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Fall 2005

## College of Arts & Sciences Newsletter: Fall 2005

College of Arts & Sciences

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## Unique research center established with \$4 million gift

Edwin E. and Mary U. Meader of Kalamazoo contributed \$4 million to establish the W.E. Upjohn Center for the Study of Geographical Change, named to honor Mary Meader's grandfather, a pharmaceutical pioneer who began his company in Kalamazoo more than a century ago. The new center, which was formally opened in Oct., is housed in Welborn Hall, which is located at the west entrance to the WMU campus.

The Upjohn Center will make WMU a central resource for preserving the work of past explorers and scientists and for combining their discoveries with the technical capabilities of today's researchers. The facility, the only one of its kind in the world, will use the latest technology to preserve and create enhanced digital versions of maps and aerial photography.

"Ed and Mary are among this University's most generous benefactors, and with this gift, the impact of their generosity will be extended and felt in locations around the nation," said WMU President Judith I. Bailey at the dedication ceremony. "In cartographic terms, the Upjohn Center will put Western Michigan University 'on the map' as a major national and international resource for vital scholarly research."



**Research Center**, continued on page 6

## Message from the dean

Since my last communication with you, I am very pleased to report that the College of Arts and Sciences will benefit greatly from two new buildings, one under construction and the other a recent purchase,



**Dr. Thomas Kent**

that will help our faculty better serve our students as well as improve our cutting-edge research. The construction of the new Chemistry Building progresses well and should be ready for occupancy next fall. This new facility will greatly enhance our ability to meet our students' instructional needs and will provide our Department of Chemistry with state-of-the-art classroom space. In addition to the new Chemistry Building, the University Foundation recently purchased from the Pfizer Corporation a new research facility in downtown Kalamazoo that will provide much improved laboratory space for some of our life-sciences research faculty.

In addition to the new physical space, I am delighted to announce that both the research funding and the gifts to our college reached record levels last year. CAS continues to lead the university and continues to grow in both research funding and gifts to the college. During the 2004-05 academic year, CAS attracted \$14.4 million in research funding, 46% of the total research funding within the university (\$31.66 million), and this total represents a 13.4% increase over the previous year's funding.

CAS faculty lead the university in both the areas of total research funding generated and research funding generated per tenured/tenure track faculty member. With both extramural funding success and strong publication records, CAS faculty competes successfully with the very best researchers and scholars in America. Gifts from you and from other benefactors continue to grow as well.



**Dean**, continued on page 6

## Ethics Center celebrates 20th anniversary

For 20 years, WMU's Center for the Study of Ethics in Society has brought together people from across campus and the Kalamazoo-area community interested in teaching and studying ethics.

The purpose of the Ethics Center is to encourage and support research, teaching, and service to the university and community in areas of applied and professional ethics. These areas include, but are not restricted to: business, education, engineering, government, health and human services, law, media, medicine, science and technology.

An informal reception and panel discussion was held in Nov. to celebrate the 20th anniversary of WMU Center for the Study of Ethics in Society.

Nine panelists participated including Dr. Shirley Bach, center associate director; Dr. Sandra Borden and Dr. Michael Pritchard, center co-directors; and Dr. Diether Haenicke, WMU president emeritus. They discussed the center's past, present and future and reflected on the purpose of an interdisciplinary ethics center.

The center has produced a multi-volume publication featuring various works. Recent works include "When Hope Unblooms: Chance and Moral Luck in the Fiction of Thomas Hardy" by Jil Larson of WMU, and "Academic Freedom in Times of Turmoil" by Peter Kolar of Charles University in Prague, the Czech Republic.

On the topic of research ethics, recent articles include "Teaching Research Ethics: an Institutional Change Model" by Michael Pritchard of WMU, "Changing the Culture of Science: Teaching Research Ethics to Graduate Students and Post-doctoral Fellows" by Brian Schrag, the executive secretary, association for Practical Ethics at Indiana University, and "Toward an Ethical School" by Stephan Millett, director, Philosophy and Ethical Inquiry at Wesley College in Perth, Western Australia.

Ongoing projects include the center's lecture series, research ethics education for WMU faculty and graduate students and sponsorship of WMU's Intercollegiate Ethics Bowl team.

## New Michigan Basin Core Research Laboratory Facility for WMU

The Department of Geosciences and the College of Arts and Sciences are expanding into a new technologically advanced facility for the Michigan Basin Core Research Laboratory.

The core research laboratory has been part of the Geosciences department



for more than twenty years. The larger, more modern facility will be a premiere resource for those interested in research or education related to Michigan geology, energy and natural resources and the underground environment.

The new core laboratory will provide teachers, students and researchers the opportunity to conduct on-site field studies with new equipment, and much-needed sample preparation and examination space.

New equipment at the Core Laboratory will allow users to scan historic maps, easily sample cores and cuttings, digitally archive paper data and integrate oil and gas data into the GIS system.



The facility will also include state-of-the-art support for teacher education, K-12 inquiry-based student programs, and workshops for technology transfer to industry professionals.

The project, with a total cost of \$2,500,000, is strongly supported by the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality and Geological Survey, Michigan Water Resources Division of the United States Geological Survey, Michigan Oil and Gas Association, and the United States Department of Energy through the Petroleum Technology Transfer Council.

## Alumni Achievement Award Winners 2005

**Dr. Andrea Allen**, Associate Director of Partnership for Food Industry Development—Fruits and Vegetables, received her B.S. with honors in anthropology in 1982

**Dr. Roger Ulrich**, Senior Scientific Director of the Preclinical Molecular Profiling Team for Rosetta Inpharmatics, a subsidiary of Merck & Company, Inc, earned his B.A. in biology and chemistry, and his master's degree in biomedical sciences from WMU in 1974 and 1978, respectively

**Dr. Norman Holy**, President of Better Gear, LLC, received his B.S. in chemistry and physics from WMU in 1963

**Dr. Thomas Asmus**, retired Senior Research executive for the Daimler-Chrysler Corporation, earned his B.S. in chemistry and paper science and engineering from WMU, and completed his M.S. and Ph.D. in physical chemistry in 1968 and 1970

**Mr. James McHale**, Assistant Vice President of the W.K. Kellogg Foundation, received his B.S. in public relations and journalism from WMU in 1984

**Dr. Joel Olah**, Executive Director of Aging Resources of Central Iowa, earned his B.A. in religion and psychology from WMU in 1971

**Mr. Daniel Bitzer**, Executive Vice President and State Manager of Investment Real Estate with National City Bank of the Midwest, received his M.A. in economics from WMU in 1984

**Mr. Michael Schroeder**, writer for the *Wall Street Journal's* Washington Bureau, received his undergraduate degree in English literature from WMU in 1974

Foreign languages and Spanish students receive \$52,000 in awards

The departments of foreign languages and Spanish awarded a total of eighty-one students scholarships totaling more than \$52,000 at its Honors and Awards Day in April, an annual celebration that recognizes the achievements of its outstanding students

### Ruth Heinig named Valparaiso's Distinguished Alumna

Dr. Ruth Heinig, professor emerita of communication at WMU, has been named the 2005 Distinguished Alumna for Valparaiso University, where she earned her bachelor's degree.

Recognized for her contributions to creative drama for children, Heinig was inducted into the College of Fellows of the American Theatre in 1996 and received the 1992 American Alliance of Theatre and Education Creative Drama Award. The author of several books, including "Drama Improvisation With Favorite Tales," Heinig received the AATE's 1993 Distinguished Book Award.



Sprau Tower

## Two broadcast pros earn Distinguished Alumni Awards

Two prominent communication professionals have been selected by WMU's Alumni Association to receive 2005 Distinguished Alumni Awards, the Association's most prestigious honor.

**Roz Abrams** earned her bachelor's degree in communication 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), a CBS Television Network affiliate.



Previously, Abrams spent 18 years at WABC in New York, taking part in award-winning coverage of some of the biggest stories of our time, including 9/11, 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.

**Jack Clifford** earned a bachelor's in communication from WMU in 1956 and helped found the University's two radio stations: student-run WIDR and public radio's WMUK. During his 47-year career, he has been a pioneer in developing television programming and in the cable-TV, cellular-phone, paging, broadcast-cable and satellite-network industries.



In addition to working as an advertising sales representative and general manager in TV and radio, he founded and was chairman of the Television Food Network and Northwest Cable News, a five-state, 24-hour news and information cable channel. Clifford also helped develop ZDTV, later named Tech TV, which now is the G4 video game channel. Clifford is an active community volunteer and philanthropist, particularly in the areas of educational programming and the arts.

# Sciences and Mathematics

## Cobern selected as a National Science Association fellow



Dr. William W. Cobern

Dr. William W. Cobern, director of Western Michigan University's Mallinson Institute for Science Education, has been named a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

Election as a fellow is an honor bestowed upon AAAS members by their peers. This year, 376 members have been awarded this honor by AAAS because of their scientifically or socially distinguished efforts to advance science or its applications. This

year's AAAS Fellows were announced in the AAAS News & Notes section of the Oct. 28 edition of the journal *Science*. New fellows will be honored at a February Fellows Forum held during the 2006 AAAS Annual Meeting in St. Louis, Mo.

Cobern was elected as an AAAS Fellow in the education section. He was cited "for distinguished contributions to science education through research on culture, philosophy and science and for the application of these to the concept of science literacy."

Cobern holds a joint appointment as a professor of both biological sciences and science education. Since coming to WMU in 1996, he has been a principal researcher in a number of science education initiatives funded by the National Science Foundation and the Michigan Department of Education.

He joined the WMU faculty as associate professor of science education and coordinator of the elementary school master's program. He also has served as associate dean of the College of Education. Prior to coming to the University, he held faculty positions in science education at Arizona State University, Austin College in Texas and Judson Baptist College in Oregon.

A 1971 graduate of the University of California-San Diego, Cobern earned a master's degree from San Diego State University in 1975 and a doctoral degree from the University of Colorado, Boulder in 1979.

WMU helps celebrate the 2005 World Year of Physics

To celebrate the 2005 World Year of Physics, a series of public lectures were hosted by WMU featuring top physicists in the field.

The lectures featured the pioneering contributions of Albert Einstein and included topics such as "Can We Make Atoms Sing and Molecules Dance? Using Fast Laser Pulses to Observe and Control Nature" and "What makes Einstein so smart"

The World Year of Physics is a worldwide collaboration of scientific societies aimed to share the excitement of physics with the public.

The year is an United Nations endorsed celebration of physics. Events throughout the year highlight the vitality of physics and its importance in the coming millennium.

### Book brings WMU geologist international recognition

WMU geologist and associate professor of geosciences Dr. G. Michael Grammer won the Robert H. Dott, Sr. Memorial Award, which honors the best original special publication dealing with petroleum geology that the AAPG publishes each year.

Called "Memoir 80: Integration of Outcrop and Modern Analogs in Reservoir Modeling," Grammer's book provides important information that will help oil and gas geologists understand ancient deposits by looking at modern analogs.

## Alumni Achievement Award Winners 2005

**Mr. Thomas Petzold**, Policy Analyst and Advisor to NATO, the Secretary of Defense, and the Joint Military Attaché School in Washington and retiree of the Air Force, received his undergraduate degree in German and political science from WMU in 1978

**Dr. Val Eichenlaub**, Professor Emeritus of Geography at WMU, received his B.S. in geography at WMU in 1955

**Mr. Paul Goudreault**, President and CEO of Delta Environmental Consultants, Inc., and Inogen Environmental Alliance, Inc., received his B.S. in geology and earth science from WMU in 1980

**Mr. Timothy Stoepker**, member and partner with Dickinson Wright PLLC, received his undergraduate degrees with honors in history and political science at WMU in 1976

**Dr. Charles Townsend**, Superintendent of Swartz Creek Public School District, received his Ph. D., in Science education from WMU in 1972

**Dr. Ronald Gould**, Goodrich C. White Professor at Emory University, received his Ph.D. in mathematics from WMU in 1979

**Dr. Richard Sharp**, Assistant Professor of Medicine with the Center for Medical Ethics and Health Policy at Baylor College of Medicine, received his B.A. in sociology and philosophy from WMU in 1990

**Mr. Greg Stikeleather**, Co-founder, President and CEO of Headsprout, received his B.A. in psychology from WMU in 1977, where he graduated *summa cum laude*

**Dr. Michael Khazhinsky**, Principal Staff Scientist at Freescale Semiconductor, Inc., received his Ph.D. in physics from WMU in 1997

# Social Sciences

## Alumni Achievement Award Winners 2005

**Honorable Richard D. Reed**, who served as General Counsel or Special Counsel to townships, cities, villages, counties and many units of the government throughout Michigan, received his B.A. in political science from WMU in 1957

**Ms. Kristi Gruizenga**, serving in the United States Department of State, received her master's in public administration from WMU in 2002

**Mr. Michael Carrier**, Principal Advisor to the Governor, received his B.A. in sociology from WMU in 1972

**Mr. José Santamaría**, Market President for the Kalamazoo office of Irwin Union Bank, received his undergraduate degrees in Spanish, finance and management in 1988 and his MBA from WMU in 1991



## Alumni Achievement Awards 2005

### Junior picked for prestigious governor's internship

Delal Pektas of East Grand Rapids, Mich., a junior and political science student majoring in international and comparative politics, was selected to take part in Granholm's Michigan Leadership Development Program.

Starting in early June, she spent 10 weeks working with Granholm's personal assistant. Pektas was one of 36 interns chosen statewide to take part last summer.

### Haight receives distinguished lecture award

Dr. Bruce M. Haight, professor of history at Western Michigan University, is the recipient of the 24th Charles H. Hackley Distinguished Lecture Award made by the board of the Friends of Hackley Public Library in Muskegon, Mich.

As recipient of the award, Haight addressed an audience of about 200 when he delivered the 2005 Hackley Lecture May 25 at the Muskegon Museum of Art. The title of his speech was "The Most Important Things Are Never Said."

Haight, a faculty member since 1970, is an expert on Christianity and Islam in Africa and has been a frequent traveler to Nigeria, where he has a long-standing collaboration with sculptor Lamidi Fakeye. Fakeye has been a visitor to WMU as well.

### Mingus wins Fulbright for research in Canada



Dr. Matthew S. Mingus

Dr. Matthew S. Mingus, associate professor and doctoral director in WMU's School of Public Affairs and Administration, has been awarded the 2005-06 Fulbright Research Chair in Public Policy, Governance, and Public Administration at the University of Ottawa's Centre on Governance.

While at OU through Dec., Mingus' research will focus on Prime Minister Paul Martin's Democratic Action Plan through archival research and an ambitious series of interviews with ministers, backbenchers, opposition members of parliament and provincial politicians.

"With the publication of 'Ethics, Responsibility, Accountability: An Action Plan for Democratic Reform,' Prime Minister Paul Martin appears to be taking a leap toward the Americanization of Canada's parliamentary system," says Mingus. "Backbenchers may gain a significant voice and the power of parliamentary committees may, over time, rival Cabinet committees. Elected representatives may also gain a real voice in budgetary matters by having a better oversight process for 'the Estimates,' as Canada's federal budget is known."

Mingus says the challenge ahead is to determine the extent that this plan is being enacted and whether the changes are really leading toward a convergence with the U.S. system.

"Being in Ottawa is perfect for this research because I intend for these interviews to be in person to the extent possible," he notes. "In addition, the prestige associated with the Fulbright program will help me very much in obtaining cooperation from members of parliament and other high ranking officials."

A grant from WMU's Faculty Research and Creative Activities Support Fund will enable Mingus to purchase needed equipment and to travel around Canada to gather provincial perspectives as well.

Mingus has been a WMU faculty member since 1998. His background includes roles as a nonprofit executive and project officer for the Canadian Department of Finance.

## Research Center, continued from page 1

Using the latest technology, the new center will preserve and enhance digital maps and aerial photography from around the nation, providing an infrastructure for research on geographical change. The original paper and photographic versions of these documents are deteriorating and might be lost if not preserved in electronic form, according to Dr. David Dickason, chair of WMU's Department of Geography, who is spearheading the project.

"With the benefits of modern technology," says Dickason, "specifically the Worldwide Web, WMU will be able to make these documents available to literally anyone who wants them—from those conducting scholarly research to private citizens, who are simply interested in family or community history."

Dickason says the center already has attracted the interest of researchers at the University of Texas-Austin and the University of Wisconsin, and he expects to work in partnership with both institutions. He also has been in contact with the U.S. Library of Congress, which is the world's largest repository of maps.

The new Upjohn Center will offer several unique advantages to researchers and the public. Foremost will be unlimited access via the Web. At the same time that maps and aerial photographs are being preserved in digital form, they will be electronically catalogued and cross-referenced, making it possible for the first time to easily search for desired materials.

## Individual Donors, continued from page 7

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## Dean, continued from page 1

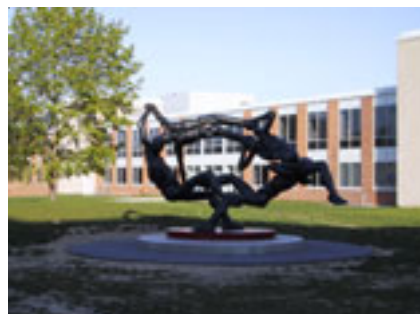
During the 2004-05 academic years, CAS received \$1,944,217 in total gifts, which included a \$1.054 million gift for the Upjohn Center for Geographic Change (part of a four-million dollar pledge from Edwin and Mary Meader). Even without this extraordinary gift, cash contributions to the College still increased 82% from the previous year to \$887,069.

Of course, our college has advanced in several other areas as well. You may have noticed, for example, that we revised our college website to make it more informative and user-friendly. Employing support from our donors, we also were able to help support our departments in their efforts to recruit the very best graduate students to WMU.

We also will be instituting a new Administrative Fellowship Program that will provide opportunities, primarily for underrepresented faculty, to gain administrative experience under the mentorship of an associate dean in our college. And, finally, I would like to mention our new College Ambassador Program that will feature outstanding students who will represent the college at different university, college, and department functions.

I continue to be very optimistic and excited about the future of our college, and as we move forward with improvements and changes in the college, I invite you to contact us with your comments and feedback about the college or the college's many programs. Of course, we encourage you as well to stay in touch by providing us with information about your accomplishments and achievements.

So, please don't hesitate to communicate with us through our new website or through e-mail ([alicia.yeagley@wmich.edu](mailto:alicia.yeagley@wmich.edu)).



**Wood Hall**

# Thank you

## A Special Thank You to Our Donors

The College of Arts and Sciences would like to thank the many individuals and businesses for their commitment to the advancement of higher education.

Below are those donors who have made contributions of \$500 or more since January 2005.

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Individual Donors, continued on page 6

If you would like to speak to a development officer about including the College of Arts and Sciences in your estate plan, or if you have any other questions regarding development, please contact John Greenhoe at (269) 387-8877.

Would you like to make a TAX DEDUCTIBLE contribution to the College of Arts and Sciences or one of its departments? If so, please remove and complete this form, then return it to the following address:

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# 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. If you would like to learn more about us, please visit our Web site at [www.wmich.edu/cas](http://www.wmich.edu/cas).

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

CURRENT ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

YEAR OF GRADUATION / DEGREE EARNED \_\_\_\_\_

## ACHIEVEMENTS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS SINCE GRADUATION FROM WMU

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\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## COMMENTS

Do you no longer wish to receive this newsletter? Do you have comments or concerns? Contact Associate Dean Wendy Ford by e-mail at [wendy.ford@wmich.edu](mailto:wendy.ford@wmich.edu), fax at (269) 387-3999, or mail to: College of Arts & Sciences, Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo, MI 49008-5010.

