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Donor Profiles
School of Communication Launches Capital Campaign:
Our Second Century—Honoring the Past, Embracing the Future, Invest in Our Next 100 Years!

News and Events
Major Excitement II is September 20
Vaccinology Seminar Series starts September 10

Mock Trial Program a Legacy
Peter Renstrom’s Legacy Lives on

Faces of Success
The School of Communication will embark this year on a capital campaign entitled: Our Second Century—Honoring the Past, Embracing the Future, Invest in Our Next 100 Years! The goal of the campaign will be to build on the gifts the School received this year and to raise additional endowment-focused support that will help guarantee a bright future for the School of Communication.

To launch the campaign and ensure its ultimate success, five significant and generous gifts have recently been committed to the School of Communication. The leadership gift of $500,000 from 1956 alumnus Jack Clifford will provide both immediate and long-term funding for three critical areas within the School: the creation of the Clifford Media and Communication Resource Center in the newly renovated Brown Hall; an endowment to support and enhance the ongoing activities of the Clifford Center; and an endowment for research and creative activities of our undergraduates, graduate students, and faculty.

Why make such a gift? “I have had a long and rewarding career in the communication industry. I owe my successful career to my start at WMU and now I want to give back. Over the years, I have learned that few things in life give me a greater sense of accomplishment than helping young people grow,” says Clifford.

Clifford received his B.A. in Communication in 1956 and was one of the students who helped create Western’s campus radio station WIDR-FM. He is a life member of the WMU Alumni Association and a member to the WIDR-FM Alumni Association. Though semi-retired, Clifford currently serves as a consultant to major broadcast corporations including Ziff-Davis Publishing, Belo, ABN, AHN and TVFN; is active in the community through the Clifford Family Charitable Foundation; is a guest lecturer at numerous universities; and has received a variety of cable TV industry awards. Clifford has been in the broadcast industry for more than 50 years. He got his start as the first sports anchorman at KTVK in July 1957. He left KTVK in 1962 to work at KTAR-TV in their sales department. Eight years later, he became the station’s president and general manager. He later ended up in Rhode Island with the Providence Journal Company, where he was executive vice president. Clifford developed their electronic media business into one of the nation’s largest broadcast TV, cable TV and TV programming companies. He founded and was chairman of the Food Network and of the Northwest Cable News. In 2001-02, Clifford was inducted into the Silver Circle Society of the Rocky Mountain Southwest Chapter of the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences (NATAS). This Society recognizes individuals with 25 years or more of experience within the Rocky Mountain region for their significant contributions to the region and the broadcast industry.

Each of the benefactors highlighted here hope their gift will inspire and encourage fellow alumni and friends of the School to make their own personal investments to the School, no matter what size or kind. Over the years WMU’s School of Communication has become one of the best schools of communication in the Midwest, with excellent faculty, staff, and emeriti; great students; and alumni who have gone on to lead successful personal and professional lives. In 2006, the School celebrated 100 years of excellence.

Northouse Scholarship

The School of Communication has received a gift from Peter and Laurel Northouse. In partnership with Sage Publications, they have given $20,000 to the School of Communication to establish the Northouse Endowed Leadership Scholarship. This gift will provide a $1,000 scholarship in fall 2007 for juniors or seniors seeking a degree in communication who have a GPA of at least 2.75 and who demonstrate good citizenship in the classroom and the University.

Northouse has been a profes- sor in the School of Communication since 1974 and he is a scholar with an international reputation for his work in Leadership and Health-Communication. He has been involved in teaching and conducting research on leadership for more than 30 years. While he has done basic research in both of these areas, the largest proportion of his work has been directed toward writing discipline-related books that have had great impact on our field.

His book Leadership: Theory and Practice is currently in its fourth edition and is widely recognized as one of the major texts on leadership theory. It has been translated in several languages including Arabic, Chinese, French, Korean, and Swedish.
Helping Students With a Chance

Alumna Roz Abrams (’70) wants to help students. With her gift of $100,000, The Roslyn M. Abrams Endowed Scholarship in Communication will help support up to four communication students each year who need financial assistance.

A sociology and speech major at WMU, Roz’s gift is personal. “If I had not been given a chance to do something I did not think I could do, I would not have had such a blessed life,” notes Abrams. Her scholarship will be available to four students each year (with a minimum GPA of 2.0) who have overcome socioeconomic obstacles or educational disadvantages.

Abrams earned a Bachelor of Science degree from WMU in 1970. She has been a reporter and anchor for almost 30 years and in April 2004, was named co-anchor for New York City’s WCBS-TV (channel 2), the flagship station of the CBS Television Network.

She previously spent 18 years at WABC, also in New York, taking part in award-winning coverage of some of the biggest stories of our time, including 9/11 as well as the end of Apartheid in South Africa, the Chernobyl nuclear disaster and the Blackout of 2003. Abrams also has been a news anchor with Turner Broadcasting and helped launch CNN. She serves as co-chairperson of NY READS TOGETHER and is active in numerous community and charitable organizations.

Director’s Endowment

With more than 30 years invested in WMU and the School of Communication, most recently as its director since 1999, no one knows the School’s history of excellence, potential for the future, or financial challenges better than director and professor Steve Rhodes. Since stepping in as director, Rhodes has worked with faculty, students, alumni, and emeriti to strategically position the School of Communication for growth in its academic reputation and to be recognized as a WMU center of excellence. From his perspective as director, he understands the financial resources it takes to be a center of excellence.

And no one appreciates more the commitment of others. “I know what it is like to try and promote the School and the good work being done by our students and faculty without funding,” notes Rhodes. “And I know what it is like for students and faculty to do without funding for crucial elements of their programs.” In that spirit, Rhodes and his wife Ann have pledged a long-term gift of $100,000 to the School of Communication. “We can think of no better way to thank those who have given so generously this year than to acknowledge their gifts by building on their investments,” he added.

Endowed Conference Room

Recognizing the varied needs across the School, Randy Doran (’83), has invested $100,000 to fund and endow the creation of the Randall and Lisa Doran Conference Room in the newly renovated Brown Hall, and to establish, in partnership with Steve and Ann Rhodes, a general endowment to promote, enhance, and improve the School for students and faculty.

Like Clifford and Abrams, Doran credits much of his current success to the School. “My experience in Communication provided me with tools for working with others, such as listening, managing conflict, and getting work done in meetings,” said Doran.

Doran is the Senior Vice President and Partner with Koll Development Company, a national real estate development firm. Since graduating, he has worked in the real estate field and has managed, leased, and renovated over 10 million square feet of office, industrial, high tech and warehouse/distribution space in the metropolitan Detroit market. Most recently, he assisted in the financing and development of the Ford Premier Automotive Group headquarters building in Irvine, Calif., the EDS Fulfillment center in Des Moines, Iowa, and the Koll Corporate Center in Auburn Hills, Mich.

Prior to establishing his real estate career, he worked for Hyatt Hotels and was responsible for all automotive related business, union and sports team reservations and convention business. He also worked for the Kalamazoo Wings while attending WMU.

For information about making a gift to the School of Communication, contact Nicklas McLaren, Director of Development for the College of Arts & Sciences at: nick.mclaren@umich.edu or (269) 387-4399.
How do you get 52 kids to give up the first two weeks of summer vacation to go back to school? You host the 2007 Third Coast Writing Project’s (TCWP) Camp for Young Writers. The two-week intensive camp is designed to give talented and enthusiastic elementary and middle school writers a chance to develop their writing in a supportive and collegial environment.

“This year we had two simultaneously occurring camps,” said Jonathan Bush, director of the Camp for Young Writers. “For the younger students, we had ‘What Do Authors Do?’ our traditional camp experience, focusing on a variety of creative writing activities, leading towards publication. For middle school students, we offered ‘The Writers’ Toolbox,’ a more focused camp for advanced aspiring authors and writers.”

Each weekday morning, June 18 to 29, 52 young “writers” were dropped off at Moore Hall at 8 a.m. for a half-day of intensive writing exercises…and plenty of fun.

“The first thing we work hard to do is to make sure it’s not school,” said Bush. “It’s all about fun camp days. We do outdoor games, group and team building exercises. That’s one of our core messages, but it’s not about the work; it’s about the fun of writing.”

And each day, students added to their arsenal of writing skills and memoirs. In the middle school group, the term “toolbox” was taken quite literally as students received a plastic hook hand (think Captain Hook) to help them remember to “hook” the reader. A Slinky toy one day helped them remember to expand the characters and story lines. The younger campers worked on memoirs, each day applying a new skill or idea to their writing.

The camp is facilitated by experienced teachers of writing and involves coaching from WMU students. Two site directors, Suzan Aiken, a recent graduate (Master of Arts, Emphasis Teaching in English), and Emily Winkel, a teacher at the Washington Writers Academy made the camp fun for everyone with their wit and humor.

“One of the things that made our camp work really well is that Suzan and Emily have been doing it for a couple of years and provided continuity,” added Bush. “I hope they’ll be doing it for a really long time.”

The Third Coast Writing Project is a program of the Department of English, but is entirely self funded. The University provides the space and tuition for the camps and volunteers take care of the rest.

According to Bush, the reason kids apply is they feel special. Applicants fill out a profile form and write a letter about their favorite books. They answer questions about their favorite authors and what they like to write. And, the special feeling doesn’t end there.

“We call everybody on the phone to let them know they’ve been accepted, and to welcome them to the camp” added Bush.

Area elementary and middle school teachers help promote the project and sometimes even pay for students to attend. TCWP also provides scholarships through its own funding.

For one student, Max Bales, an eighth grader at The Gagie School in Kalamazoo, being accepted to the Camp for Young Writers was a thrill.

“Being at Western and being a student is what made it fun and different.” said Bales. “Every day, I’d be up and ready to go before my alarm even went off. It was that fun,” he added. “I actually had to choose between this and Taekwondo, and I chose this and I’m glad I did.”

With that much excitement, it’s easy to see why organizers see the Camps as a recruiting tool.

“If we bring kids to WMU and they have a good experience, then they’ll want to come back,” said Bush.

Next year’s program information will be available on the TCWP website at www.wmich.edu/TCWP. The camp is traditionally held the two weeks following the start of summer vacation in the Kalamazoo Public Schools.
Imagine spending the first two weeks of your summer vacation with a room full of middle school students. Now, if that doesn’t give you the shivers, imaging your job is to make learning science and writing fun!

With that in mind, two Western Michigan University programs in the College of Arts and Sciences accepted the challenge and hosted two-week-long camps in science and writing—filling both to capacity.

The Way 2 Go Summer Science program featured hands-on science activities supported by the Michigan science curriculum and taught by science teachers from Kalamazoo Public middle schools.

Way 2 Go ran Monday through Thursday, June 18-28, from 9 a.m. to noon. The first day was for introducing the program and having the students do pre-tests. Each day after that, the students did Dynamics half the morning and Light half the morning. When there was extra time, students worked on their stomp rockets. On the last day, facilitators administered the post-tests, then awarded students with pizza, and awards.

Kevin Coch, a teacher at Milwood Magnet School, favors inquiry-based science instruction where the teacher is the guide. “Students are like investigators using various tools to discover answers to problems,” he said. “Prove it,’ is what I always tell my kids. Know it ‘not just because Mom and Dad told you or you read it in a book. How can you back up your claim with some evidence?”

It’s one of two approaches to science instruction under scrutiny by researchers at Western Michigan University and another group at Illinois Institute for Technology. Another, the direct instruction style, involves explaining the concept and activities supporting what the teacher has described.

“We would like to give teachers the best possible tools for their trade and craft,” stated William Cobern, director of WMU’s Mallinson Institute for Science Education and professor of biological sciences.

“The more that can be understood from ‘evidentiary based’ research about what methods work best, then the better teachers may be prepared to do their jobs,” he said.

Three of the Summer Science camp teachers taught using the inquiry method and two taught using direct instruction. Both teaching methods involved hands-on activities. The students, however, were most likely not aware of the methods used just that they were having fun.

“There’s a long history of promoting inquiry-based science teaching but there’s not actually a lot of good data on how effective it is,” Cobern said. “The middle-school-age students were targeted because it’s at that age in school when numerous students turn off or turn on to science.

“With Way 2 Go, we hope to provide some baseline data for the NSF that indicates whether one of the approaches works better than the other for concept development in science teaching,” Cobern added. The Way 2 Go project is funded through a $1.9 million grant from the National Science Foundation.

Steve Fryling, WMU B.S. ‘85 and M.A. ‘94, joined the Way 2 Go program in 2006 as a consultant and then as an instructor. He is one of the three teachers who teach inquiry-based instruction during the summer session.

“While some teachers would not welcome the idea of teaching for an extra two weeks,” said Fryling, “I find the experience professionally stimulating. It forces me to closely examine my teaching, while at the same time putting me into contact with students from larger school districts and helping kids of various schools and districts come together to learn. I get to work with some of the best science teachers in the country and am supported by excellent professors and graduate students all back at the University I love…what could be better?
Three young faculty members at Western Michigan University are the first to earn Emerging Faculty Scholar Awards in a new program to honor academia’s rising stars.

Mitch Kachun, associate professor of history; Carla M. Koretsky, associate professor of geosciences and environmental studies; and Kirk T. Korista, associate professor of physics received the award during WMU’s Academic Convocation ceremonies in February.

Dr. Kachun, a WMU faculty member since 2001, has focused his research and scholarly publications on American history, and he is recognized as a scholar on the topic of African American historical memory. His recently published books include “Festivals of Freedom: Memory and Meaning in African American Emancipation Celebrations,” published in 2003, and last year’s “The Curse of Caste; or the Slave Bride: A Rediscovered African American Novel,” which has generated national attention for changing the timeline of the development of African-American literature.

Kachun earned his bachelor’s degree from Pennsylvania State University, a master’s degree in history from Illinois State University in 1990, and a master’s degree and doctoral degree in history from Cornell University in 1993 and 1997, respectively. He taught in Cornell’s John S. Knight Writing Program during his time as a graduate student.

Dr. Koretsky, who joined the WMU faculty in 2000, is a scientist who specializes in the biogeochemistry of aquatic environments, mineral surface geochemistry and the thermodynamic properties of aqueous metal-organic complexes. She is the advisor for the interdisciplinary geochemistry major she established at the University, and her current federally supported research is focused on addressing fundamental questions on the biogeochemistry of coastal and inland wetlands, which are increasingly influenced by human activities.

Koretsky is working with two National Science Foundation grants, including one awarded through the Faculty Early Career Development—CAREER—program, a highly competitive program that is the NSF’s most prestigious award for young faculty scholars. Her grant projects include innovative educational opportunities designed to enhance the research experience of both graduate and undergraduate students at WMU.

Koretsky earned her bachelor’s degree from Washington University in 1992 and her master’s and doctoral degrees from Johns Hopkins University in 1995 and 1998, respectively. She was a postdoctoral and research scientist at the Georgia Institute of Technology before coming to WMU.

Dr. Korista has been a WMU faculty member since 1997. His field of research is observational astronomy, and his focus is on the acquisition, measurement, analysis and interpretation of the spectra of cosmic gas clouds that hold the keys to the chemical evolution of the universe and the history of star and galaxy formation. Widely published and the recipient of major research grants from the NSF, NASA and the Hubble Telescope Mission, Korista routinely works in collaboration with scientists around the globe. They include scholars from across the United States as well as international scientists at universities in the United Kingdom and Germany.

Korista earned his bachelor’s degree from the University of Illinois-Urbana in 1985 and his doctoral degree from Ohio State University in 1990. Before joining the WMU faculty, he was a research associate at the Observatories of the Carnegie Institution of Washington, the Space Telescope Science Institute in Baltimore and the University of Kentucky.

The Emerging Faculty Scholars’ program was launched this year to acknowledge the accomplishments of WMU faculty members who are among the rising stars in U.S. higher education. It is designed to celebrate the contributions of faculty who are in the first decade of their careers at WMU and who, by virtue of their contributions to scholarship or creative activity, have achieved national recognition and demonstrated outstanding promise to achieve renown in their continuing work.

—WMU University Relations
The concept of using vaccination to prevent disease is centuries old. It originated in India and China around 200 B.C. when people would deliberately infect themselves with smallpox-virus-containing materials to avoid getting a more serious case of the disease.

Edward Jenner, an English country doctor, brought the concept to western medicine in 1796 by inoculating a local boy with cowpox-virus-containing biological materials. Since then, the field of vaccinology has progressed tremendously.

Today, there are hundreds of vaccines available to prevent everything from the flu to bubonic plague. There also is an unmet need to protect against dozens of other diseases, from AIDS to cancer.

To explore the latest developments in this area, Western Michigan University is partnering with Pfizer in sponsoring a Vaccinology Seminar Series. Starting in September, there will be weekly lectures by experts in vaccinology—held live at the Fetzer Center on the Western University campus in Kalamazoo, Mich., and broadcast to 10 Pfizer sites around the globe.

“The desire was to get the intellectual, academic, and industrial groups together in one place,” explained Rob Eversole, Ph.D., master faculty specialist and director of the Michigan Biological Imaging Center, part of the Department of Biological Sciences at Western Michigan University. “We needed the best people for the message, so we came up with the concept for this course.”

“The people we’re bringing in are world-class experts in their fields,” said Paul Domi
nowski, VMRD Laboratory Sciences Formulation Manager for the Pfizer Laboratory Sciences group in Kalamazoo. “This will be a weekly seminar that gives colleagues exposure to top line-vaccine scientists, regulatory people, and immunologists. There will be a lot of data hot off the presses.”

Eversole took on the additional teaching load and recruited people from the finest vaccine labs and regulatory and funding agencies in the world, including the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. Additionally, the Global Health program director is on the docket, as is a representative from the USDA, FDA, Sabin Vaccine Institute; Emory Vaccine Center, University of Arizona, Pediatric Vaccine Center at the University of Maryland and other experts in the field.

“This gives us global presence with the vaccine development world,” said Eversole. “Western isn’t known for a huge medical school, but we’re right here, next door to Pfizer-Health, so it makes good sense.”

Interested members of the general science public are invited to attend the seminar series at Fetzer Center. Those who desire college credit may register for the course once they are enrolled at WMU, and the program is offered as continuing education for Pfizer colleagues.

The Biological Imaging Center (BIC) is a core facility within the College of Arts & Sciences at Western Michigan University. Eversole is assisted by several part-time student employees.

The BIC’s mission includes a basic research program, educational programs for undergraduate and graduate students, as well as providing comprehensive scientific/technical expertise for both University-wide and external grants and contracts.

The seminars will be held from 1 to 5 p.m. (EDT) on Mondays from Sept. 10 to Dec. 3. See page 18 for a complete schedule of topics.

Today, there are hundreds of vaccines available to prevent everything from the flu to bubonic plague. There also is an unmet need to protect against dozens of other diseases, from AIDS to cancer.
All Ears Theatre. This was the pair’s ninth half-hour radio drama for All Ears. It will be broadcast at 1 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 29, on WMUK-FM. Two of Johnston’s poems, “Spectators As We Are” and “Sonnet for Carol,” will appear in The Weathervane: An Online Journal of Great Lakes Writing.

The “Make a Difference Award” is given each semester to WMU employees who have made a special effort to help to make Western a better place for students, faculty and staff. Among the full and spring awardees are: Maggie Coughlin (Economics); William Merrow (Mallinson); Deb Stoyanoff (Mallinson); Rebecca Beech (English); Annie Dobbs (Chemistry); Bethlynn Sanders (English).

Jun Wang (Foreign Languages) recently received funding through the Instructional Development Fund for a project on teaching Business Chinese.

Vincent Desroches (Foreign Languages) was awarded a Visiting Scholars Grant. He will be welcoming Haitian filmmaker Arnold Antonin during the Francophone Film Festival next March.

Arnie Johnston (English) and Deborah Ann Percy wrote Rumpelstiltskin: The True Story (in which Rumpelstiltskin is not the villain!) for

Stuart Dybek (English) has been chosen to receive The Mark Twain Award in 2007 for “distinguished contributions to Midwestern literature” from the Society for the Study of Midwestern Literature at Michigan State University.

Reneé Schwartz (Biological Sciences) participated in an invited panel discussion titled “Sociocultural Inquiry, Argumentation, and Nature of Science,” at the annual conference of the American Educational Researchers Association in Chicago.

New Issues Poetry & Prose participated in the book fair at the AWP Conference in Atlanta where there were table signings by poets Joan Houlihan, Alexander Long, and Wayne Miller. New Issues Poetry & Prose, a nonprofit, university-based publisher, was established in 1996 by Editor Herbert S. Scott and publishes eight to 12 new titles each year with a focus on contemporary poetry.


The new “Third Coast” magazine editors for the 2008 issues are: Rachel Swearingen, Editor Jessi Phillips, Managing Editor Genre Editors for “Third Coast” include: Michael Levan, poetry Shannon Jonas, poetry

Randy DeVita, fiction Melinda Moustakis, fiction Christine Iaderosa, drama Maggie Andersen, nonfiction

Steve Feffer (English) has won one of this year’s New Jewish Theatre Commissions awarded by the National Foundation for Jewish Culture and the Jewish Endowment for the Humanities. Feffer also saw three plays of his presented this spring semester at the Whole Art Theatre. His play “Rock Hall,” was presented in the “Legally Parked” version on stage as part of the Late Night Series. His play “Ain’t Got No Home,” based on Chicago’s legendary Chess Records, had a staged production this spring as part of the Third Coast Plays-in-Process Series. Steve’s play “Lucky Punk” also premiered in March as part of the Whole Art Late Night Series. His play, “The Wizards Of Quiz,” had a revival production this spring at Yeshiva College. His one-act play “In Ruth Reichl’s Restaurant Review,” appeared this spring.

Janet Heller was elected president of the Michigan College English Association in November of 2006. Her fiction picture book for kids, “How the Moon Regained Her Shape,” was selected for Children’s Choices of 2007 by
the Children’s Book Council. Janet has spoken about her book at several local and state-wide events and on radio and television.

Faces of Success

Jeffrey Angles (Foreign Languages) recorded audio commentary on the newly-released classic film “Shansho the Bailiff” (1954) from the Criterion Collection.

Faces of Success

Jocelyn Steinke (Communication) on her election to the rank of AAAS Fellow. Steinke is being honored for distinguished contributions to the public understanding of science through research on media representations of women in science.

Faces of Success

Several faculty and students participated in the Rethinking Marxism 2006 Conference in Amherst, Mass. Faculty members Jacinda Swanson (Political Science), Vin Lyon-Callo (Anthropology), Allen Zagarell (Anthropology), and William Santiago Valles (Africana Studies) as well as Matt Paris (undergraduate anthropology major) presented papers. WMU alumni Juan Florencia, Chris Sweetapple, and Boone Shear also participated in the conference. Vin Lyon-Callo was the co-organizer of this interdisciplinary event which brought together approximately 700 participants from throughout the world to discuss the state of contemporary Marxisms.

Faces of Success

Yirong Mo (Chemistry) has been invited to join the editorial board of the Journal of Theoretical and Computational Chemistry.

Faces of Success

Lisa deChano (Geography) has been named the State of Michigan Coordinator of the National Geography Bee.

Faces of Success

Shanda Blue Easterday (English) was featured as March Artist of the Month at the Open Door Gallery in Sturgis. Her photos and broadsides of her poems were displayed in the front window of the gallery as well as inside the gallery. Easterday’s photos and poetry also were featured in the Sturgis Art Bounce in April.

Faces of Success

Western Michigan University has been selected to host the Fall 2008 Central Section Meeting of the American Mathematical Society, in 2008.

Faces of Success

Lance Weldy (English) is a 2006-2007 Fulbright Fellow Junior Lecturer in the Center for North American Studies at the Johann Wolfgang Goethe-Universität in Frankfurt am Main, Germany. He is teaching two classes per term in American and Children’s Literature.

Faces of Success

Michael Barcelona (Chemistry) was quoted in an article in Chemistry and Engineering News about the opening of the new Chemistry Building and the elements fund-raiser.

Faces of Success

Heather Petcovic’s (Mallinson Institute) study titled, “Field-Based Cognition among Expert Geoscientists: A Pilot Study,” has been funded ($5,000) by the WMU Faculty Research and Creative Activities Fund (FRACASF).

Faces of Success

Susan E. Stapleton (Chemistry and Biological Sciences has been selected as the 2007 recipient of the Bennett J. Cohen—Educational Leadership Award by the Michigan Society for Medical Research. Stapleton also has been named associate dean for the College of Arts and Sciences. continued on page 10
Faces of Success

Mark Hurwitz (Political Science), has been appointed Legal Notes Editor for the Justice System Journal, effective January 2007. The journal, sponsored by the National Center for State Courts, publishes social science research on courts and court administration. Hurwitz, a WMU faculty member since 2005, conducts research on judicial politics and behavior, a research area at the intersection of law and politics.

Faces of Success

Rick Spates (Psychology) will complete a state funded project to develop and test innovative models for the treatment of depression.

Faces of Success

Lisa Baker (Psychology) was appointed to the board of directors of the Michigan Society for Medical Research.

Faces of Success

Wil Reding (Geography and Environmental Studies), recently was awarded the Master Front-Line Interpreter Award by the National Association for Interpretation. Recipients of the award must demonstrate mastery of interpretive techniques, program development, and project design. Reding was cited for his “three decades of dedication to interpretation, his enthusiasm and creativity, and for his outstanding outdoor/environmental historical programs for Great Lakes region groups from preschool to senior citizen.”

Faces of Success

Linda LeBlanc (Psychology) has been appointed associate editor of Education and Treatment of Children, a journal that disseminates information to educators and other child-care professionals, concerning the development of effective teaching and treatment services for children, and to the European Journal of Behavior Analysis, an international scientific journal published by the Norwegian Association for Behavior Analysis.

Faces of Success

Cynthia Pietras (Psychology) has received National Science Foundation funding for a research project to study decision making in risky choice situations.

Faces of Success

Jacinda Swanson (Political Science) recently was elected to the editorial board of the journal Rethinking Marxism.

Students, Emeriti and Alumni

Faces of Success

Professor Emeritus Bob Poel received the MSTA 2007 “George Mallison for Lifetime Achievement in Science Education” Award.

Faces of Success

“Connections,” a series of short one-act plays by creative writing alum David James, had its premiere production March 29-30 in The Smith Theatre on the Orchard Ridge Campus of Oakland Community College, where David is a faculty member in English.

Faces of Success

James Armstrong, M.F.A. (English) alumnus, caught the attention of Garrison Keillor’s radio show at the beginning of December. His poem “Prayer” from Blue Lash (Milkweed Editions) was selected for “The Writers Almanac.”

Faces of Success

Tom Dickinson, B.A. ‘63 (Physics) and 2003 WMU Distinguished Alumnus has been honored again by his current institution, Washington State University.

Faces of Success

Christopher Sell was among 46 Western Michigan University seniors named a 2007 Presidential Scholar. Sell is the Presidential Scholar in Communication and expects to graduate in December. He is a member of the Lee Honors College, majoring in organizational communication English.

Rebekah Farrugia and Jennifer Machiorlatti (School of Communication) directed Vol. 3 of Copyright, Culture (remixed) a video documentary project that was selected out of hundreds of other video and film shorts for the launch of Docupyx, a documentary short video/film internet channel. This 10 minute short features the “Illegal Art” exhibit and issues of copyright and fair use. For more information on the Copyright, Culture project visit copyrightculture.com.
Faces of Success

Kylie Schultz, a Chinese language student at WMU, took part in the Third Annual Midwest Chinese Speaking Contest at Northwestern University in Chicago. Schultz competed in the Second Year Group, and received the Second Place Award. More than 60 students from 21 Midwestern universities attended.

M.F.A. alum David Schaafsma, now a professor of English at the University of Illinois at Chicago, invited Katherine Johnson to speak to his class on March 13. The class is currently reading Katherine's book, “Jane Addams, A Writer's Life,” as part of the study of the Chicago settlement founder and Nobel Peace Prize winner.

Vladimir Pintro (Philosophy) of Haiti is the second WMU graduate and one of fewer than 100 students worldwide to receive a 2006-07 Gates Cambridge Scholarship, one of the world’s most prestigious awards in higher education. Pintro completed a master’s degree in philosophy in July 2006 from WMU.

Jessica Guy, B.A. ’05 with double majors in journalism and Spanish writes: “…late into my journalism degree I realized that it was not for me. I do love to travel and learn about other cultures, though.

So I interviewed in Chicago with a company called Interac and now teach English near Tokyo, Japan. I have two jobs. For my full-time job I teach English to junior high and elementary school students at public schools. For my part-time job I teach English to people of all ages at a private English school. I’ve been living in Japan for a year and plan on living there for another year. It has been quite an interesting, educational and frustrating experience.”

Faces of Success

Faces of Success

John Rybicki, (English) alumni of Western Michigan University, has been named Olivet College’s poet-in-residence for the 2007 Intensive Learning Term. The college received almost 50 applications for the new annual Sandburg-Auden-Stein Residency, which was named after poets who visited Olivet in the 1930s and 1940s.

Jessica Guy

Faces of Success

Vladimir Pintro

Evgeny Koval, an English major from Russia, was a recipient of the Benjamin A. Gilman Scholarship to train at the Charles University in Prague, Czech Republic.

Faces of Success

Eric Schleder, B.A. (English) has accepted a non-contracting position with Perrigo Company in Allegan. He is a Validation Specialist with them. “Basically, I develop documentation and test equipment and processes to ensure we meet FDA regulations and our products are safe, effective, and clean as can be. It’s certainly not the most glamorous work, but it pays well. And validation is one of the few growing industries these days. I’m still hoping to pursue my Ph.D. someday and become a full-time professor, but in the meantime I’m playing the game doing ok.”

Faces of Success

Kylie Schultz

Vladimir Pintro

Deb McCallister

Cheri Bales

John Rybicki

John Rybicki

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The 5th edition of the Spanish textbook ¡Arriba! has recently been published. Holly J. Nibert (Spanish), is co-author. She involved three Spanish teaching assistants, including Catherine Hebert, who authored the testing program supplement for all 15 chapters of the book; Daphne Villatoro who compiled two finished tests per chapter, using Herbert’s work; and Mikela Zhezha, who completed a user’s questionnaire based on the 4th edition. The textbook is used to teach SPAN 1000 and 1010 at WMU and is Prentice Hall’s best-selling basic Spanish language textbook, sold all over the country and in Canada.


Kevin Corder (Political Science) and Christina Wolbrecht (Political Science, University of Notre Dame) gave a talk entitled “Women in American Politics: Hull House to the White House in 100 Years?” at the Kalamazoo Area League of Women Voters Conference.

Bill Cobern’s (Mallinson Institute for Science Education) latest paper appeared in the July 2007 (p. 257-62) issue of the Canadian Journal of Science, Mathematics and Technology Education. The paper title is: “ID Hysteria Says More about Some People’s Freudian ID Than about Science.”

Bill Olsen’s (English) fourth book, Avenue Of Vanishing, has been released by Triquarterly/ Northwestern. In conjunction with its release, he was a featured reader, along with Maurice Manning, at the Academy of American Poets Poetry Month Reading in New York. He also has poems soon to appear in The Little Review, West Branch, Zone Three, and Tifere. An essay, “One John Ashbery,” will appear in Essays from the Vermont Post Graduate Workshop (Cambridge); another, “Breaking With Strategy,” will appear in Zone Three.

Robert Ulin’s (Anthropology) essay “Revisiting Cultural Relativism: Old Prospects for a New Cultural Critique” has been accepted for publication in Anthropological Quarterly. Ulin has had a second work translated into Chinese. It was originally published in English in Anthropological Quarterly. Dr. Guojiang He of Sun Yat Sen University is the translator (he was a visiting professor at WMU). He also translated Ulin’s book (Understanding Culture) which is published in Chinese with Peking (Beijing) University Press. It is the ninth best selling academic book in the Peoples Republic of China.

Part-time colleague Linda Dick (English) has written five biographies of literary characters—White Fang, Billie Joe (Out of the Dust), Jonas (The Giver), Cat in the Hat, and Summer (Missing May)—for the forthcoming Student Companion to American Literary Criticism.

Charles Emerson (Geography) is the lead author of an article titled “Spatial and Grayscale Metadata for Similarity Searches of Image Databases” in GI_Science & Remote Sensing, 2007, 44 No. 2 p. 182-201. His three co-authors are S. Chinniah from PSAM Australia Limited, N. S. Lam, LSU, and D. A. Quattrochi, NASA.

Judith Rypma’s (English) chapbook, “Worshipping at Lenin’s Mausoleum,” was a finalist in the Spire Press Chapbook award series. Her recent poems have appeared or are forthcoming in Pearl, The Pinch, The Alembic, Chaffin Journal, New York Quarterly, River Oak, Atlanta Review, Hurricane Review, Concho River Review, and Pinyon. Her four-act play, “Vasilissa, Baba Yaga, and the Golden Thread,” was performed twice at the Russian Festival in Fetzer this fall. She also lectured on “Baba Yaga: Goddess, Wise Crone, or Wicked Witch.”

Karen Vocke (English) has completed a book on migrant education to be published by Heinemann in July 2007. Entitled “Where Do I Go From Here? Meeting the Unique Educational Needs of Migrant Students,” the work will provide educators and professionals who work with migrant farm workers the resources needed to support these students. Vocke’s research is based on collaborations with schools in Michigan and California.

J.D. Dolan (English) published a feature article in the January/February issue of Details magazine. The article chronicles the rise and fall of the International Pool Tour, which was founded by Kevin Trudeau, an infomercial giant (and a convicted felon).
Dolan’s research often involves pool; his feature article “Pool, a Love Story,” was published in Esquire and reprinted in Best American Sports Writing.

Michael Ryan (Economics) “European Integration and Japanese Direct Investment in the CEE Countries” with Andrzezej Cieslik published in Entrepreneurship, Investment and Spatial Dynamics: Lessons and Implications for and Enlarged EU (P. Nijkamp, R. Moomaw, and I. Traistaru, ed.).

The History of How the Spaniards Arrived in Peru, by Titu Cusi Yupanqui, an Inca who wrote a history of his father’s dealings with Francisco Pizarro at the time they arrived in Cuzco, the Inca capital, has been published by Hackett Publishing Company. Catherine Julien (History) prepared the edition from the original manuscript held at the Escorial in Spain, translated it into English and wrote the introduction.

Kathleen Baker (Geography) is the lead author of an article titled “Comparative Analysis of Models Integrating Synoptic Forecast Data into Potato Late Blight Risk Estimate Systems,” in Computers and Electronics in Agriculture 2007 57:23-32. She co-authored the article with W. W. Kirk.


Maarten Vonhof, (Biological Sciences and Environmental Studies Program) is the third of five authors on an upcoming Brief Communication in the journal Nature, which is the top journal in the world for the sciences. The paper outlines research that Vonhof’s colleagues (from Princeton University and the Illinois Natural History Survey) and Vonhof performed to examine the role of magnetic orientation in bats.

Ahmed N. Albatineh, professor, Nova Southeastern University, Magdalena Niewiadaska-Bugaj, (Statistics) and Daniel P. Mibalko (Statistics) have co-authored an article accepted in the Journal of Classification 23:301-313 (2006) titled “On Similarity Indices and Correction for Chance Agreement.”

Para llegar a la Isla Verde de Edgardo Rodríguez Juliá,” by Benjamín Torres (Spanish), has been published by Editorial de la Universidad de Puerto Rico.

Huitema, B. E. (Psychology):


Chad Edwards and Autumn Edwards (Communication) and M.A. student Qing Qing published “The Influence of Computer-mediated Word-of-mouth Communication on Student Perceptions of Instructors and Attitudes Toward Learning Course Content,” in Communication Education.

Patricia Montilla (Spanish) has published Parody, the Avant-Garde, and the Poetics of Subversion in Oliverio Girondo.


“Lola, espejo oscuro by Carlos Muñiz” (1927-1994) is a theatrical adaptation of the novel of the same name, written by Dario Fernández and updated by Mariola Pérez de la Cruz (Spanish).

Mitch Kachun (History) with literary scholar William L. Andrews, completed an edition of Julia C. Collins’ The Curse of Caste; or The Slave Bride, published by Oxford...

Jon Neil’s (Economics) essay, entitled “Applying the Business Model to Universities,” was published by WMU’s Center for the Study of Ethics.

Gender in Transition: Discourse and Practice in German-Speaking Europe 1750-1830, edited by Ulrike Gleixner and Marion W. Gray (History) was published in October 2006. 


Jean Kimmel (Economics):
- “Can the Family Earnings Gap be Reduced by Postponing Maternity?” (with Catalina Amuedo Dorantes) in Education and Postponement of Maternity Economic Analyses for Industrial Countries. Edited by Siv Gustafsson and A. Kalwij, 2006.

Nora Faires’ (History) book has been awarded the 2006 Albert B. Carey prize for the “best book on Canadian-American relations or the history of both countries.”

Permeable Border: The Great Lakes Basin as Transnational Region, 1650-1990, was edited by John J. Bukowczyk, Nora Faires, David R. Smith, and Randy William Widdis.


Susan Pozo (Economics):
- “Migration, Remittances and Male and Female Employment Patterns” (with Catalina Amuedo Durantes) in the American Economic Review, May 2006.

Olivia G. Gabor-Peirce, German faculty member, (Foreign Languages), has published The Stage as ‘Der Spielraum Gottes in Studies of Modern German Literature, Peter Lang Publishing House.

Alyce Dickinson (Psychology) is the author of “Western Michigan University’s Industrial/Organizational Psychology Program is Alive—and Thriving” in OBM Network Newsletter.


Democratic Values in the Muslim World (Lynne Rienner Publishers) by Moataz Abdel Fattah, a 2004 Political Science Ph.D., has been named an Outstanding Academic Title by Choice magazine, a publication of the American Library Association.

The Western Michigan University Mock Trial program is a legacy left by professor Peter Renstrom, who taught in the WMU Department of Political Science for 37 years. This program inspires, educates and assists dozens of undergraduates, many of whom have continued on to law school and now are lawyers. Renstrom’s daughter Joelle, the current coach and instructor of the WMU Mock Trial team continues to provide vision and leadership for this program and is dedicated to ensuring Dr. Renstrom’s hard work in establishing and maintaining this program will be fully utilized.

Mock Trial is a valuable academic exercise. It requires critical thinking, effective public speaking skills, confidence, capacity to think on one’s feet and knowledge of trial advocacy. Mock trial also requires effective collaboration. Every case presents alternative approaches, and team members must develop consensus about their case strategy.

The consensus-building and other trial preparation activities create an opportunity to develop leadership skills. Mock trial provides experiences that will serve in any career. Students considering law find the mock trial experience particularly valuable. Students learn the Federal Rules of Evidence and apply them in the form of objections to the case provided by the American Mock Trial Association.

This program has no permanent funding source at the University and currently is supported by the generous gifts of alumni, faculty, friends, and by one-time funding from the College of Arts and Sciences and the Lee Honors College. This arrangement makes the program’s funding vulnerable by limiting recruitment and the investment of time and energy by faculty and staff.

This vulnerability also limits the number of students the program can serve and places WMU students at a competitive disadvantage in national competition. The Department of Political Science has adopted a campaign goal of raising $500,000 to fully endow the Mock Trial Program. With your help, this endowment will provide funding to ensure the continuing success and future growth of the Mock Trial program.

How to give

Whether your interest lies in supporting Mock Trial or another program, the professional staff of WMU’s Development Office will help you identify giving strategies that fulfill your personal, family and business goals. Annual and multi-year gifts of cash, securities, and property are welcomed, as are charitable annuity and estate gifts.

Thank you once again for your support and interest in the College of Arts and Science. To learn more about the development priorities in the College of Arts and Sciences, or to make a donation, please contact Nicklas McLaren at (269) 387-4399 or at nick.mclaren@wmich.edu.
The year was 2003. Gov. Jennifer Granholm was desperately looking for ways to keep displaced Pfizer workers in the Kalamazoo community. She turned to WMU for help, and so was born WMU’s Biosciences Research and Commercialization Center (BRCC). The BRCC aims to turn the latest bioscience discoveries into new processes and products for the commercial pharmaceutical and scientific market, tapping into the expertise of former Pfizer scientists and other top researchers from around the nation. The center received final authorization from the state’s Technology Tri-Corridor Steering Committee on Dec. 1, 2003, when members approved a five-year business plan and signed off on $10 million for use in launching the effort.

Originally located at William McCracken Hall on the main campus of WMU, the BRCC has its headquarters at the Southwest Michigan Innovation Center (SMIC), which is located at WMU’s Business Technology and Research Park on the University’s Parkview Campus.

The SMIC houses the BRCC’s central administrative offices and more than 9,000 square feet of state-of-the-art laboratory space. In addition, the BRCC and its scientists have the potential for collaborative access to about 150 laboratories on WMU’s main and Parkview campuses, and use of WMU’s animal facility.

Clinical and non-clinical testing services are available in Kalamazoo through BRCC affiliations with Jasper Clinical Research & Development and MPI Research, an internationally regarded contract toxicology research laboratory.

What the BRCC Does
The BRCC provides business support services and an environment where the scientists can be around people in the same profession. The center coordinates research activities and provides an organizational home for scientists as they work to establish new businesses, obtain extramural funding for research, and develop a center of excellence for pharmaceutical development to support commercialization of the life sciences in Michigan.

According to Executive Director Jack Luderer, “The BRCC helps to commercialize life science discoveries entering the commercialization phases of development in order to benefit society and is a place where you can share frustrations and successes about your work.”

Luderer was highly involved with the creation of the center, helping to develop the structure and business plan. Originally vice president of research at WMU, Luderer was appointed by the BRCC Board of Governors to Executive Director of the BRCC in 2005.

The BRCC supports promising new life sciences ventures entering the commercialization phases of development in a number of ways:

- Startup and Gap Funding Assistance—promising new ventures or individuals can apply to the BRCC for startup and gap funding assistance.
- BioLaunch Pharmaceutical Development Services—helping to launch new pharmaceutical, device and diagnostic companies.
- Core Technology Alliance—the Core Technology Alliance is to develop a collaborative network of technologically sophisticated core facilities to enhance life sciences research and product develop-

Recent headlines show the growth and promise that the BRCC brings to the Michigan pharmaceutical community.

“Local Company Receives $1M Grant from the National Institutes of Health to Fight Cause of Cervical Cancer”

“BRCC firm sets milestone, moves to human testing for new drug April 17, 2007”

“Meditrina Pharmaceuticals, Inc. Initiates Phase II Trial and Raises $4.4M in Initial Funding”

To read the full stories, go to: www.brcc.wmich.edu/news.asp
opment throughout the State of Michigan.

- The BRCC brings a pharmaceutical commercialization expertise to the alliance.
- The Center receives external oversight and advice from scientific, business and academic experts on the BRCC Governing Board of Directors.

**Partnering with the Community**

The BRCC is a member of the Core Technology Alliance, whose mission is to develop a collaborative network of technologically sophisticated care facilities to enhance life sciences research and product development throughout the state of Michigan. Other strategic partners include the Michigan Economic Development Corporation, 21st Century Job Fund, Southwest Michigan First, and the Southwest Michigan Innovation Center.

“Knowing that your contribution to the economic development of the state can make a difference, and building an intellectual quality of life in Kalamazoo is the most rewarding part of my job,” said Luderer.

Although 70 to 80 percent of the attempts made in the BRCC will fail, Luderer believes that it is the most rewarding for those who succeed and are able to take advantage of the discoveries made at the BRCC.

“The challenge is continuing capital and recruiting people to come to Kalamazoo,” said Luderer.

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**Meet Jack Luderer**

Dr. Jack R. Luderer, an executive and medical research specialist with more than 25 years of experience in the life sciences arena, became executive director of Western Michigan University’s Biosciences research and Commercialization Center on May 16, 2005.

In a news release announcing his appointment as executive director of the BRCC, former President Judith Bailey said, “Luderer is not only thoroughly familiar with the creation of the BRCC, but highly regarded in the life sciences.”

To focus on his new role Luderer resigned as vice president for research at WMU. Luderer first came to WMU in 2000 as associate vice president for research. Prior to joining the WMU administration, he was vice president of U.S. Medical Affairs at Pharmacia Corp., which is now part of Pfizer Inc.

A medical doctor who has published more than 100 articles, abstracts, and technical reports, Luderer came to Kalamazoo in 1984 to work for the Upjohn Co. He held several positions with that firm, including executive director of clinical pharmacology, vice president of clinical pharmacology and vice president of clinical development.

Before joining Upjohn, he was an assistant professor of medicine and pharmacology at the Milton S. Hershey Medical Center of Pennsylvania State University. Luderer earned a Bachelor’s Degree in chemistry from Miami University. He went on to earn a master’s degree in organic chemistry at Miami and a medical degree from Northwestern University Medical School.
Globalization and International Development: Critical Issues of the 21st Century

Werner Sichel Lecture-Seminar Series Set for 2007-08

The 2007-2008 Werner Sichel Economic Lecture-Seminar Series features six outstanding economists whose presentations will focus on the challenges and opportunities of globalization and international development.

The Lecture-Seminar Series will include the following presenters:

- September 26, 2007—Dr. Kenneth Reinert, School of Public Policy, George Mason University—Globalization for Development?
- October 24, 2007—Dr. Lisa D. Cook, Department of Economics and James Madison College, Michigan State University—Patents and Knowledge Spillovers to Developing Countries
- December 5, 2007—Dr. Steven Radelet, Center for Global Development—Foreign Aid: Wasting Money or Fighting Poverty?
- February 27, 2008—Dr. Hadi Saleh Esfahani, Department of Economics, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign—Development Policy in Globalizing World: New Perspectives on Options and Constraints
- March 26, 2008—Dr. Joseph Joyce, Department of Economics, Wellesley College—Global Justice: An Economist's Perspective
- April 9, 2008—Dr. Linda Tesar, Department of Economics, University of Michigan—The Composition of Allocation of Global Financial Flows: What are Markets Doing?

All presentations are free and open to the public. They are all held at 3 p.m. in 3508 Knauss Hall. Further details on the speakers and topics are on the Department of Economics’ website at www.wmich.edu/economics or call (269) 387-5536.
Major Excitement was created to help students learn about different majors and minors early in their academic careers.

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We would like to learn more about our alumni. Please complete this brief questionnaire and return it to the College via one of the methods listed below. To learn more about us, please visit [www.wmich.edu/cas](http://www.wmich.edu/cas).

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