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Donor Profile **JOSEPH L. PEYSER:** **CITOYEN DU MONDE**

Citizen of the World

In 1977, Joseph L. Peyser, French and education professor at Indiana University, South Bend, and an expert on Fort St. Joseph, embarked on a fascinating journey into the 17th and 18th century experience of the French in North America that became the crown jewel of his life's interest and work.

He began by translating French-language documents for the Niles, Michigan Historical Commission relating to Fort St. Joseph, which led to the publication of *Letters from New France: The Upper Country 1686-1783* (University of Illinois Press, 1992). He wrote grant applications, translated hundreds of French-language documents, helped to explain the site's history, and encouraged Support the Fort (a group of citizens committed to reconstructing Fort St. Joseph in the Four Flags area) to persist in their commitment to find the original site of Fort St. Joseph. Built in 1691, Fort St. Joseph stood for 90 years and was the only site in Michigan ruled by four countries--France, England, the United States, and Spain--and was used mostly for trading furs.

Dr. Peyser discovered, through documents housed in the National Archives of France, that Fort St. Joseph was located on the east bank of the St. Joseph River. His discovery prompted a team of archaeologists from Western Michigan University, led by Dr. Michael Nassaney, to search the east bank and discover conclusive evidence of the Fort's material remains. The site currently is being excavated and documented by a team

of WMU archaeologists including Dr. Nassaney.

"What we didn't know is that people had been looking for the Fort for 100 years," said Nassaney. He also didn't know there were no maps showing the location of the outpost, or even outlining the layout of the settlement.

The documents, showing the approximate location, which Dr. Peyser uncovered and translated, were written in Old French, which is significantly different from today's French. These documents revealed what life was like in 17th and 18th century Michigan and Canada and were from all walks of life—from French government and royalty, businessmen and blacksmiths, to women engaged in trade.

"Some of the documents were extremely difficult," Dr. Peyser said in an April 2003 interview with the South Bend Tribune. "The letters don't look like today's writing at all, and the grammar has changed since the 17th century. The use of tenses is different, and there were many obsolete words. I really expanded my vocabulary."

The Peyser family awarded the WMU archaeology department \$10,000 for the dewatering the Fort St. Joseph site. The dewatering grant will fund a system of pumps and

pipes that will drain the wetlands before excavation of the soils and sediments at Fort St. Joseph occurs. The dewatering of the Fort St. Joseph archaeological site has been funded for the 2006 WMU field study season by the Peyser family in memory and honor of Dr.

Joseph L. Peyser who died Dec. 27, 2004.

"He was a man who believed in grabbing hold of life and living it, according to his own rules," said his son Randall Peyser. "He always said to define yourself by your own interests and skills, not by others or your job." Offered lucrative positions

by his father and uncles' businesses while in college, the senior Dr. Peyser turned them down to pursue his intellectual love, French language and culture.

A man of many talents and interests, Dr. Peyser attained the rank of Eagle Scout as a boy, earning every merit badge the Boy Scouts of America offered at the time. As a teen he took 100 mile bicycle rides from New York City where he grew up before the advent of multi-speed bikes. He loved to play chess and bridge and hike in the woods. He was an avid football and boxing fan. He also enjoyed drawing cityscapes and portraits that are exhibited in his home. His daughter, Jan Peyser, also fondly recalls her father carving toys out of wood for the Peyser children, including a dollhouse and an old medieval fort.

Dr. Peyser and his wife believed in the global quality of all people.



Drs. Joseph and Julie Peyser pictured here in 2001.

Student Profile **ARCHAEOLOGY STUDENT DOES IT ALL**



LisaMarie Malischke is a graduate student in archaeology at Western Michigan University. She recently organized the Fort St. Joseph Archaeological Open House for the archaeology department. We interviewed her shortly after the successful open house event.

HOW DID YOU FIRST GET INVOLVED IN FORT ST. JOSEPH?

My background education was in hard science, but I was not happy working in a windowless lab all the time...I wanted to be outside. My hobby at the time was being a historical re-enactor for the New France time period, from about 1720 until about 1812 was the era I portrayed.

I once read that in order to be happy you should make your hobby your life. I had always thought about archaeology off and on, and a Niles native explained to me that the fort location had been uncovered and that excavations had begun at the site.

Though I only had a few archaeology classes through the University of Wisconsin-Madison, I had done graduate work at Purdue University in the past, so that helped me get accepted to the anthropology master's program. I have been involved in the FSJ Arch Project ever since I arrived in Kalamazoo, and my re-enacting research has served me well in recognizing a variety of 18th century artifacts.

WHAT PROJECTS HAVE YOU WORKED ON AT FORT ST. JOSEPH?

My official project is helping to run the 2006 Field School at the FSJ site as the graduate assistant. There are several goals of this project. The first is to train undergrad and graduate students in excavation techniques and the proper way to engage in archaeological science in the field. Western is the only Michigan university to offer a field school every single year, and it has the longest running program.

The second goal is to educate students as to what public archaeology is. With this in mind, we offer summer camps for teachers, adults and teens in the community. The summer campers do a research project and also are

I once read that in order to be happy you should make your hobby your life.

—LisaMarie Malischke

allowed to excavate on the site and to help out in excavation units alongside the field school students.

Our third goal of the field school is to educate everyone on the reasons behind digging and the formulation of research questions.

My other project was the FSJ Archaeology Open House event in August. For two days we offered the

public a rare chance to see archaeology in progress. We had excavation units, wet-screening for artifacts, artifacts on display and lectures, historical demonstrations and crafts. This was the first time we had scaled-up this event and marketed it to the public. We had around 1,800 visitors at the site over two days.

WHAT ARE YOUR PLANS FOR THE FUTURE?

The best part for me is that it seems I have really found my niche, that I may actually be successful in what I have chosen to do, and that I can contribute to the archaeology community through work I have finished and published. That is my main hope and my goal. I would like to finish my Ph.D. and get a tenured position somewhere. I would like to continue studying New France and to return to the western Great Lakes area, since I know this region the best.

Malischke has a B.S. in botany from the University of Iowa; did graduate work on medicinal plants at Purdue University; and performed nuclear medicine research, especially on Parkinsonism, at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. She will graduate from Western Michigan University in April 2007.

Lisa Marie Malischke on the job at August's Fort St. Joseph Open House

Faculty Profile **HISTORY FROM BOTH SIDES**



JULIEN AND PASTRANA STUDY HISTORY AND LANGUAGE

Pick up any history book and get the full story about what happened in the past. Most historical accounts are written from one person's perspective, right? Wrong? Maybe or maybe not. WMU Professor Catherine Julien (History) and Assistant Professor Pablo Pastrana (Spanish) will try to change what readers think about historical documents, at least in the case of the records left behind by one Alvar Núñez Cabeza de Vaca.

Julien and Pastrana received a project grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities to examine documents and artifacts related to the expedition of Alvar Núñez Cabeza de Vaca into the interior of South America.

"Exploration as a process is hemispheric," notes Julien. "Most history began as national history and so most countries focus on their own history. That's also true in South America where Cabeza de Vaca traveled. His writings, however, cover a larger region, composed today of the

neighboring countries of Argentina, Paraguay, Bolivia and Brazil."

Cabeza de Vaca was a Spanish explorer who sailed to North America from Spain in 1527. Only four men of the original crew survived the hardships of that exploration, which included hurricanes off the coast of Florida, starvation, and violent encounters with the local inhabitants of the Gulf of Mexico. The disasters of that first expedition will forever be remembered as *Naufragios* (shipwrecks), translated as "misfortunes" or "calamities." Cabeza de Vaca returned to Spain in 1537 only to sail back to the Americas in 1540, this time to South America, as governor of the Río de la Plata region. Between 1543 and 1544 he led an expedition up the Paraguay River through the Pantanal, the vast wetlands between Bolivia and Brazil. This second trip has attracted little attention from scholars and is the focus of Julien and Pastrana's study.

Although the Pantanal expedition was another kind of disaster, this time

around Cabeza de Vaca had worse luck with his own officials than the natives. He was arrested and sent back to Spain in 1545 for trial, charged with many offenses, including usurping the authority of the King. During the last years of his life, he wrote his account of South American travel, the *Comentarios* (Commentaries). It is this work and the large body of documents written by members of his expedition that Julien found in archives that will be studied during the project.

"Our project is a deliberate effort to get the people who are reading about exploration in North America to read about what happened in the South as well. European exploration was hemispheric," explains Julien.

"When looking at history, we tend to look locally, whereas the process was really global," adds Pastrana. "Globalization, such a buzzword in today's society, truly began in the 16th century."

The Seed is Planted

Julien first became interested in the travels of Cabeza de Vaca while studying the Andean frontier at the University of Bonn in Germany, at the foot of the Andes mountains in what is now Eastern Bolivia. "That project got me involved in looking at the lowlands and its habitants. Cabeza de Vaca had different relationships with the inhabitants of the interior than the Spaniards who arrived in the Andes with Pizarro.

"I had always worked in the Andes where Spaniards had overthrown the Inca empire but had governed through the lines of authority already established. Cabeza de Vaca and the Spaniards who explored the lowland

regions had to negotiate their passage in the interior and make friends, or they were unable to travel.”

“I’m interested in the relationships the Spaniards had with those people,” adds Julien, “but before I can learn about them, I have to learn about the documents and the people who wrote them. Historians have developed methods for learning about the past from these kinds of documents.”

According to Julien, many of the documents Cabeza de Vaca left behind are internal—those who wrote were writing to other Spaniards in the Río de la Plata region. “They learned a language for referring to things that only they understood. There are names that haven’t been written before; the spellings were only standardized later. To be able to understand or interpret what they wrote, it’s helpful if we can read the whole corpus of documents together.”

An Idea Grows

Pastrana’s interest lies more with the language of the documents of the period. “I am interested in the philological and linguistic aspects of these written accounts. Basically, I am helping Catherine process the documents. We take the best available copies of the originals (e.g. microfilm, photocopy), as close to the original as we can get, and do a paleographic transcription—a transliteration of the original documents in a form that allows us to process it and edit it so that a modern reader can read them. Then we add the necessary annotation to facilitate the understanding and make them relevant to our times and beyond.”

The pair will study 61 documents: two lengthy narrative accounts—including the *Comentarios*. “Cabeza de Vaca’s account of North American travel was published more than 50

times in a variety of languages in the 20th century,” notes Julien, “while the *Comentarios* have been ignored. I think Cabeza de Vaca’s readers will greatly enjoy what he wrote after his survival experience.”

A passion for the material and the discipline has led Julien and Pastrana to success in their endeavor. “I had a sabbatical and went to Spain to look at the documents,” says Julien. “These documents are beautiful. What inspired the project is the quality of the documents. Almost all are originals, and we have a community of more than fourteen individuals who are writing, often only for other readers on the expedition itself.”

According to Pastrana, any docu-

“Globalization, such a buzzword in today’s society, truly began in the 16th century.”

—Dr. Catherine Julien

ments that have survived from 15th to the 17th centuries are “delightful” to read. “It’s the sense that we can make out of their complexities that’s captivating,” he explains. “Here they are, in a time when the printing was already in use, yet most of what has survived is hand-written. With the exception of one document, which saw the light of the printing press in 1555, the remaining sixty documents are manuscripts. There is no set style of handwriting. Much like today, each writer had his own style and his own handwriting, clearly distinguishable from the rest. Part of the work, and the fun, is identifying who wrote what, and uncovering the hidden clues behind the written language.”

What’s Next?

The two are busily preparing for the future of the project in many ways.

A doctoral graduate student, Pilar López Castilla, will join the project this fall. Pastrana will teach the History of the Spanish language, in which “students will see the documents in as undisturbed a form as we can find,” notes Pastrana. He wants them “to wrestle with the original documents. It will be their task to figure out how to read them and understand them.” In the spring, Julien will teach a graduate seminar for students in History and Spanish on Spanish narratives and exploration.

The pair’s work will be published by the University of Nebraska in a hardcover boxed edition after submission in early 2009. There also will be a paperback edition of the text, in English, for classroom use.

“We want to increase the readership for Cabeza de Vaca’s work,” says Julien. “The more people who can read about the Americas of his time, the better.”

Additional exposure for the project includes organizing two sessions devoted to the language of conquest and territorial exploration for the Medieval Congress to be held at Western Michigan University from May 10-13, 2007. In addition, a symposium on writing and exploration is planned for the 53rd International Congress of Americanists in 2009.

“I think part of the success of our initiative is that we are trying to use our strengths across departmental and disciplinary lines,” notes Julien, and Pastrana agrees. “These sort of cooperative ventures between departments need to be encouraged and nurtured because they are highly productive,” he says.

So the next time you pick up a history book, Julien and Pastrana urge you to remember that there may be more to the story, and a story in the words themselves.

NAMES AND FACES: PEOPLE

Faces of Success

The Mallinson Institute is pleased to announce the publication of a peer-reviewed conference paper based upon **Elen Cutrim's** work with **Dave Rudge, Kara Kits, and Jackie Mitchell** on the E3 grant: "Cutrim, E., Rudge, D., Kits, K., Mitchell, J. & Nogueira, R., (2006) "Changing Teaching Techniques and Adapting New Technologies to Improve Student Learning in an Introductory Meteorology and Climate Course" in "Advances in Geosciences."



Elen Cutrim

at FMHS, "World's Largest." Nearly 150 students conducted oral histories, researched artifacts, surveyed cultural resources, and wrote texts that highlighted the strengths and history of southwest Michigan's fruit industry. The exhibit is on display at the Fort Miami Heritage Society through 2007. Recent graduate **Jennifer Gaydos**, along with Ph.D. students **Joshua Koenig** and **Christopher Jannings**, and M.A. students **Jennifer Black** and **John Stempien** also created an online exhibit showcasing the main aspects of the Fruit Belt Project and "World's Largest." Visit www.michiganfruitbelt.org to view the online exhibit.

Faces of Success

Dr. Paul Ciccantell (sociology), has been offered the position of rotating Program Director in Sociology at the National Science Foundation.

Faces of Success

Dr. Bassam Harik, longtime professor of economics at Western Michigan University, has been named vice provost for budget and personnel. Harik, who joined the economics faculty in 1979, has served as department chair and, since 2004, has served as associate dean of the College of Arts and Sciences. A former research



Bassam Harik

economist with the Arab International Bank in Cairo, Harik's specialties include money and banking and economic development. During his tenure, he coordinated research that produced three studies detailing WMU's economic impact on Kalamazoo County. Harik earned a bachelor's degree from the American University of Beirut in 1970 and master's and doctoral degrees from Wayne State University in 1973 and 1978, respectively.

Faces of Success

The UNESCO World Heritage Centre has called upon **Catherine Julien** (history) to consult on an ancient roads heritage project in the Andes in South



Catherine Julien

America, to nominate the principal highland Inca road, Qhapaq Ñan, to the World Heritage list. This would place the ancient Inca road in a category with the Silk Road in China and the Roman Limes in Germany. In March 2005, Julien participated in a UNESCO conference in Quito, Ecuador, dealing with the ancient Inca highway. Citing her "recognized expertise," the UN organization has asked her to continue her research by comparing the ancient Inca road with Roman roads.

Faces of Success

Western Michigan's Earth Sciences Remote Sensing Facility (ESRS) is becoming an internationally recognized facility for conducting state-of-the-art research on interdisciplinary research addressing environmental and hydrological issues in the Middle East. Post doctoral fellows—supported by their native countries—visited Western Michigan University over the summer to work with **Dr. Mohamed Sultan** (geosciences) and his colleagues.

Faces of Success

Linda Borish (history) is executive Producer and Historian of a historical film on Jewish Women in American Sport, to be released this fall.



Linda Borish

Faces of Success

Fourteen outstanding students were honored by the Western Michigan University Department of Biological Sciences at a spring luncheon. **Khin P. Sone John J. Couture, Chin-Ju Hsiao, Stephen L. McGinnis, Shruti Sevak, Wendy Guat Hoon Tan, Nabeeh A. Hasan, Denise L. Smith, Gregory M. Korchak, Andrea M. Kryger, Christopher S. Fisher, Jennifer R. Watry, and Noyle D. McPherson** received awards ranging from \$200 to 1,000.

Faces of Success

Eve Salisbury (English) was a featured speaker at the Medieval Children International Conference at the University of Kent, UK.

Faces of Success

From 2003-2005, WMU students, under the direction of **Kristin Szylvian** (public history) and the Fort Miami Heritage Society (FMHS), contributed to the Southwest Michigan Fruit Belt Project—a project that produced the newest local history exhibit



Kristin Szylvian

IN THE NEWS, ON THE MOVE

Faces of Success



Katherine Joslin

Katherine Joslin, professor of English and author of "Jane Addams, a Writer's Life," offered her

reflections on the legendary social activist and Nobel Peace Prize winner on C-Span 2's "Book TV" on June 18.

Faces of Success

Three College of Arts and Sciences graduate students were named as 2006-2007 Dissertation Completion Fellowship winners by the Graduate College. The winners are: **Barbara E. Esch**: (psychology); **Tina Goldsmith** (psychology); and **Hedy Habra** (Spanish).

Faces of Success

Several graduate students in the Mallinson Institute for Science Education assisted in the development of a presentation entitled "Being a doctoral student: A visual self-study" that was given at the 18th Annual Conference Ethnographic and Qualitative Research in Education" (EQRE) on the campus of Cedarville University, OH. The presentation had three primary authors, **Gunilla Holm**, **Fang Huang** and **Hong Yan Cui**, and several additional co-authors: **Brandy Skjold**, **Hang Hwa Hong**, **Robert Kagumba**, **John**

Hoye, **Fatma Ayyad**, **Shawn Bultsma**, **Maxine Gilling**, **Julien Kouame**, **Michael Nokes**, **Hong Zhong**, and **Curtis Warren**.

Faces of Success

Eric Bakken of Stevens Pointe, Wis. (international and comparative concentration in the political science major), won the top award for best delegate, playing the role of Slovakian secretary of agriculture in the MMEU—Midwest Model European Union's Council of Agriculture Ministers—a competition and simulation promoting understanding of the European Union. The event was held on the campus of Indiana University/Purdue University Indianapolis.

Faces of Success

Recent alumna **Lindsay Tjepkema**, BA, '05 has been named one of West Michigan's Business Leaders Under 40 by West Michigan Business Review. The 23 year-old associate vice president of Southwest Michigan First in Kalamazoo was the youngest of 38 professionals recognized at a March ceremony. Tjepkema earned a bachelor's degree in public relations and marketing at WMU, where she was a member of the Lee Honors College.



Lindsay Tjepkema

Faces of Success

Three recent alumni and students of the psychology department's doctoral program in behavior analysis have obtained tenure-track faculty positions, effective fall 2006. They are: **Dr. Caio Miguel** (California State University, Sacramento); **Anna Petursdottir**, M.A., (Texas Christian University); **Dr. Tina Sidener**, (Caldwell College in Caldwell, N.J.); **Dr. Sigurdur Sigurdsson**, (University of Maryland, Baltimore County).

Faces of Success

The American Humanics Student Association awarded \$3,000 grants to the Generous Hands as the best emerging nonprofit, Gryphon Place as the best established nonprofit, and Greenleaf Companies as the best philanthropic business in greater Kalamazoo. The two nonprofits were also presented a certificate for 50 student volunteer hours. Students raised the money to put on the dinner though grants and sponsorships.

Faces of Success

Robert N. McCauley, Ph.D., graduated from WMU with a B.A. in English and Religion. McCauley was recently named William Rand Kenan Jr. University Professor in the Department of Philosophy of Emory University in Atlanta, Ga. He also is co-editor of *Mind and Religion: Psychological and Cognitive Foundations of Religiosity*.

Faces of Success

Thalia (Bairas) Stiffler graduated from WMU with a B.A. in social science. She went on to get another B.A. from Calvin College in organizational leadership. Stiffler co-lead a delegation of 10 from Grand Rapids to Philadelphia in 1997 for the "Presidents Summit for Americas Future," attended by all living presidents and Mrs. Reagan. Currently, Thalia is president of a 300-member group called "Advocates for Senior Issues, sponsored by the Area Agency on Aging.

Faces of Success

Dr. Benjamin Ofori-Amoah, will lead the Department of Geography beginning fall 2006. Dr. Ofori-Amoah comes to WMU from the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point, where he was chair of the Department of Geography. He also has held faculty positions at Simon Fraser University in Canada and Ghana's University of Science



Benjamin Ofori-Amoah

and Technology. Dr. Ofori-Amoah earned a bachelor's degree from the University of Ghana, master's degrees from Ghana's University of Science and Technology and the University of Exeter in the United Kingdom, and a doctoral degree from Simon Fraser University.

NAMES AND FACES: PEOPLE

Faces of Success



Gregory Veeck

Dr. Gregory Veeck (geography) has been selected as a Fulbright foreign scholar grantee to China

Faces of Success

WMU graduate student **Beth Walton** (development administration) wrote a page 1 story in USA Today on Friday, July 7. Walton is the first USA Today intern ever to write a front page lead story www.usatoday.com/news/nation/2006-07-06-volunteers_x.htm Beth's advisor is **Paul Clements**, director of the Master's in Development Administration program.

Faces of Success

Kiki Stamatiou graduated from WMU with a B.A. in English (creative writing). Her novel, "Dominica's Inferno" was recently published by Publish America. This is a work of fiction that deals with the issue of child abuse. Her pen name is Joanna Mahoris.

Faces of Success

WMU will receive a second Canadian Studies Library Program Support Matching Grant for 2006-07 from

the Government of Canada. This program is administered for Canada's Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade by the International Council for Canadian Studies.

Faces of Success

Sue Ellen Christian, associate professor, (communication) recently published an article on women's



Sue Ellen Christian

choices to suspend menses entitled, "Question marks in debate over periods" in the Chicago Tribune.

Faces of Success

Thomas T. Book graduated from WMU with a B.A. in political science. In 2002 Thomas was elected to the Ohio State House of Representatives, 89th District. In 2004 he was re-elected, and named as Assistant Minority Leader House Democrat Caucus.

Faces of Success

Dr. Timothy L. Clarey, (geology) B.S. '82; (hydrogeology) M.S. '93; and (hydrogeology) Ph.D. '96, recently was promoted to full professor of geology at Delta College, in University Center, Mich., and also serves as geosciences chair. He was named the Distinguished Alum of Bay City Western High School

for 2006 (as a 1978 graduate) and received an award at the June 2006 graduation for his accomplishments.

Faces of Success

Recent graduate **Brian Frankowski** has been named marketing coordinator. at the Holiday Inn West in Kalamazoo, Mich.

Faces of Success

Dr. Hector Quemada spoke on July 3 in Manila at the opening program for National Biotechnology



Hector Quemada

Week in the Phillipines. His presentation was entitled, "Biotechnology for the Philipines."

Faces of Success



Anthony Ellis

Anthony Ellis (English) was part of the Fourth International Palmero Conference. Shakespeare and Renaissance Literary Theories: Anglo-Italian Transactions. Senescence and Shakespearean Comedy: Italian Origins, New Variations.

Faces of Success

The Graduate College, The Graduate Studies Council, and the Graduate Student Advisory Committee announced the 2005-2006 recipients of the Graduate Research and Creative Scholar Awards at Western Michigan University. The All-University Scholars included: **David O. Achila** (chemistry); **Richard H. Becker** (geosciences); **Travis Bruce** (history); **Barbara E. Esch** (psychology); **Amanda M. Firth** (psychology); **Hedy Habra** (Spanish); and **Heather A. Slomski** (English).

Department Scholars included: **Richard H. Becker** (geosciences); **Travis Bruce** (history); **Eric Bushrow** (biological sciences); **Paul D. Caccamo** (biological sciences); **Miguel Centellas** (political science); **Christopher E. Ebsch** (political science); **Barbara E. Esch** (psychology); **Amanda M. Firth** (psychology); **Hedy Habra** (Spanish); **Yuchun Lin** (chemistry); **LisaMarie Malischke** (anthropology); **Patrick Ochieng** (chemistry); **Nathanael O'Reilly** (English); **David Joseph Piacenti** (sociology); **Robert James Ruhf** (Mallinson Institute for Science Education); **Heather A. Slomski** (English); **Justin Smith** (sociology); **Ewa Urban** (communication); **Niah B. H. Venable** (geosciences); and **Elizabeth Zaroni** (history).

All-University Graduate Teachers include: **Shawn Michael Adrian** (history); **Nicole Gravina** (psychology); **Jason Olsen** (English); **Nenad Senic**

IN THE NEWS, ON THE MOVE

(political science); **Jennifer L. Sobie** (psychology); **Adriana Undreiu** (Mallinson Institute for Science Education); **Jennifer Lorren Willis** (political science); and **David E. Zwart** (history).

Faces of Success

Department Graduate Teachers include: **Betty Ann J. Adams** (Mallinson Institute for Science Education); **Shawn Michael Adrian** (history); **Jonathan P. Allen** (biological sciences); **Nicole Gravina** (psychology); **Gordon Horace Samuel Gurley** (biological sciences); **Travis G. Hayden** (geosciences); **Kristin L. Krueger** (anthropology); **Emily Lenning** (sociology); **Jonathan Lighthall** (physics); **Adam M. Milewski** (geosciences); **Michael S. Monje Jr.** (English); **Adiyodi Veetil Sandhya Nair** (chemistry); **Kristina Marie Nespechal** (chemistry); **Jason Olsen** (English); **María del Pilar López Castilla** (Spanish); **Michele M. Sanchez** (communication); **Nenad Senic**

(political science); **Brandy Skjold** (Mallinson Institute for Science Education); **Jennifer L. Sobie** (psychology); **Adriana Undreiu** (Mallinson Institute for Science Education); **Jennifer Lorren Willis** (political science); and **David E. Zwart** (history).

Faces of Success

Drs. James Carr and Linda LeBlanc (psychology) have been appointed as associate editors of "Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis," effective September 2006. Established in 1968, the Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis is the flagship applied journal in the behavior analysis discipline.



James Carr



Linda LeBlanc

Faces of Success

Dr. Gene Freudenburg has been named to chair the Department of Mathematics at Western Michigan University. Dr. Freudenburg comes to WMU from the Pott College of Science and Engineering at the University of Southern Indiana, where he was professor of mathematics and assistant dean. He earned a bachelor's degree from Valparaiso University in 1982, a master's degree from Saint Louis University in 1986 and a doctoral degree from Washington University, Saint Louis in 1992. The WMU Board of Trustees approved Dr. Freudenburg's appointment in July 2006.



Gene Freudenburg

Faces of Success

Takashi Yoshida (history) has been awarded a second grant from the United States Institute for Peace in Washington D.C. Dr. Yoshida, assistant professor of history, was awarded the Abe Fellowship by the Social Science Research Council (SSRC) in coordination with the Japan Foundation Center for Global Partnership last year. The grant will enable Dr. Yoshida to take a year's leave of absence to devote full time to the research of his new project, "Remembering War, Commemorating Colonialism: A Comparative Analysis of Postwar Japanese Peace Activism and Museums."



Takashi Yoshida

CHEMISTRY BUILDING NEARING COMPLETION

After more than a year of dust, dirt and detours, the much-anticipated opening of the new WMU Chemistry Building will take place during fall 06 semester. Construction began in the Spring of 2005 on the new building. Currently, the exterior is 90 percent complete. The mechanical and plumbing is 98 percent complete. Metal studs, drywall, and interior masonry walls have been installed on all floors. Laboratory casework is scheduled for installation in the month of September. The Miller Plaza promenade, along the west side of the new Chemistry Building, is completed as well. The building opening is slated for late October of 2006, with classes to be held in the building beginning in January 2007.



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Staff Profile **KNUTSON OFFERS SAGE ADVICE**

If you look in the bottom, left-hand drawer of Kevin Knutson's desk, you'll find a stack of thank you cards from students who are grateful for his help. When asked about the pile, his response is "I love working with students." While it may sound trite to the unadvised, Knutson, who became Director of Academic Advising for the College of Arts and Sciences in April 2006, feels one of the most important aspects of his job is relating to students.

"I really enjoy the staff in the College advising office," notes Knutson. "The College of Arts and Sciences is made up of wonderful faculty, staff and administrators and WMU is a great place to work. But my true passion is that I love helping students at all levels of their academic careers by providing them with the information that allows them to make good sound choices about their future."

It would appear from the cards and letters that the students love having Knutson as their advisor.

One student writes,

"You have given me strength and courage to move ahead, believing that everything will be OK. May God always bless you with the same joy, hope and peace that you bring to the lives of others."



Kevin Knutson in front of a map in his office marked with all the places he has visited.

Prior to being named director, Knutson was an academic advisor with the College of Arts and Sciences for six years. He was a general advisor, and specialized in pre-law advising for the College.

"I love that my current job ties together all of the courses I ever took and degrees that I earned," jokes Kevin. "My advisors evidently knew what I was going to be when I grew up, long before I did. That's the kind of influ-

"THE MOTTO I LIVE BY IN MY JOB IS BY MARGARET BARR: I AM A TEACHER—MY CLASS IS JUST DIFFERENT."

—KEVIN KNUTSON

ence I like to have. I enjoy helping students navigate WMU and reach their destination of graduation."

Another student writes, *"It took a while to find a counselor that I could trust and I knew would really help me when I needed it, but you did that without a problem."*

Knutson earned an associate's degree in applied science from North Hennepin Community College in Minnesota in 1985, then went on to complete a bachelor's degree in secondary education and a Bachelor

of Arts degree in Sociology at Minnesota State University-Moorhead. He earned a master's degree in Political Science at Western Michigan University in December 2001.

Knutson has had the opportunity to travel to many different countries, including: Belgium, Canada, Denmark, El Salvador, England, France, Japan, Mexico, Pakistan, and the United Arab Emirates. He also lived in several different states, including: Elk River, Minn. (which he considers his home town), Long Beach, Calif., Staten Island, N.Y., Grenora and Jamestown, N.D., and White Bear Lake, Minn. before moving to Kalamazoo in 1994.

Knutson enjoys playing hockey, golf and tennis and spending time with his "lovely bride" of 15 years, Lisa Knutson, and his two children.



Nurturing comes naturally...Knutson at Walt Disney World with daughters Emma, 5 and Anna, 8.

DONOR RELATIONS

Nick McLaren recently joined the staff in the WMU Development Office as director of development for the College of Arts and Sciences. He spent the last seven years working in Development at Michigan State University with his my most recent assignment being the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources.



Discretionary Fund. This fund provides discretionary support through unrestricted gifts. The Dean's Fund allows the Dean, Thomas Kent, to designate financial support, as needed, college-wide.

To learn more about the College of Arts and Sciences Development priorities or to make a donation, please contact McLaren at (269) 387-4399 or at nick.mclaren@wmich.edu.

If you would like to make a tax deductible contribution to the College of Arts and Sciences or one of its departments, please remove and complete this form, and return it to:

*Western Michigan University
WMU Foundation Office
1903 W. Michigan Avenue
Kalamazoo, MI 49008-5403*

THANK YOU ONCE AGAIN FOR YOUR ONGOING SUPPORT OF THE COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES AND WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY.

I would like to contribute \$_____ to:
(select one)

_____ WMU College of Arts and Sciences

or

WMU Department of _____

Please indicate level of affiliation based on this contribution: (select one)

_____ Founder \$1,000 or more

_____ Benefactor \$500-\$999

_____ Partner \$250-\$499

_____ Affiliate \$100-\$249

_____ Friend \$10-\$99

Payment Method: (select one)

_____ Check (to "WMU Foundation")

_____ Credit card (check one)

_____ Mastercard

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Account #: _____

Expiration Date: _____

Signature (required): _____

According to McLaren, "Last fiscal year the College of Arts and Sciences raised more than \$2 million from alumni and friends to support many important initiatives such as scholarships, student and faculty travel, and meeting departmental needs. It's important to remember, *successful programs are built on more than talented students and faculty*. **The cost of continued progress must also be measured in dollars and cents.**"

The College encourages donors and friends to contribute to the Dean's

FEEDBACK

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 our Web site at www.wmich.edu/cas.

Name _____

Current Address _____

Year of Graduation/Degree Earned/Department _____

ACHIEVEMENTS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS SINCE GRADUATION FROM WMU

Do you no longer wish to receive this newsletter? Do you have comments or concerns? Contact Coordinator of Communications and Events, Cheri Bales, by e-mail at cheri.bales@wmich.edu, fax at (269) 387-3999, or mail to: Office of the Dean, College of Arts & Sciences, Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo, MI 49008-5308.

COMING EVENTS



EMMY-AWARD WINNING NPR BROADCASTER TO SPEAK OCT. 13

Ed Gordon, Emmy-award winning broadcaster and host of "News and Notes with Ed Gordon," heard on National Public Radio, will give a guest lecture on Friday, Oct. 13 from 1 to 2 p.m. in 3502 Knauss Hall.

Gordon will launch the School of Communication's

Visiting Scholar program for fall 2006. He holds a Bachelor of Arts, (communication and political science), from Western Michigan University

The event is free of charge and is sponsored by the WMU School of Communication. For more information, contact **Dr. Julie Apker**, julie.apker@wmich.edu or (269) 387-3140.

WEATHERING THE CANADA-US RELATIONSHIP: SUNSHINE AND SQUALLS



WMU's Canadian Studies Program, with support from the School of Public Affairs and Administration, the Institute for Public Policy Studies, the Department of History, and the Environmental Studies Program, presents former Canadian Ambassador to the United States, **Michael F. Kergin**, speaking on "Weathering the Canada-US Relationship: Sunshine and Squalls," on Wednesday, Oct. 11 in the Dalton Center Recital Hall, from 7 to 9 p.m. An informal presentation will be held on Oct. 12 for graduate students and faculty members with an interest in Canada and the future of the Canada-U.S.

This address will focus on border issues, trade disputes, potential disagreements on the international stage, and the future of the Michigan-Ontario border in the 21st century relationship. For more information, contact **Dr. Matthew S. Mingus** at matthew.mingus@wmich.edu or (269) 387-8942.

The Michigan Basin Core Research Laboratory and the

Michigan Geological Repository for Research and Education

part of the

Geosciences Department
College of Arts and Sciences
Western Michigan University
cordially invites you
to attend the

Dedication of our new building

October 13, 2006, 1:30 to 4 p.m.

5272 W. Michigan Ave.



COMING EVENTS

Shared Waters

A Symposium on the Great Lakes

Presented by:
Canadian Studies/Études Canadiennes

Western Michigan University

Thursday, Sept. 14 • 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. • Fetzer Center

Friday, Sept. 15 • 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. • Fetzer Center

The Great Lakes Close Up—Spirit and Science

Exhibit Opening 4:30 p.m., Friday, Sept. 15 • Waldo Library

Keynote Speaker:

Jerry Dennis, Award-winning author of *The Living Great Lakes*, *A Place on the Water*, and *Canoeing Michigan Rivers*

Thursday, Sept. 14, 7 p.m., Fetzer Center

Symposium Address:

Binational Management of the Great Lakes, **Dennis Schornack**, Chair of International Joint Commission, US Section

Friday, Sept. 15, 1:15 p.m., Fetzer Center

Exhibiting Artists:

David Lubbers • John and Ann Mahan • Joanie and Gary McGuffin • Ken Scott • Ed Wargin

269-387-4666

shared-waters@wmich.edu

<http://international.wmich.edu/canadianstudies>

Join the School of Communication for its third annual

Tailgate at the Tower

Sprau Tower Plaza/Brown Hall area

School of Communication

Saturday, October 14

10:30 to Noon

Food • Fun • Friends

INSIDER

LETTER FROM THE DEAN

DEAR FRIENDS,

In early July, I was honored to represent WMU at a special ceremony in Prague to award honorary doctorate degrees to Vaclav Havel and Arnost Lustig. The award and the ceremony occurred in conjunction with our *Prague Summer Program in Creative Writing*, generally acknowledged to be the best and the most prestigious summer writing program in the United States, if not the world.

The accomplishments of Vaclav Havel are well known. Many know of his service as the first President of the Czech Republic, his leadership during the Velvet Revolution that brought down the communist regime in November and

December of 1989; his many international awards including the Freedom Medal from the President of the United States; as well as his nominations for the Nobel Peace Prize and the Nobel Prize for Literature. Many also know about President Havel's years spent in communist prisons and about the persistent harassment he endured by the Soviet government during the 1970s and 1980s when he was not in prison.

Many of you may not recognize the achievements of Arnost Lustig. Arnost Lustig is Professor of Film and Literature at American University in Washington, D.C., and he is a survivor of Theresienstadt, Buchenwald, and Auschwitz. He has made the Holocaust the exclusive subject of his fiction, and he has published to great critical acclaim numerous stories and fourteen books, five of which were made into films in the Czech Republic. His books have been translated into more than 20 languages. Arnost Lustig also helped found the much-celebrated Czech New Wave cinema in the 1960s, and he opposed the communist govern-



Dean, Thomas Kent (center rear) with dignitaries and honorees in Prague during the Prague Summer Program in Creative Writing.

ment's anti-Israel policies in 1967 and was proclaimed an "enemy of the people," and "part of the Zionist conspiracy." He subsequently lived in Israel, and then immigrated to the United States. Since the Velvet Revolution of 1989, he has divided his time between the Czech Republic and the United States.

The award of honorary doctorate degrees from WMU to these two incredibly talented and deserving artists would not have been possible without the existence of our *Prague Summer Program* directed by Richard Katrovas. Richard worked tirelessly with Margaret von Steinen, the Prague Summer Program Coordinator, and with Dominika Wintorova, the in-country Coordinator of the Prague Summer Program, to make this wonderful event possible and to make it so successful as well. I might just mention that this event represented a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for our students attending the Summer Program, an opportunity that they will remember enduringly and fondly.

Of course, this event is only one example of the incredible work accomplished by our faculty and staff. In the weeks and months ahead, *I hope that you will visit with us on campus or perhaps attend one of our college events to learn more about our exceptional programs and to help us celebrate the accomplishments and achievements of our outstanding faculty and students.*

Regards,

Thomas Kent, Dean

NEWS FROM THE COLLEGE

NEW LOGO, THEME FOR COLLEGE

Faces of Success



The College of Arts and Sciences is launching a new logo and tagline beginning fall 2006.

“The new theme, ‘Faces of Success’ is designed to highlight the successes of our students, faculty, staff and others throughout the College of Arts and Sciences,” says Coordinator of Communications and Events for the College, Cheri Bales. “We wanted something that would draw attention to the myriad of outstanding accomplishments taking place in the College every day,” she adds.

The new image for the theme, pictured above, features actual College of Arts and Sciences students in the mural. The new logo was developed to reflect the changing face of education and bring the College of Arts and Sciences into a more “colorful” generation. The new graphic (at right) was designed by Communications and Events intern Christopher Skalsky.

Both the logo and “Faces of Success” theme began appearing on College of Arts and Sciences materials in early August. It will be incorporated into all publications and the website, available on t-shirts, polo shirts, hats and visors through www.wmuonline.com, and printed on banners to be used for recruiting, events and advising.

“It’s a wonderful new look for us,” notes Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, Thomas Kent. “We needed something to really convey the excitement and these two pieces do exactly that.”

COLLEGE HIRES COMMUNICATIONS COORDINATOR

Cheri Van Kuren-Bales has been named Coordinator of Communication and Events for the Western Michigan University College of Arts and Sciences. In her duties with the College of Arts and Sciences—the largest of WMU’s colleges—Van Kuren-Bales will assist with marketing, publicity and publication design as well as planning and implementing special events.

Van Kuren-Bales also serves as a part-time faculty member of the School of Communication, teaching courses in public speaking, nonverbal communication and publication design at WMU and interpersonal communication and public speaking at Kalamazoo Valley Community College.

Van Kuren-Bales was honored as a Distinguished Communication Graduate in 2001 by the WMU

School of Communication, and has served as a member of the External Communication Alumni Advisory Board since that time.

She received a Master of Arts in interpersonal communication from Western Michigan University in 1994 and a Bachelor of Science in business administration from Nazareth College in Kalamazoo in 1987.

Van Kuren-Bales also is the owner of Hannah/Gold Communications, a full-service public relations and marketing agency established in 1991 which focuses on educational and nonprofit organizations.

In addition to the agency, her previous experience includes six years



as communication specialist for the Kalamazoo Public Schools and seven years in marketing and public relations positions with a Kalamazoo advertising agency and Binder Park Zoo in Battle Creek.

Van Kuren-Bales is a regular speaker at local and regional workshops and has presented on topics including, “Improving your Public Speaking,” “Crisis Management,” “Working with the Media,” “Creating Professional Publications,” and more.

She is a member of the Michigan School Public Relations Association and InterCom—the Association of Professional Communicators and has received awards from both organizations for her programs and publications.

THE BACK PAGE

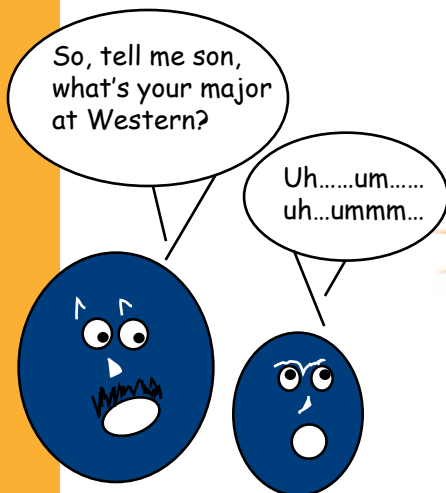
Thanksgiving break is just around the corner.

All that yummy food. All those great football games.

All those relatives quizzing you about your major at Western!

Join the College of Arts and Sciences as it hosts

Friday, Oct. 13
Noon to 5 p.m
at the
Flagpoles



**Don't be
caught
unprepared...**

- Faculty and students from each Department will showcase...
 - majors and minors in each department
 - career paths and successes
 - faculty-student research opportunities
 - alternative plans for achieving goals
 - student professional and social organizations
- Games, prizes, giveaways, grand-prize drawing
- Music, entertainment, FOOD, personality and interest inventories

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