a new Master of Science in Nursing degree, effective fall 2005.

Faculty Accolades

College of Fine Arts

Professor of Art Mary-Louise Totton wrote a chapter titled “Cosmopolitan Tastes and Indigenous Designs: Virtual cloth in a Javanese candi” in the edited book, *Textiles in Indian Ocean Societies* (ed. Dr. Ruth Barnes, Routledge Publishers, London), which was released December 2004. This is the first book dedicated to textiles as major commodities, aesthetic vehicles, and identifiers in this region.

The Merling Trio (Renata Artman Knific, Bruce Uchimura, and Susan Wiersma Uchimura, School of Music) performed and taught master classes throughout the country Fall 2004. In September, the group toured Spokane, Washington, where they gave an invitational performance at the Western Arts Alliance National Conference. In October, the trio toured Iowa with guest artistsTom Knific, double bass professor, WMU School of Music, and Christine Rutledge, viola professor at the University of Iowa, not only performing but participating in educational residency activities. In November the trio toured Montana for a performance for the Dillon Concert Association. December included performances for the Hart Concert Association in Hart, Michigan; the Trinity Lutheran Centennial Series in Kalamazoo; the Century Village Theaters in Boca Raton; Pembroke Pines, Florida; and the New Year’s Fest in Kalamazoo.

Associate professor of Dance David Curwen was named president-elect of the International CORPS’ de Ballet at the annual conference at Columbia College in Columbia, SC. The president-elect serves a two-year term before assuming the presidency of CORPS for the following two years.

Associate professor of Dance Jane Baas has been named chairperson of the newly formed Dance Kinesiology special-interest group of the International Association of Dance Medicine and Science.

The 2005 Jackson Area Juried Show at the Ella Sharp Museum features art by School of Art exhibitions director Jacquelyn Ruttinger and adjunct professor Eve Reid. Ruttinger is exhibiting an acrylic airbrush painting, “Ode to the American Soldier,” which received the Best of Show award. Reid is exhibiting a large handmade paper construction. The show continues through March 24, 2005.

College of Health and Human Services

Dr. Paul Ponchillia, chair of the Department of Blindness and Low Vision Studies, has been named one of five recipients of the Caring for Children Angel Award by Blue Cross-Blue Shield of Michigan.

Dr. Ronald Kramer received the Lifetime Achievement Award from the American Society of Criminology at the 2004 ASC Convention in Nashville, TN.

We welcome Art Winslow as our visiting writer in creative non-fiction for the Spring 2005 semester. He will be teaching a non-fiction workshop and a class in literary publishing. Art is the former literary editor of The Nation and a former president of the National Book Critics Circle. He is currently writing reviews for the New York Times, the Chicago Tribune, and New York Newsday. He’s also at work on a novel and a book of non-fiction.

Jana Schulman, won a FRACASF award for 2003-2004 to work on her translation and edition of Jónsbók; presented a paper, “The Comedy of Cross-Dressing: Redressing Rape in Viglundar saga” last May at the International Congress on Medieval Studies; and received tenure (May 2004). In February, she and Hilary Fox, a graduate student at the Medieval Institute, will present their co-authored paper, “Dispensing ‘Bitter’ Drink: Alcohol and the Escalation of Violence in Volsunga saga,” at the 11th Annual Arizona Center for Medieval Studies. The conference was held from March 21 to 24, 2001.

Continued on page 4

January 2005 • Prism 3
American History through Literature, 1870-Qeds. Quirk Goldberg, Ralph Angel, Jamie D'Agostino, Jean Valentine, of TriQuarterly, an issue that includes work by Adrienne Rich, Bill Olsen and Nancy Eimers co-edited the most recent issue well received and was followed by workshop sessions on using digital archives in the classroom.

Allen Webb was the keynote speaker at two NCTE-sponsored state affiliate conferences in Oregon in October in Portland and Grants Pass. His talk titled “Literature’s Special Power” was well received and was followed by workshop sessions on using digital archives in the classroom.

Bill Olsen and Nancy Eimers co-edited the most recent issue of TriQuarterly, an issue that includes work by Adrienne Rich, Marvin Bell, Campbell McGrath, Mary Ruefle, Beckian Fritz Goldberg, Ralph Angel, Jamie D’Agostino, Jean Valentine, Mark Halliday, John Koethe, Norman Dubie, Lucia Perillo and many others.

Nic Witschi presented on “What We Still Talk About When We Talk About Regionalism” at the Western Literature Association Meeting in Big Sky, MT, in September. His essay on late-19th-century literary engagements with natural resource management industries has been accepted for publication in American History through Literature, 1870-1920 (eds. Quirk and Schambhorst), to be published by Scribner’s/Thomson Gale in 2005.

Eve Salisbury presented a paper entitled “Spiritual Erotics: Rereading Criseyde’s Desire” at the Medieval and Early Modern Literature Conference held at Daegu University in South Korea. At the upcoming MLA conference in Philadelphia, she is scheduled to chair a session on the “Moral Chaucer.”

Volume 38.1 of Comparative Drama is now available. The next issue, currently underway, features essays on Shakespeare’s Richard III, Carol Churchill’s Serious Money, eighteenth-century social comedies, and Chinese opera.

New Issues has been awarded a grant again this year from the Michigan Council for the Arts and Cultural Affairs (MCACA). The $17,400 award will support publication of the 2005 Inland Seas poetry books series. Kudos to Managing Editor Marianne Swierenga, who wrote the grant.

Karen Vocke received a grant from the Dean’s office to implement service learning projects with her pre-service teachers in ENGL 369, Teaching Writing in the Elementary School. Two projects are in full swing at Washington Writers’ Academy (WWA), a KPS magnet school. One is an after-school Drama Club, in collaboration with WWA teacher Beverly Wilson, in which WMU students guide elementary students through the script-writing and performance process. The second project involves WMU pre-service teachers in the work of WWA fifth-graders in teacher Patricia Bills’ class in preparing for National History Day. In the spring, these fifth-graders will visit WMU’s campus for a day-long Writing Camp organized by the ENGL 369 students.

Tom Bailey and Katherine Joslin presented papers at an international conference on “Water Writing and Modernity,” held November 18-19 in Cascais, Portugal. During the conference, they were the guests of the Catholic University of Portugal and attended a state dinner hosted by the Portuguese undersecretary of state for naval affairs. Katherine will be reading a paper on Mary Church Terrell as part of a session on non-fiction prose, entitled “Race, Reportage and War,” at the upcoming MLA Convention in Philadelphia.

Steve Feffer’s play “Little Airplanes of the Heart” was presented in October in an English-language production by a director at Matsuyama University in Japan. The play, which normally features a cast of three males and four females, was presented with all the roles played by women.

Beth Bradburn presented a paper entitled “From Spectacle to Performance in Burton’s Anatomy” at the Comparative Renaissance Prose Conference, Purdue University, November 4-5, 2004.

Charie Thrallserves as co -editor of Technical Communication Quarterly (TCQ). Published four times a year by Lawrence Erlbaum Associates, TCQ is a peer-reviewed, scholarly journal with a 30-year history of publishing articles on the teaching, study, and practice of communication in academic, scientific, technical, governmental, and business/industrial fields. Upon assuming the editorship, Charie and Mark Zachry (co-editor at Utah State University) have introduced a number of new features to the journal, including an interview series profiling a major researcher or theorist who does not typically publish in technical communication but whose work is clearly influencing research in the field. The latest issue (Autumn, 2004) inaugurates this series with an in-depth interview the editors conducted with Edward R. Tufte, a preeminent authority on the science and aesthetics of analytic design (i.e., visual displays that serve as evidence). In October, Charie also made presentations on two panels at the annual conference of the Association for Business Communication in Boston.

Janet Heller’s story for children, “How the Moon Regained Her Shape,” has been accepted for publication by Sylvan Dell Publishing. Also, her Sisterhood at the Congregation of Moses just received a national award from the Women’s League for Conservative Judaism, for a retreat organized by Janet that included a tour of the French painting exhibit at the Kalamazoo Institute of Art, a catered luncheon, a talk by Janet about Joan Koehler’s story “The Passover Guest,” group singing, and swimming.

WMU’s Department of English made a major showing at the NCTE National Conference in Indianapolis in November. Allen Webb, Connie Weaver, Ellen Brinkley, Jonathan Bush, and Karen Vocke all attended and presented, as did graduate students Jennifer Smith, Nat O’Reilly, Dan Baker, Gretchen Voskuil, Jennifer Johnson, Tracy Jiang, and CJ Gilbert. Also in attendance were Shannon Mortimore, and undergraduates Abby Zlondike, Jessica Gyursck, and Sam Boyd. In addition to presentations, WMU faculty played leadership roles in the Writing Project, Conference in English Education, and Assembly on Computers in English meetings. Two well-attended panels showcased presentations about the WMU doctoral program in English Education—rapidly developing a reputation as one of the best in the country.
Faculty Accolades Continued...

**COLLEGE OF AVIATION**

Dr. William Hamman was a key speaker at the University of Miami Jackson Memorable Hospital Center for Patient Safety Grand Opening events on Thursday January 13, 2005. This grand opening was attended by many senior leaders and politicians, including Governor Jeb Bush, president of the AMA, Donna Shalala, and over 200 health care professionals. Dr. Hamman highlighted the work being formulated at Western Michigan University’s, College of Aviation center for aviation and medical research, and how it will provide critical elements for patient safety initiatives.

**HAWORTH COLLEGE OF BUSINESS**

David A. Burnie (HCoB), David Hurtt (ACTY) and Sheldon A. Langsam (ACTY) had the following published, “Twenty-First-Century Check Clearing: Are You Ready? The Journal of Corporate Accounting & Finance, November/December 2004, pp. 21-26. Published online in Wiley InterScience www.interscience.wiley.com.


Pairin Katerattanakul, Bernard Han, and Alan Rea, from the Department of Business Information Systems, have had their article titled "Is Information Systems a Reference Discipline?" accepted for publication in the Communications of the ACM.

**COLLEGE OF EDUCATION**

Make A Difference Awards: Amy Burns, Cathe Springsteen, and Sandra Stephens have received Make a Difference awards and were recognized at a public ceremony Friday, December 3. Each semiannual award winner receives a commemorative certificate and a $250 cash award. Excerpts from nominations include: Sandra Stephens: Sandy’s work is always excellent. She exhibits such an enthusiasm for learning new things and continues to seek out and participate in new training activities. Sandy has had to pick up quite a bit of additional work as a result, but she still completes everything on time and with grace. I’m not quite sure how she’s doing it, but she makes it look effortless. She doesn't complain, though I know she rarely gets a minute to rest or take a full lunch break. She’s simply always on the job, and always smiling. Amy Burns: Her 16 years of service to the college brings stability and knowledge beyond that normally required to be successful in her position. Amy anticipates deadlines and keeps the office on track. This is important, but even more so now that we are down two staff positions and things could easily slip through the cracks. Not only does she make sure things are done on time but, somehow, she manages to complete twice her usual assignments with the highest quality. Cathe Springsteen: Cathe is one of those quiet, steady people who sit back and give their all to support the work of others. Consequently, it is easy to overlook them when it comes time to nominate for awards. To do that would be a real shame, as everything Cathe does on a daily basis is literally “making a difference.” Again, this kind of behind-the-scenes work is so often innocently overlooked—but we would be at a loss were Cathe not there doing her job every day.

Phi Delta Kappa and College of Education Hold Toy and Clothing Drive: On December 3rd, Phi Delta Kappa (PDK) and the College of Education concluded the 2nd Annual Holiday Toy and Clothing Drive. PDK members and College of Education faculty and staff donated close to $1,000 in new snowsuits, blankets, stuffed animals, and toys for children. The donations have been given to the Kalamazoo YMCA’s Domestic Assault Shelter.

**LEE HONORS COLLEGE**

Dr. Lawrence Ziring, Professor of Political Science, will be speaking as part of Phi Kappa Phi’s Winter Forum. Dr. Ziring’s presentation, entitled “Prospects and Pitfalls in United States Middleast Policy,” will take place on Tuesday, February 22, at 4:00 p.m. in the lounge of the Lee Honors College. It is open to the public.

**Student Accolades**

**COLLEGE OF EDUCATION**

Former EMR 652 Students Traveled to the American Evaluation Conference 2004: For the third consecutive year, several former students of the course EMR 652: Evaluation Practicum in the Evaluation, Measurement, and Research (EMR) Program represented WMU at the American Evaluation Association (AEA) Conference. The Annual AEA Conference, held in Atlanta, Georgia, played host to nine students who were previously enrolled in EMR 652, taught by Dr. Liliana Rodriguez-Campos. Since Dr. Rodriguez became the professor of the graduate evaluation courses in the EMR Program, she has been motivating her students to go beyond the course’s objectives in order to represent WMU in important evaluation events. With Dr. Rodriguez’s encouragement and guidance, every year her doctoral students have prepared and submitted their evaluation proposals to be presented at the AEA Conference. As a result, once again this year, students’ proposals were accepted and they traveled to Atlanta, Georgia.

Continued on page 6
to present their work. In addition, two of these students were awarded with the AEA 2004 Student Travel Award (Mukaria J Itang’ata, and Donghai Xie) and a student was awarded with WMU at the AEA Conference: Jafar Momani). The following are the doctoral students who represented WMU at the AEA Conference:

- **John Brusk** and **David MacQuarrie** with the paper entitled: “Fostering program improvement through participant accountability: Application of a personnel evaluation strategy to determine the merit of an innovative public health approach to preventing the use of alcohol, tobacco and other drugs among adolescents.”
- **Xiaofan Cai** with the paper entitled: “How do I get a job in your organization? Advice to those seeking careers in various evaluation fields.”
- **Mukaria Itang’ata** with the papers entitled: “Applying the outcome-based evaluation model to evaluate a multiple component educational project/program” and “Theories of systemic change, evaluation capacity building, and role of evaluators in systemic reform.”
- **Donghai Xie** and **Xuejin Lu** with the paper entitled: “Evaluating the primary English teachers training program in Guangdong teachers’ college of foreign language and art.”
- **Jafar Momani** with the paper entitled: “Evaluation of environmental health and safety requirements in synthesis of an active pharmaceutical ingredient (API) from intermediate ingredients.”
- **Michael Nokes** with the paper entitled: “Time is money: Evaluating the impact of short-term therapy on recidivism.”
- **Ebrima Nying** with the paper entitled: “Evaluating the ability of demographic and admission variables to predict success in a graduate program.”

Students in Dr. Allyson Downey’s Class Hold Creative Arts Symposium: On December 3rd, Elementary Education students from assistant professor **Allison Downey**’s ED 430: Creativity in the Classroom courses showcased their semester’s work at the first-ever Creative Arts Symposium, held in Sangren Hall. ED 430 is the capstone course for the Integrated Creative Arts Minor for Elementary Education Majors. Students presented their Interdisciplinary Thematic Arts Integrated Units in a conference-style format for interested faculty, administration, and students. For the previous five weeks, students in the classes had worked in teacher teams (one for every elementary grade level), with each student serving as an “expert” in a particular core subject area. This technique, termed “jigsaw,” offers the entire class exposure to content and strategies for every subject and every grade level, while giving them the satisfaction of mastering one area of specialization. This project prepares our future teachers to work collaboratively to create interdisciplinary teaching units (2-3 weeks long) that are unified by an important theme and that utilize arts integration as a teaching strategy. **Dean Wegenke** and Dr. **Van Cooley**, chair of the Teaching, Learning, and Leadership Department, attended the symposium and interviewed students about their projects.

**Education Students Support Homeless Shelter:** A fall semester project developed out of WMU’s ED 350 Class, “Young Children, Their Families and Society,” has resulted in more than $5,000 of useful items being collected and donated to Housing Resources Inc.’s Eleanor Street Shelter in Kalamazoo to help area families that have become homeless. ED 350 students participate in “academic service learning” by spending time at the Eleanor shelter, then creating and implementing a project to help homeless children and their families by working with Johanna Madden Gross, resource director of Housing Resources Inc. “These students really went out of their way to help and did a wonderful job,” says Dr. **Josephine Davis**, assistant professor of Teaching, Learning and Leadership, and the instructor for ED 350. “Through their efforts, two other organizations also contributed to the project. The Perrigo Pharmaceutical Supplies Co. in Allegan gave about $1,000 of items and the Fabri-Kal Co. in Kalamazoo gave about $500 of items.”

**COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING**

IEEE sponsors first Engineering Paper Contest: Five engineering students won writing awards in the first WMU Engineering Paper Contest, sponsored by the student chapter of the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers (IEEE). **Elizabeth (Libby) Evans**, **Daniel Grupp**, **Matthew Starr** and **Zoheb Qureshi** won prizes in the contest, which offered two categories for graduate students and two categories for undergraduate students: “Electrical and Computer Engineering” and “All Other Majors.”

Two seniors majoring in computer engineering (CPE) earned the top spots in the undergraduate “Electrical and Computer Engineering” category. **Matthew Starr** won first place with a paper on WiMax, a wireless technology that has the potential to provide Internet service to remote areas and to developing nations. He plans to represent WMU’s IEEE chapter at the regional competition next April. **Zoheb Qureshi** took second place with a paper on supernova explosions and their applications.

In the graduate “All Other Majors” category, **Jai Thomas**, who will complete his IEG master’s program in April 2005, won first place with a paper on brake hose modeling. He plans to pursue a PhD in industrial engineering. In the undergraduate “All Other Majors” category, **Daniel Grupp**, a senior industrial engineering (IEN) major, took first place for a paper on nanotechnology. Second place went to **Libby Evans**, a junior IEN major, who wrote about Six Sigma. All the winners gave short oral presentations on their topics. First-place undergrad winners received $50, and all winners received certificates. Funds for the prizes were donated by Blue Granite and IEEE.

**COLLEGE OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

The department of Occupational Therapy has announced that **Karin Brems**, in the recipient of the Marion R. Spear award, named for the founder of the OT program at Western. Brems is a graduate student pursuing her Master’s in Occupational Therapy degree.
The Gold Company Sextet, under the direction of Dr. Stephen Zegree, School of Music, toured Belgium and France this past fall. They were one of 12 vocal groups selected from throughout the world (and the only vocal jazz group and the only group from the USA) to be featured at the Polyfollia festival (www.polyfollia.org) in St. Lo, France.

Of 16 Irene Ryan acting finalists from Region 3 of the American College Theatre Festival (ACTF), five were from the WMU Department of Theatre. (Region 3 includes five states—Michigan, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois and Wisconsin.) Katie Duthler won an award for the best scene of the competition, and, for the first time in 30 years, a Department of Theatre major, Larry Herron, was selected to go to the Kennedy Center for two consecutive years. Larry played the role of Othello in the department’s recent production.

The Department of Theatre production of Othello was also selected to participate in the Region 3 ACTF competition. Team members will be notified in March if they are selected to perform at the Kennedy Center in April. The national judge told faculty and students that WMU’s Othello set a new standard for the production of Shakespeare at the college level.

Joe Johnson as Iago (left) and Larry Herron as Othello (right). Photo by Mary Whalen

On February 18, the College of Health and Human Services will hold its annual Faculty and Staff Recognition reception, which will recognize publications, grants and contracts, and distinguished accomplishments.

On February 9, the School of Social Work will hold its fifth annual agency and career fair at the Fetzer Center. Undergraduate and graduate students from the Kalamazoo, Benton Harbor, and Grand Rapids programs will meet to learn more about the agencies affiliated with the school. They will also be able to discuss internship and employment opportunities.

Clarence, Condoleezza, & Colin: Dismantling The House That Race Built “The contemporary world’s work has become policing, halting, forming policy, regarding and trying to administer the movement of people. Nationhood—the very definition of citizenship—is constantly being demarcated and re-demarcated in response to exiles, refugees, gastarbieter, immigrants, migrations, the displaced, the fleeing, and the besieged. The anxiety of belonging is ennobled within the central metaphors in the discourse on globalization, transnationalism, nationalism, the break-up of federations, the rescheduling of alliances, and fictions of sovereignty. Yet these figurations of nationhood and identity are frequently as raced themselves as the originating racial house that defined them. When they are not raced, they are...imaginary landscape, never inscape; Utopia, never home.” (Toni Morrison’s essay “Home” in The House That Race Built, 1997).

Supposedly, we now live in a world where race as identity does not matter. Nowhere is this more apparent than in the Bush family dynasty. The appointment of Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas by George H. Bush in 1991, and the appointments of National Security Advisor Condoleezza Rice and Secretary of State Colin Powell by George W. Bush in 2000; suggest that the war for Civil Rights has been won. But has it? Are these Affirmative Action appointments or are they proof that America has transcended racism altogether? In today’s academy, notable Africanist (American) scholars and activists still maintain that race does, in fact matter; while defenders of Western hegemony [Americanist (African) scholars] contend that race is not a factor in the struggle of Black America.

Therefore, it is important for scholars “to debate and discuss” the issue of race in the United States and its impact abroad. Scholars and activists who are clearing intellectual and moral space where racial constructs are being forced to reveal their...
struts and bolts, their technology and their carapace, so that political action, legal and social thought, and cultural production can be generated" (Morrison, "Home," 1997) are invited to submit proposals for a one-day conference hosted by the Africana Studies Program and the Lewis Walker Institute for the Study of Race and Ethnic Relations at Western Michigan University. The conference will take place on Friday, February 18, 2005 from 10:00-4:00 p.m. at the Fetzer Center. Please submit 250-word proposals for paper panels, workshops, and roundtable discussions by February 1 to: LPOTTER@wmich.edu. A Conference Registration Form will be sent to you electronically if your proposal is accepted. Accepted proposals will be acknowledged by February 4. We welcome papers that engage (but are not limited to): the politics of race and multiculturalism, the trans-substantiation of race, imagining race without dominance or hierarchy, transcending race, critical race theory, the politics of race in the academy, race and K-12 education, default whiteness and cyberspace, the shifting paradigms of race and ethnicity, community building and race, race and genetics, race and the media, representations of race-class-gender-sexual orientation, legacies and challenges of the modern-day Civil Rights movement, the Great Debate: Affirmative Action, or the New American Imperialism.

The Africana Studies Program is to celebrate its 3rd Annual Africana Studies Week entitled "Black Love: Unified with Pride & Alive in 2005." The week’s activities will culminate with Dr. Karla Holloway—William R. Kenan, Jr. professor of English, professor of African and African-American Studies and the dean of Humanities and Social Sciences at Duke University—as luncheon-keynote speaker. Professor Holloway’s most recent publication, Passed On: African-American Mourning Stories, is a cultural and historic look at bereavement, death, dying, and burial in twentieth century African America. She is also the author of Codes of Conduct: Race, Ethics, and the Color of Our Character; Moorings and Metaphors: Figures of Culture and Gender in Black Women’s Literature; and The Character of the Word: The Texts of Zora Neale Hurston. Her research and teaching interests include literacy, cultural studies, language, 20th century American and African American literature, and linguistics.

What We’re Reading

No items were submitted for this issue.

Prism Newsletter

Editor-in-Chief: Linda Delene
Editor: Jonathan Rush
Production: Sue Brodasky
Design Consultant: Frederick Burbach
Designer: Duston Santana

Accredited—The Higher Learning Commission; Member—North Central Association

January 2005 • Prism 8