Western Michigan College Newsletter, December 1955

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1956-57 Budget Requests

Operation $3,753,284;  
Capital Outlay $1,737,675

The needs for more funds to operate Western Michigan College during the next fiscal year, beginning July 1, 1956, have been compiled by officers of the college, with requests to total $5,490,959, including operating and capital outlay sums.

President Paul V. Sangren states that the expanding needs of the college are reflected in the request for 30 new teachers, two administrative officers and a librarian, as well as the host of items of equipment, the many services needed and the maintenance and clerical personnel so necessary to the operation of a large physical plant.

Of considerable concern to Dr. Sangren and others has been the high student-teacher ratio, a factor reflected in the very low per capita cost of education at Western Michigan. In fact, the current operation year shows an astonishingly low figure of $477 per student per year.

A breakdown of the 1956-57 budget requests shows that $3,090,835 would be used for salaries and wages; $337,596 for contractual services, supplies and materials; $124,853 for the purchase of new equipment, bringing the total current operation requests to $3,753,284.

Added to this to bring the five and one-half million dollar total is $1,737,675 for capital outlay expenditures, the first project of a five-year program. This breaks down to $22,675 for special maintenance projects; $150,000 for remodeling and additions, and the major portion, $1,565,000 for the construction of a new general library on the west campus.

In subdividing the salaries and wages one finds that 9.3 per cent of the $3,090,835 goes to 62 persons in administration; 67.8 per cent for 363 persons in instruction; 2.4 per cent for 15 librarians; 10.9 per cent for 95 persons in maintenance and operations; 1.2 per cent for 16 persons on a part-time basis; 3.7 per cent for student help, miscellaneous and seasonal, and 4.7 per cent for summer session instruction.

"The total effect of the increase of nearly 650 students since the fall of 1954 clearly establishes the necessity of adding to the teaching personnel if we are to keep the class size down, to avoid student mortality, and inferior teaching. The backlog of shortage in teaching personnel over the past years has shown up both in the student-teacher ratio and in the small per capita costs," says the justification of requests.

Included in the capital outlay requests are $150,000 for remodeling the present men's and woman's gymnasium, to be used in the future by the women and the training school, respectively; $1,440,000 for a new west campus library; $80,000 for planning of the proposed new natural science building; $30,000 for tennis courts and $15,000 for an incinerator.
Between Nov. 14 and Dec. 9 Western Michigan College lost three valued faculty members by death. They are:

Roy E. Joyce
Carl R. Cooper
Robert J. Eldridge

Mr. Joyce had been stricken during the summer session and after extensive surgery had lingered on until Nov. 14. Death came in the Bronson Methodist hospital.

He had been a member of the faculty since 1939, and in 1952 was promoted to associate professor. Much of his time was devoted to teaching healthful living and allied courses in the biology department.

Of late his interests had turned to alcohol education, and after spending a summer at Yale University, he had begun pioneer work in this area in “Problems in Alcohol Education.” His first class was under the field services division in Muskegon last spring, and it was planned to continue the work locally during August and this fall.

Mr. Joyce had also been instrumental in the establishment on the campus of an alcohol education center, designed to promote the dissemination of literature and other information in this area.

He held degrees from Ohio Wesleyan University, Ohio State University, and the University of Michigan. Mr. Joyce leaves his wife, Marion, one son and two daughters.

Later that same week, Nov. 18, Carl R. Cooper, former alumni secretary and a member of the student personnel and guidance staff, was stricken with a heart attack and succumbed.

Mr. Cooper received his life certificate from Western Michigan in 1910, and later graduated from Columbia University. From 1912 to 1928 he was a teacher in the Kalamazoo public schools, leaving there to become alumni secretary on this campus. He continued in this post until 1948 when he was made a counselor.

In 1937 Mr. Cooper was one of the founders of the Future Teachers of America group on the Western campus and had continued as a sponsor to the time of his death. Two years ago the students honored him with the presentation of life memberships in the Michigan Education Association and the National Education Association, this being the first such honor conferred in the United States.

He joined the local Exchange club in 1920, was president in 1932 and continued as a very active member to the present time. He had also served as president of the Kalamazoo Better Citizenship Council and the Kalamazoo Executives club.

Mr. Cooper left his wife, the former Ruth Cole '15; a daughter Mrs. Phyllis Meyer '41, and a son, Carl, Jr., '51.

A heart attack during the evening of Dec. 9 brought death to Robert J. Eldridge, a member of the chemistry faculty since 1922.

He was a graduate of Kalamazoo College in 1916 and the University of Chicago in 1922. During the 1929-1930 college year he taught at the University of California.

Mr. Eldridge leaves his wife, Ruth, and three daughters, Mrs. Patricia Bouwman '43, Mrs. Mary Fowler '46 and Mrs. Ann Satin. A son, Lt. Robert Eldridge '42, was killed in action Nov. 13, 1944. Last spring a memorial window was dedicated in the Kanley Memorial chapel to the memory of Lt. Eldridge.
Expansion Planned for Paper Technology

Sometime after the first of the year it is expected that advertising for bids for the proposed addition to McCracken hall will be instituted.

This partial two-floor addition will house the very cramped paper technology department, one of the fastest growing units in the Western Michigan academic program.

More than 100 students are now enrolled in the department, which trains technicians and sales personnel for the paper industry.

Ralph R. Calder, Detroit architect, is completing plans, and with construction due to begin in the spring, it is expected that the building will be completed and ready for occupancy in fall semester of 1956.

Dr. A. H. Nadelman, head of the paper technology department, is already making plans for the dedication of the new unit.

The accompanying floor plans and exterior sketch will give an idea of just what is planned. The addition will be connected to the present laboratories contained on the ground floor of McCracken hall.

New offices, a library and seminar room, staff laboratories and a room for fiber microscopy and microscopy and microbiology will have a northeast exposure on the main floor. While across the hall will be located a classroom, advanced laboratory, testing laboratory and stock and storage room.

Of considerable interest to the paper faculty is the pilot area, providing space 24 by 66 feet and connected to the present pulp laboratory. At present the department is gravely short of needed space for even laboratory-scaled paper making equipment. A repair shop and bleaching laboratory will be reached from the pilot area.

On the lower floor, the department will have a large lecture room seating 144 persons, with a projection room provided for the showing of films. Another classroom and advanced laboratory will also be provided on this floor.
Two January Concerts Set By Band, Choir

Two outstanding musical concerts are planned by Western Michigan organizations in early January.

On Sunday, Jan. 8, the 100-piece concert band will present its 11th annual winter band concert at 4 p.m. in Central high school auditorium.

John Schuster, who joined the faculty as a woodwind instructor this fall, will be the featured soloist. Also appearing will be a flute quartet, composed of Julie Maikle, Jean Morris, Patricia Schaefer and Richard Swinsick.

Of three compositions to be presented for the first time in Kalamazoo, one is "Band Day," a march composed by the director, Leonard V. Meretta.

The following Tuesday evening, Jan. 10, the college choral groups move into the CHS auditorium for a concert commemorating the centennial of "Hiawatha" and the Sault Ste. Marie canal.

Dr. Elwyn Carter has arranged an interesting program featuring "Hiawatha's Wedding Feast" (Taylor). The women's glee club, men's glee club, auxiliary choir and college choir will take part.

Dr. Willis F. Dunbar, WMC history professor and a member of the Michigan Historical Commission, will act as the narrator.

January Basketball

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<td>Jan. 4</td>
<td>Bowling Green</td>
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<td>Jan. 7</td>
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<td>Jan. 9</td>
<td>At Ohio University</td>
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'The Second Man' Opens Jan. 12

"The Second Man," a 1929 play by S. N. Behrman that has been frequently revived on Broadway and throughout the nation, will be presented by the Western Michigan Players Jan. 12, 13 and 14, in the college theatre.

Faber DeChaine, a new member of the speech faculty this year, will have an opportunity to direct this production, with Dr. Zack York assuming the role of the technical director.

For students have been chosen for the production: Sherwood Snyder will play Clark Storey; Sylvia Jean Hauch as Monica Gray; Lynn Salisbury as Austin Lowe and Caroline Fox as Kendall Franye.

Behrman's latest, "Fanny," is now a successful Broadway production.

Two power-tune courses for modern automotive engine servicing are to be presented in a cooperative effort by the college and the Allen Electric and Equipment Company. The first five-lesson course opens Jan. 9 and the second Jan. 19. Herbert Ellinger will instruct.

The physics department has received the gift of an $800 Monroe calculator from Mrs. Paul Rood.