

College of Education

Items of Academic Interest

Dr. Joseph L. White, professor emeritus of psychology and psychiatry at the University of California, Irvine, presented a public talk on Thursday, March 26, on "African American Psychological Strengths as a Vehicle for



Dr. Joseph White

Surviving, Thriving and Optimal Living." A pioneer in the field of black psychology, Dr. White also held a series of conversations with area students and educators.

Dr. Bray, president of the American Psychological Association and associate professor in the Department of Family and Community Medicine at Baylor College of Medicine in Houston, made several presentations on April 6 and 7 as part of the Visiting Scholars Program. Bray is an internationally acclaimed researcher, author and lecturer on Adolescent Alcohol and Drug Abuse Prevention and Treatment, and Stepfamily Therapy. Bray gave a community/university lecture on Adolescent and Young Adult Substance Abuse Treatment and presented on his APA Presidential Theme, *The Future of Psychology Practice*. Dr. Bray has served in



Dr. Bray with CECP graduate students

numerous leadership roles within the American Psychological Association, and serves as 2009 President.

Faculty Accolades

Daniela Schröter of the WMU Evaluation Center and **Richard Zinser**, associate professor in the Department of Family and Consumer Sciences, are collaborating on a new project funded by the US Department of Education, office of Vocational and Adult Education. Their job will be to evaluate the National Research Center for Career and Technical Education's effectiveness and performance on GPRA measures. The National Center, located at the University of Louisville, conducts and disseminates research, and provides

Continued on next page

Table of Contents

College of Arts and Sciences	7
Haworth College of Business	21
College of Education	1
College of Engineering and Applied Sciences.	13
College of Fine Arts	20

College of Health and Human Services.	10
Graduate College.	4
Extended University Programs	9
Haenicke Institute for Global Education.	6
University Libraries	3



Dr. Rick Zinser

Psychology, was awarded the Griselda Daniel Award by the Graduate Students of Color of Western Michigan University.



Dr. Lonnie Duncan

concern for students.

technical assistance and professional development to states. The process to evaluate the Center's accomplishments involves convening expert panels and gathering data from key stakeholders across the United States. The evaluation contract is for \$300,000 over three and a half years.

Dr. Lonnie Duncan, associate professor in the Department of Counselor Education and Counseling

This award is given to faculty or staff displaying the level of commitment, passion and service to students similar to the support and guidance that Griselda Daniels demonstrated during her 29 years of service to the students of Western Michigan University. This year the award was given to Dr. Duncan in recognition of his commitment, hard work, dedication and genuine

Dr. Kelly McDonnell, associate professor in Counselor Education and Counseling Psychology, presented a poster paper in March along with two master's students, Juanita Landen and Abbey Ewalt, and Dr. Lorraine Guth from Indiana University of Pennsylvania, at the recent annual meeting of the American Counseling Association in Charlotte, NC. The paper was titled Analysis of *The Journal of Specialists in*

Group Work: Author Identification and Institutional Affiliation.

Dr. Kelly McDonnell also co-authored with Dr. Lorraine, an article on group work terminology in the 2009 edition of American Counseling Association (Ed.), *The ACA encyclopedia of counseling.*



Dr. Suzanne Hedstrom

Dr. Suzanne Hedstrom and counselor education doctoral students **Christina Stuve** and **Lacretia Dye** presented a poster paper in March at the annual meeting of the American Counselor Association in Charlotte titled: *How Present Are Underrepresented Groups in the Journal of Counseling & Development.* The

paper presented findings of a content analysis of the *Journal of Counseling & Development* for the last 12 years assessing the presence of underrepresented populations.

Student Accolades

The junior interior design students in the Department of Family and Consumer Sciences worked with a local furniture company to design, develop, and implement a project to enhance their studio environment. Landscape Forms, the leading designer and manufacture of site furniture in North America, generously donated material and time to make this project a reality. Using pre-consumer recycled material from manufacturing, the students designed and fabricated an installation for the studio that improved storage, enhanced presentation and display, and served as an engaging insertion in to the space. Special thanks to Industrial Design for the use of their woodshop. The project was unveiled on April 23 in 2301 Kohrman Hall.



Interior design project

On April 20 at the Kalamazoo Center for Medical Studies, professional-level athletic training students presented rehabilitation protocols they constructed to address the areas of: mechanism of injury; injury signs and symptoms; phases of healing; indications and contraindications of care; rehabilitation techniques and practice; return to play/activity;

rehabilitation analysis; and rehabilitation secrets. The students and topics were:

- **Melissa Camhi** and **Jennifer Spytek**: Osteitis Pubis in a soccer player
- **Ashlee Hacker** and **Stephanie Hollander**: Chondromalacia Patella in a softball/ baseball catcher
- **Andrew Bliz** and **Bradley Toepper**: third degree shoulder separation/AC of a hockey player
- **Marianne Bosen** and **Susie Cook**: SI dysfunction in a performance artist/dancer
- **Carley Poulin** and **Danielle Kaye**: syndysmotic ankle sprain/high ankle sprain in a basketball player

The Department of Counselor Education and Counseling Psychology Annual Awards were presented to recipients at a reception on April 1. Congratulations to the following 2009 award recipients:

- Counselor Education and Counseling Psychology Graduate Teaching Effectiveness Award: **Julie M. Davis**
- Counselor Education and Counseling Psychology Graduate Research and Creative Scholars Award: **Janee Steele**, doctoral student, and **Kendra Lindberg**, master's student
- Robert & Diane Betz Award for Doctoral Studies in Counselor Education and Counseling Psychology: **Mugi Kamau**, doctoral studies in Counselor Education and **Bonnie Benson**, doctoral studies in Counseling Psychology
- Robert O. Brinkerhoff Scholarship for Human Resources Development: **Amber R. Brueck**
- Kenneth Bullmer Scholarship for Doctoral Students in Counseling Psychology: **Abbie VanDerWege**
- Counselor Education and Counseling Psychology Alumni Scholarship: **Regina L. Meyer**, doctoral student
- Arthur & Margaret Manske Outstanding Master's Student in School Counseling: **Joseph E. Lee**
- Outstanding Master's Student in Counselor Education & Counseling Psychology: **Brian C. Doane**
- Thelma M. Urbick Outstanding Doctoral Student in Counselor Education Award: **Adam T. Wall**
- Outstanding Doctoral Student in Counseling Psychology: **Leatrice Brooks** and **Jessica A. Kerby**
- Outstanding Alumni Award: **Dane VerMerris**



CECP award recipients

University Libraries

Items of Academic Interest

Due to reorganization within the University Libraries, the video circulation desk in 3305 Sangren Hall will close permanently as of Fri., April 24, 2009. After April 24, please go to the Education Library circulation desk, 3300 Sangren for all services formerly offered by Video Circulation.

University Libraries has been offering the WMU student community a variety of services through the semester and at finals "crunch time." *The traveling librarian:* Prof. **Dianna Sachs** offers library instruction to students in the residence halls at mid-semester and prior to final exams. *Library partnering with the Panhellenic Council:* The Scholarship Committee offers Greek Wide study nights in Waldo Library. This endeavor began spring semester and encourages students to study together each Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday evening. Points can be earned for the respective fraternity or sorority. University Libraries anticipates that these Greek Wide study hours will continue to grow in activity and in popularity next fall semester. Waldo Library and the Recreation Center are the only two campus units offering Finals Finish activities/ refreshments this spring semester. Besides a poster and some flyers underwritten by the President's spirit committee, University Libraries underwrote refreshments and provided volunteers from the University Libraries. During the final exam week University Libraries had up to 750 students at midnight and 250-300 students at the 3 a.m. closing time. (Please see the graphic from the University Libraries home page).

Upcoming Events

The Dorothy J. McGinnis reading center and clinic is running a summer literacy tutoring program during the month of July for students K-8. Sessions will be held on Tuesdays and Thursdays July 7-July 30 from 9:30 - 11:30 a.m. Literacy tutors are experienced teachers and graduate students in the Literacy Studies program who are completing their practicum experience which focuses on assessments, individualized instruction, and inquiry based learning. Please share this information with children and their parents who might be interested. For further information please call **Teresa Valdez** at (269) 387-3534 or contact **Dr. Susan Piazza** at susan.piazza@wmich.edu.

Faculty Accolades

Dean **Joseph Reish** led the Paris Cultural Emersion Program for WMU students studying at the Centre de Linguistique Appliquée at the Université de Franche-Comté, Besançon, France, April 16 – April 24. An endowment provided by a former French-teacher colleague of Dr. Reish left money under his sole direction and management to guide students through the museums, monuments, and cultural activities of Paris annually. Funds from the endowment that he directs also support a French teaching assistant in the French section of the Department of Foreign Languages and Literature. Highlights of this year's trip included a production of Molière's "Fouberies de Scapin," a private tour of Chartres Cathedral by the noted art historian Malcolm Miller, and a new ballet at the Palais Garnier of the Paris Opera based on Peter Tchaikovsky's opera "Eugene Onegin."

Three faculty librarians made presentations at the Michigan Academy on March 20, 2009. These include: **George Boston**: "Providing Print and Microform Holdings Information through SFX"; **Maira Bundza**: "Using the READ (Reference Effort Assessment Data) Scale © to Assess Reference Work"; and **Dianna Sachs**: "The Role of the Library in Supporting Research in the First Year Seminar Curriculum."

Prof. **Edward Eckel** will be presenting a paper titled "Assumptions of Originality: Plagiarism, Patchwriting, and the Engineering Master's Thesis" as a featured paper for the ALA Science and Technology Section's Research Forum at the ALA Annual Conference in Chicago, July 12. This paper is based on research conducted on the incidence of improper verbatim text use in a random sample of engineering master's theses from the Proquest Dissertations and Theses Database.

Graduate College

Items of Academic Interest

The Graduate College at Western Michigan University is pleased to announce the recipients of the 2009–10 Dissertation Completion Fellowship. The Graduate College offers the prestigious Dissertation Completion Fellowships for up to two semesters and two sessions. They are awarded in open competition on the basis of superior scholarly achievement to assist full-time doctoral students with the completion of their dissertations. Dissertation Completion Fellows receive a stipend and tuition award equivalent to a doctoral associateship. The recipients are **Gregory Laing**, English; **Lotfi Ben Othmane**, Computer Science; **Ileana Dumitriu**, Physics; **Anirban Dutta**, Mathematics; **Wen Guo**, Chemistry; **Petra Kohler**, Biological Sciences; and **Zhanay Sagintayev**, Geosciences. The Graduate College extends sincerest congratulations to these students and their departments for this significant achievement.

Faculty Accolades

Linda Comrie, office coordinator of the Graduate College, is one of eleven semi-annual winners of the Make a Difference award. She will be honored along with the other winners at a reception to be held Mon., April 20 in the president's dining room at the Bernhard Center. For the 2008–09 semi-annual award, only eleven recipients were chosen; Linda Comrie is one of these. Ms. Comrie was nominated by **Ms. Carson Leftwich**, receptionist, who pointed out how essential Ms. Comrie is to the functioning of the Graduate College. She also emphasized Ms. Comrie's personal qualities of friendliness, helpfulness, kindness and overall contributions to the quality of life in the office she supervises. All her co-workers are grateful that an extremely competent person like Ms. Comrie sets the tone for a friendly, enjoyable place for all. Not only does Ms. Comrie create a positive atmosphere for her colleagues, she gives her all to the students. Not a week goes by that several students or former students come by to say hello to her. She definitely promotes a positive image of the university and provides outstanding customer service, among many other attributes. The Graduate College is also proud to announce that Ms. Linda Comrie, office coordinator, received her Ten Year Anniversary pin from Western Michigan University this month. She has worked the entire time in the Graduate College, starting as receptionist and now is our indispensable office coordinator. The entire staff as well as the students of the Graduate College are delighted to work with her and to congratulate her on her accomplishment. Ms. Comrie is completely dedicated to the university in general, and her job in particular as well.

Lewis Pyenson, dean, has published a paper co-written with Dr. Christophe Verbruggen of the University of Ghent (Belgium). The paper is "Ego and the International: The Modernist Circle of George Sarton," *Isis*, 2009, 100:60-78. George Sarton founded *Isis*, the premier international journal dedicated to the history of science, in Belgium in 1912. After World War I, Sarton and the journal moved to the United States. Today, *Isis* is edited by Bernard Lightman at York University, and published and distributed quarterly by the University of Chicago Press. Each issue begins with topical articles providing in-depth coverage of leading issues in the history of science. News of the profession and an essay review follow. Issues conclude with an extensive collection of book reviews, covering all fields and time periods in the history of science. In their article, Drs. Pyenson and Verbruggen examine the early years of *Isis* in the light of George Sarton's connection with Paul Otlet and Henri Lafontaine, founders in 1895 of the International Office of Bibliography and in 1907 of the Union of International Associations, both in Brussels, Belgium. Otlet, known as one of the fathers of the Information Age, invented the science of information. Lafontaine, as socialist senator in Belgium, won the 1913 Nobel Prize for Peace. Sarton shared Otlet and Lafontaine's views about pacifism, internationalism, and rational bibliography; he designed *Isis* to fit with the modernist goal of using information to generate new knowledge.

Student Accolades

Natalie Giarratano, Ph.D. candidate in Creative Writing and assistant to **Jennifer W. Holm**, the coordinator of dissertations, has recently had three poems accepted for publication.

- "Talkings," a three-part poem that deals with some of the different ways in which bodies speak (or do not speak), will appear in the online issue #51 of *Pedestal Magazine* and will be available for free reading from April to June 2009 at www.thepedestal.magazine.com. *Pedestal Magazine*, which is based in Charlotte, North Carolina, has published bimonthly online issues since 2000 that include poetry, fiction, interviews, and book reviews.
- "Hustle" wrestles with the sins that are passed from father to daughter amidst the muck of southeast Texas. "Hustle" will appear in the May issue of *Santa Clara Review*, which biannually publishes poetry, fiction, non-fiction, photography and art at Santa Clara University. Founded in 1869, the *Review* will accept only the highest quality material for publication in its dedication to the pursuit of truth, honesty, and social responsibility within the literary arts.
- Giarratano's third recently accepted poem is "La Via Vecchia;" this three-part poem attempts to get at the gnarled heart of paranoia and violence that plagues the men in a Sicilian-American family, whose values have not changed much since the move to America a century ago. "La Via Vecchia" will appear in the 2009 issue of *Welter*, which has been the University of Baltimore's literary journal for over 40 years and features poetry, short fiction, creative nonfiction, and artwork.

The Graduate College, the Graduate Studies Council, and the Graduate Student Advisory Committee announced the 2008–09 recipients of the Graduate Research and Creative Scholar Awards and the Graduate Teaching Effectiveness Awards at Western Michigan University with Convocation on April 16 in the East Ballroom at Bernhard Center. More than 250 awardees, their families, advisors and faculty members attended the event. The All-University scholars were chosen by their departments for the outstanding quality of their research, writing, performance or other scholarly or creative activities. Most recipients of this highest honor have published their research, and were invited to give a short presentation on their research or scholarly activity. In the case of the All-University Teaching Effectiveness Award winners, they gave short presentations on their teaching activities. The departmental scholars and department teachers were also nominated by their department members, advisors, chairs or faculty members in honor of their outstanding teaching practices, innovative endeavors and high student evaluations. Both the All-University scholars and the All-University teachers will have this honor noted on their transcripts and permanent records.

- The All-University Scholars for 2008–09 are **R. Adam Clay** – English; **Chandrima De** – Chemistry; **P. Cristian Gugiu** – Interdisciplinary Evaluation; **Wen Guo** – Chemistry; **Janice M. Long** – Interdisciplinary Health Sciences; **A. Elizabeth Lyons** – Communication; and **Kristopher Frithjof Peterson** – English.
- The Department Scholars for 2008–09 are **Krystal Anderson** – Biological Sciences; **Lotfi Ben Othmane** – Computer Science; **Hemant Bohra** – Paper Engineering, Chemical Engineering, and Imaging; **Erin Bristol** – Music; **Berta Carrasco de Miguel** – Spanish; **Susanta Das** – Physics; **Anirban Dutta** – Mathematics; **Reem Ahmad El Asaleh** – Paper Engineering, Chemical Engineering, and Imaging; **Mohammed Elbes** – Computer Science; **Michael David Gillespie** – Sociology; **Marchion Hinton** – Psychology; **Tania R. Iqbal** – Biological Sciences; **Gustavo Jiménez Vaquero** – Spanish; **Melanie Kintz** – Political Science; **Joshua Philip Kirschner** – Geosciences; **Elsy Thomas Kizhakethalackal** – Economics; **Kendra H. Lindberg** – Counselor Education and Counseling Psychology; **Meng-Huang Lu** – Mechanical and Aeronautical Engineering; **Matthew A. Ludwig** – Science Education; **Sathya Narasimhan** – Industrial and Manufacturing Engineering; **Zhanay Sagintayev** – Geosciences; **Nicholas Sars** – Philosophy; **Phani Chander Sree** – Mechanical and Aeronautical Engineering; **Janeé Marie Steele** – Business Information Systems; **Shankaar Ganapathy Thiagarajan** – Counselor Education and Counseling Psychology; **Margaret-Rose M. Temkow** – Geography; **Lori J. Verspoor** – Sociology; **Megan Whipp-Timmons** – Political Science; **Melike Winkworth** – Physics; and **Imad Zyout** – Electrical and Computer Engineering.
- The All-University Graduate Teachers for 2008–09 are **Stephany Coffman-Wolph** – Computer Science; **Julie Meredith Davis** – Counselor Education and Counseling Psychology; **Theresa Marie Green** – Interdisciplinary Health Sciences; **Lisa M. Horton** – English; **Natalie Anne Kachurek** – Spanish; **Meghann Meeusen** – English; **Jacquelyn M. Mieksztyn** – Communication; **Marcie Noble** – Spanish; **Nicholas M. Owen** – Philosophy; and **Joshua Paul Schier** – History.
- The Department Graduate Teachers for 2008–09 are **Dania A. Alsaid** – Paper Engineering, Chemical Engineering, and Imaging; **Jeffrey A. Barney** – Science Education; **Lotfi Ben Othmane** – Computer Science; **Abdou A. Abou El-Magd** – Geosciences; **Kelly L. Faust** – Sociology; **Amanda M. Glick** – Industrial and Manufacturing Engineering; **Meghan O'Hara Good** – Geosciences; **Jamie Lynn Groos** – Computer Science; **Michael Gutowsky** – Geography; **Tania R. Iqbal** – Biological Sciences; **Dattaraj**

Continued on next page

Kamalapurkar – Industrial and Manufacturing Engineering; **Petra Regine Kohler** – Biological Sciences; **Teck Maan Lim** – Chemistry; **Victoria N. McCarthy** – Music; **Matyas T. Meszaros** – Economics; **Kyle Myers** – Mechanical and Aeronautical Engineering; **Joel Luc Raveloharimisy** – Political Science; **Michael A. Romkema** – Civil and Construction Engineering; **Christine Russell** – Special Education and Literacy Studies; **Richard W. Seim** – Psychology; **Erin Michelle VanRegenmorter** – Anthropology; and **Brian A. Zeider** – Chemistry.

Upcoming Events

In association with the departments of History and Mathematics and the Michitosi Soga Japan Center, the Graduate College is sponsoring a visiting scholar, Dr. Chikara Sasaki, professor of the history of science at the University of Tokyo. He is best known for his book, *Descartes' Mathematical Thought*. (Boston Studies in the Philosophy of Science, 237.) xiv. Dordrecht/Boston/London: Kluwer Academic Publishers, 2003. Covering both the history of mathematics and of philosophy, *Descartes' Mathematical Thought* reconstructs the intellectual career of Descartes most comprehensively and originally in a global perspective including the history of early modern China and Japan. Especially, it shows what the concept of "mathesis universalis" meant before and during the period of Descartes and how it influenced him as a young man. In fact, it was the most fundamental mathematical discipline during the seventeenth century, and for Descartes a key notion that may have led to his novel mathematics of algebraic analysis. Dr. Sasaki will be on campus May 12 and 13 to give two lectures, both in the Putney Auditorium of the Fetzer Center. On Tues., May 12 from 5 to 6:30 p.m., he will speak on "Comparative History of Scientific Thought between the East and the West." On Wed., May 13, he will speak on "The Second Scientific Revolution and the Analytical Revolution in Mathematics," from 5 to 6:30 p.m. Refreshments will be served at both events.



From left to right: Marisa Archey, Amy Moorman, Treasyri Williams, Jerry Givens and Nikki Trim.

Haenicke Institute

Student accolades

Treasyri Williams, a senior from Detroit, Mich. majoring in speech-language pathology with a minor in French, was recently selected by France's Ministry of Education to serve as a bilingual teaching assistant in the country's academies for the 2009-10 academic year. Williams was introduced to France in summer 2007 when she attended WMU's short-term study abroad French language program in Lyon led by WMU Associate Professor **Dr. Vincent Desroches**. She furthered her education abroad portfolio participating in WMU's International Perspectives on Care of Older Persons

program in Ireland in March with **Drs. Maureen Mickus, Carla Chase, and Ann Chapleau**, who teach in the occupational therapy program of the College of Health and Human Services. "Since studying and experiencing the French culture in 2007 I have longed to go back," Williams said. "As an aspiring speech-language pathologist, I also have a particular interest in bilingualism and language acquisition

that I think will be further cultivated by this experience. The country's great demand for American bilingual teaching assistants helped me land this fantastic opportunity." She plans to travel to France in September and expects to begin working in October 2009. As a teaching assistant, she has been placed in the Nice Academy, and is waiting to be assigned to a specific grade level (ranging from elementary school to college-level) to teach English to French students for 12 hours a week and to assist with other cultural activities. Williams will graduate April 25 and plans to continue her graduate studies in the field of communication disorders and sciences and to ultimately practice as a speech-language pathologist.

College of Arts and Sciences

Items of Academic Interest

More than 400 middle and high school students from Allegan, Barry, Branch, Calhoun, Hillsdale and Kalamazoo counties gathered for the Region 10 Science Olympiad competition Sat., March 14, at Western Michigan University. The Region 10 tournament directors were Marty Buehler of Hastings Area Schools and **Scot Conant** of WMU's College of Engineering and Applied Sciences. The day's competition included 46 different events designed to test the competitor's knowledge of physical, applied, and health science areas and ended in an awards ceremony recognizing the outstanding individuals and teams in the events. The success of the event is dependent on the many individuals who volunteer their time and energy. Specifically, the College of Arts and Sciences would like to thank Associate Dean **Susan Stapleton**, **Dean Thomas Kent**, **Kacey Polisky**, **Matthew Ludwig** and **Robert Scherzer** for their efforts in helping to make the event successful along with the following volunteers, many of whom are veteran Science Olympiad competitors, for their extraordinary help in developing the activities for the specific areas of competition listed as well as organizing the set up and judging the event.

- Amphibians and Reptiles—**John Spitsbergen**, **Sandy Spitsbergen** and **Jake Spitsbergen**
- Bioprocess—**Silvia Rossbach**, **Petra Kohler** and **Aroha Rodrigues**
- Cell Biology—**Wendy Ransom-Hodgkins**, **Derrick Hilton** and **Katrina Murphy**
- Chemistry—**James Guzinski**, **David Huffman** and **Steve Bertman**
- Crave the Wave—**Paul Pancella**, **Mike Famiano** and **Brenna Giacherio**
- Environmental Chemistry—**James Guzinski**, **David Huffman** and **Steve Bertman**
- Physics lab—**Paul Pancella**, **Mike Famiano** and **Brenna Giacherio**
- Remote Sensing—**Dr. Mohamed Sultan**, **Dr. Adam Milewski**, **Talal Al-Harbi**, **Zhanay Sagintayev** and **Abdou El-Magd**
- Road Scholar—**Dr. Adam Milewski**, **Talal Al-Harbi**, **Peter Marsala**, **Zhanay Sagintayev** and **Abdou El-Magd**

Additional thanks go to the WMU chemistry club and its members, **Megan Black**, **Nathan Lowe**, **Alex Schneider**, **Katrina Keefer**, **Brianna Hyder** and **Kristin Bevins** who provided a chemistry spectacular demonstration after the events while the scoring took place.

The 2009 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. celebration at Western Michigan University focused on expanding ties with the local community and on education. On Sun., Jan. 11, a "Higher Education Open House" was held on campus and provided an opportunity for high school students and their parents to learn about the benefits of going to college, how to take advantage of the Kalamazoo Promise scholarship program and the many educational opportunities available at WMU. Along with Associate Dean **Susan Stapleton**, the following faculty, students and staff from the College of Arts and Sciences participated and helped to make the event a success.

- Advising Office - **Nick Gauthier**, academic advisor, and **Jacquelyn Bizzell**, academic advisor
- Chemistry- American Chemical Society student affiliate (chem. club), and **Megan Black**, undergraduate
- Environmental Studies- **John Landosky**, instructor
- Geosciences- **Susan Grammer**, coordinator - Michigan Geological Repository for Research and Education (MGRRE) K-12 outreach Program, and **Jennifer Lindquist**, MGRRE, graduate student
- School of Communication- **Jennifer Machiorlatti**, faculty, **Joel Johnson**, graduate student, and **Nate Mark**, undergraduate
- Spanish- **Michael Millar**, faculty

FACULTY ACCOLADES

Associate Professor **Charles Henderson** has been awarded a Fulbright Scholar grant to conduct research and work with graduate students at the University of Jyväskylä in Jyväskylä, Finland from January to May, 2010. His primary work will be with the University of Jyväskylä Institute for Educational Research where he plans to expand his current research on instructional reform in higher education. Dr. Henderson is one of approximately 1,100 U.S. faculty and professionals who will travel abroad through the Fulbright U.S. Scholar Program during the 2009-10 academic year.



Charles Henderson

Richard Utz has been elected to serve as division representative in the Modern Language Association of America delegate assembly for a three year term. He represents the division on comparative studies in medieval literature, in which he served for the past four years as a member, secretary, and chair. Visit his blog at: wmuenglishevents.blogspot.com.



Richard Utz

The January issue of Geological Society of America's Geoscience Education Division has a plug for WMU/MGRRE Core Kids Program. The article mentions the work Core Kids is doing to provide resources to K-12 teachers, students and parents in order to bridge the gap between Earth sciences and the public. More information may be found at www.wmich.edu/corekids/index.htm.

Susan R. Stapleton, professor of Chemistry and Biological Sciences, associate dean, College of Arts and Sciences along with her former student **Chin-jun J. Hsiao**, a recent doctoral graduate from the Department of Biological Sciences, have recently published an article in the international journal, *Biochimie*. The article entitled "Early sensing and gene expression profiling under a low dose of cadmium exposure" can be found in volume 91 on pages 329-343.



Susan Stapleton

A scholarly monograph written by **Robert Vann** has been published in The Edwin Mellen Press! The monograph, "Materials for the Sociolinguistic Description and Corpus-Based Study of Spanish in Barcelona:

Toward a Documentation of Colloquial Spanish in Naturally Occurring Groups," provides a linguistic record that both recognizes the legitimacy of this Spanish dialect and facilitates its linguistic description and analysis. More information is available here: www.mellenpress.com/mellenpress.cfm?bookid=7700&pc=9.

Student Accolades

Fifteen awards were granted to 17 graduate students for their scholarly endeavors. The 2009 Research Day award winners from the College of Arts and Sciences included: **Oluwagbohunmi Awosoga**, Department of Statistics, "Meta Analyses of Multiple Baseline Time Series Design Intervention Models for Dependent and Independent Series," faculty mentor, **Joseph McKean**; **Michael Buchalski**, Department of Biological Sciences, "Investigating Resource Tracking in *Thyropetra tricolor* via Population Modeling in Program Mark," faculty mentor, **Maarten Vonhof**; **Sylvie Coulibaly**, Department of Biological Sciences, "Glucosamine Effects in Liver," faculty mentor, **Susan Stapleton**; **A.J. Edson** and **Nicole Fonger**, Department of Mathematics, "Fidelity of Implementation: Instrument Development for School Mathematics Curricula," faculty mentor, **Steven Ziebarth**; **Travis Hayden**, Department of Geosciences, "The Chesapeake



Core Kids Program classroom photo.

Bay Impact Structure: Differentiating Regional Tectonics from Impact Signature," faculty mentor, **Michelle Kominz**; **Elsy Thomas Kizhakethalackal**, Department of Economics, "The Empirics of Health-aid and Infant Mortality: A Semiparametric Study," faculty mentor, **Mark Wheeler**; **Lisa Malischke**, Department of

Anthropology, "Beads from Fort Joseph, Niles Michigan," faculty mentor, **Michael Nassaney**; **Meghann Meeusen**, Department of English, "Awfully Grimm within These Boxes: Examining Fairy Tale Retellings in Visual Narratives," faculty mentor, **Gwen Tarbox**; **John Panos**, Department of Psychology, "Combined Effects of MDMA and Cocaine on Conditioned Place Preference in Rats," faculty mentor, **Lisa Baker**; **Heather Qualman**, Department of Geosciences, "3D Interpretations of the Sequence Stratigraphy and Reservoir Property Distribution in the Belle River Mills Silurian (Niagaran) Reef, St. Clair," faculty mentor, **Michael Grammer**; and, **Jezaniah Tena**, Department of Statistics, "Testing Equality of Variances in Delta Distributions," faculty mentor, **Magdalena Niewiadomska-Bugaj**.

Krystal M. Bresnahan has been named the Presidential Scholar by the School of Communication. Bresnahan is an alumnus of Lee Honors College and has recently earned a bachelor's degree in interpersonal communication with a 4.0 grade average. Additionally, Krystal has received the Honors Development Scholarship and a WMU academic scholarship.

Deborah (Miller) Tomczak Cary (B.S. '95, Biomedical Science) has started her own company, Tomczak Consulting LLC, where she contracts out to other clinical research and pharmaceutical companies. She has worked as a clinical research associate and has assisted in the data collection, interpolation, and reporting for numerous clinical trial studies on new pharmaceutical drugs and treatments.

Daniel Tomczak Cary (M.A. '94, Chemistry) is working as a project manager in the Raleigh, NC, office of CH2M HILL. He has been a project manager and task manager for various environmental contamination studies on RCRA, munitions, and sediment sites on Department of Navy facilities. Daniel recently gave a presentation at the Battelle Contaminated Sediments Conference in Jacksonville, FL, on "Metal Bioavailability in Intertidal Marsh Sediments, MCRD Parris Island, South Carolina."

Upcoming Events

MAY 27-28:

- Event: Independent Book Publishers Association's Publishing University
- Highlight: Janet Heller will speak on "Expertizing for Greater Publicity" panel
- Location: New York City
- Time: TBD

Extended University Programs

Items of Academic Interest

Summer is a great time to work on course changes, and the Office of Faculty Development is offering several opportunities during the Summer I and Summer II sessions:

- Powerful Pedagogies helps participants understand today's students and their learning styles, and to incorporate active and collaborative learning approaches into their teaching. Faculty will come away from the program with a re-tooled course that actively engages today's learners. The seminar will run July 13-17, daily, 1 – 4:30 p.m.
- Blended Learning Seminar is for faculty who want to incorporate web-based tools into their classroom teaching. The hands-on seminar will help instructors experiment with, plan for, and integrate learning tools such as podcasts, Blackboard Vista, wikis, blogs, and YouTube into their courses. The series will be Tuesdays and Thursdays, July 21-30, from 1 – 4:30 p.m. Faculty and graduate student instructors are welcome.
- The e-Teaching Endorsement Program is currently available to tenured and tenure-track WMU faculty members who are interested in teaching fully online or hybrid courses (75% online, 25% face-to-face) and have the support of their academic chair. The program consists of eight sessions covering instructional design and best practices for e-learning and hands-on training in Blackboard Vista. A stipend is provided after program completion. In Summer I, the program will be Tuesdays and Thursdays, May 5-21, 9:30 – 12 p.m. In Summer II, it will be Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, July 20-31, 8:30 – 12 p.m.

For more information, or to register for any of these programs, please contact **Andrea Beach** at 387-4196 or andrea.beach@wmich.edu.

Continuing Education administration, as well as the University Bursar, flew to Kalamazoo to meet with representatives from ATIS, OIT, Registrar, and Student Accounting offices concerning Western Michigan University's use of the open learning component in the Banner student information system. Like WMU, Purdue is a Banner client, and university representatives were seeking information on how WMU developed and administers open learning courses through Banner. The WMU representatives were from some of the campus departments directly involved in the development and testing of the new open learning component in Banner, as well as in the Blackboard Vista online platform. This meeting started out as a fact-finding mission on Purdue's part, but ended up being a genuine sharing of ideas as several other shared program vendors were discovered between the two institutions. WMU started offering Open Learning courses through Extended University Programs in January of this year. Open Learning is a self-paced, open entry, open exit program,

offering undergraduate level courses, with up to six months to complete the course. This program uses the flexibility in the open learning component of the Banner system to allow students to complete as quickly they wish or take the six month maximum allowed. For more information, contact Open Learning Coordinator **Teri Cleveland** at teri.cleveland@wmich.edu or 387-4199.



Silver Beach Carousel Society

The Silver Beach Carousel Society is working to place a WMU-themed horse on the Silver Beach Carousel as representation of WMU's long history with the community.

The WMU-Southwest Campus invites all WMU faculty, staff, students, alumni, and emeriti to be a part of this endeavor. The mission of the Silver Beach Carousel Society is to establish a new, handcarved, traditional wood carousel for St. Joseph, Michigan. The Society hopes to bring back the historic and romantic traditions of the vintage beachfront property for the artistic, educational and entertainment benefit of the people of St. Joseph and Benton Harbor, Berrien County, and its many visitors from across the country. The carousel will be part of the Silver Beach park, a private-public project funded by the Gast, Schalon, Upton and Whitwam families, the Upton Foundation, The Curious Kids' Museum, the city of St. Joseph, Whirlpool Corp, as well as The Silver Beach Carousel Society. If you would like to contribute, call (269) 429-6222 or visit www.silverbeachcarousel.org.

On Fri., April 3, 2009, six members of the Purdue University

Student Accolades

Mark Forner, a PhD candidate in Educational Leadership (K-12), has been selected as the 2009 GRAHEN (Grand Rapids Area Higher Education Network) Outstanding Adult Learner from the WMU-Grand Rapids Campus. The OAL award is presented students who exemplify the ability to successfully juggle their career, school, family and community responsibilities. He was presented with a cash award and certificate at a reception at the GRCC Applied Technology Center on April 15. Mark will be completing his doctoral degree in spring 2010. He has a cumulative grade point average of 4.0 and is currently employed as a partner in an insurance firm. He is Board President of the Oceana Intermediate School District where he has served for the past eight years. Mark has been accepted in the "Teach for America" program and will be teaching high school English this fall in downtown Indianapolis. Mark has been praised by his colleagues as a man of keen understanding and good judgment, one who can evaluate a situation from all points of view and make the tough decisions all while maintaining a sense of humor. He is highly regarded for his business expertise and thorough knowledge of K-12 education. GRAHEN is a nonprofit consortium composed of 11 local institutions of higher education that have degree-granting programs for adults. The mission of GRAHEN is to create an awareness of lifelong learning opportunities for adults at



Jean Hibbard, Grand Rapids Campus Student Services Coordinator, and Mark Forner at OAL Reception.

colleges and universities in the greater Grand Rapids area. These schools work collaboratively to promote lifelong learning in the West Michigan area, foster discussion of issues in higher education, and encourage employers to support professional development of their employees through educational fairs.

College of Health and Human Services

Faculty Accolades

Congratulations to **Deb Goostrey**, CHHS coordinator building services, for her selection as a WMU Make a Difference Semiannual Award recipient for spring 2009. Deb was selected by a committee of peers from the participating employee groups for demonstrating dedication to outstanding service and fulfilling other criteria which include: projecting a positive attitude and/or promoting a positive image of the University; finding innovative solutions to problems; volunteering to serve on University committees; finding ways to cut costs, eliminate waste and save time and/or money; and other examples of service over and above normal job responsibilities. Deb received \$250 and was honored, along with ten other award recipients, at a reception on Mon., April 20.



Deb Goostrey

Congratulations to **Dr. Bharti Katbamna**, speech pathology and audiology faculty and **Dr. Maureen Mickus**, occupational therapy faculty, who were recently awarded a WMU Faculty Research and Creative Activities Award. Dr. Katbamna's research involves investigation of how maternal smoking during pregnancy may affect gene expression in the auditory central nervous system. Dr. Mickus' project is designed to improve social participation for non-English speaking older adults who reside in long term care settings.



Bharti Katbamna

Kathi Marchiondo, MSN, RN, CMSRN, CNE, a Bronson School of Nursing faculty member, has been recognized as a Certified Nurse Educator. The certification is obtained through the National League for Nursing upon meeting specific criteria including licensure, graduate level education and work experience.



Kathi Marchiondo



Dennis Simpson



Jeanine Bartholomew



Helen Sharp



Barbara Barton

Dennis Simpson, Ed.D., director of the Specialty Program in Alcohol and Drug Abuse (SPADA) in the College of Health and Human Services, received a 2009 Lee Honors College Honors Faculty Fellows Award at graduation ceremonies on April 16. The award is the highest presented to faculty by the college and recognizes significant contributions over the years, dedication to teaching honors students, and mentoring students through scholarships and the honors thesis. On Wed., April 8, 2009, Simpson was also honored with induction into Phi Kappa Phi, as were CHHS affiliates **Jeanine Bartholomew**, director of academic advising, and **Helen Sharp, Ph.D.**, professor of speech pathology and audiology. Founded in 1897 at the University of Maine, Phi Kappa Phi is the oldest, largest, and most selective honor society for all academic disciplines. The WMU chapter was chartered in 1988 as the 248th chapter of the Society.

WMU School of Social Work faculty member **Dr. Barbara Barton** has been appointed by Governor Granholm to Michigan's statewide Independent Living Council for a two-year term. The council represents individuals with—and parents, guardians and advocates of—persons with disabilities.

Student Accolades

Michelle Magalski, a first year graduate student in speech-language pathology, presented a poster "The Role of Speech-Language Pathologists and Audiologists in Palliative and End of Life Care" at the Michigan Speech-Language Hearing Association meeting in Dearborn, Michigan on Friday, March 27, 2009. Co-authors with Michelle were speech pathology and audiology Professor **Helen Sharp**,

Ph.D. and Assistant Professor **Robin Pollens**. Also pictured on the right of the poster is **Ron Kelley**, Supervisor at the Charles Van Riper Language-Speech-Hearing Clinic.



Michelle Magalski and Ron Kelley

Barbara Grinwis—1991 WMU Physician Assistant (PA) alumna and former preceptor and faculty member—was awarded the 2008 Leadership Focus Award for Community Volunteer Service from the American Academy of Physician Assistants for her humanitarian efforts. In April 2007, she and her husband Dan opened their mission of love: the Oasis of Hope Center, a faith-based medical center that provides free/low cost services to uninsured and economically disadvantaged residents of northwest Grand Rapids, Mich. Visit www.oasis-of-hope-center.org for more information. In other PA news, WMU's Student Academy of the American Academy of Physician Assistants collected a total of 475 pounds of clothing and stuffed animals for Operation Outreach, an organization through which health care

providers volunteer their time and expertise to provide much needed health care and clothing to the children of Kabul, Afghanistan. The connection between WMU and Operation Outreach is Major **Eric Kennedy**, a 1996 WMU PA graduate now stationed in Kabul, Afghanistan with the Michigan Army



Barbara Grinwis

Continued on next page



Afghanistan Outreach

National Guard. Eric, who serves as a medical advisor and mentor to Afghanistan health care workers, contacted PA Clinical Coordinator **Sherrill Busboom** seeking assistance for Operation Outreach. Thanks to the PA students for their wonderful response. Thanks also to Greg Wing of Powell Relocation Group for donating shipping materials and Scott DeWys of Aim Mail Centers for expert assistance in overseas package delivery.

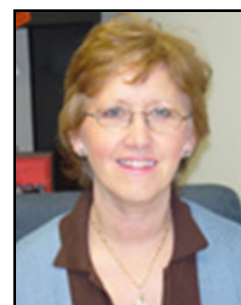
WMU Bronson School of Nursing (BSON) Professor **Mary Ann Stark** worked with the following individuals on the following presentations: BSON alumna **Seema Thomas** presented "Barriers for Evidence-Based Practice Among ICU Nurses" at the Bronson Evidence Based Practice Research Conference on Feb. 18 and at the Kalamazoo Center for Medical Studies (KCMS) Research Conference on April 15; student **Samantha Barrett** presented "Factors that Affect Labor Support Behaviors of Nurses" at the April 15 KCMS Research Conference; also there, student **Elizabeth Brand** presented "Factors Related to Breastfeeding Discontinuation Between Discharge and Two Months Postpartum."

Congratulations to the winners of the 2009 Book Read Essay Contest: *The Diving Bell and the Butterfly*. First place graduate and undergraduate students receive \$200, and runners-up receive \$100. Graduate winners are: first place, **Katherine Marie Schultz**; first runner-up, **Jessica Chase**; second runner-up, **Amanda Simpson**. Undergraduate winners are: first place, **Amy Beth Leitz**; first runner-up, **Malory Manderfield**; second runner-up, **Sabrina Kaiser**.

Theresa Green, a member of the 2006 cohort of the Interdisciplinary

Health Science Ph.D. (IHS-Ph.D.), received a WMU 2008-09 All University Graduate Teaching Effectiveness Award. Green also presented "Student Abstract: Health Service Usage Patterns among Michigan Adult Benefit Waiver Health Plan Enrollees: Use of Office Visits vs. Emergency Room Admissions" at the Kalamazoo Center for Medical Studies (KCMS) Research Day April 15 and developed an electronically formatted policy guidebook for initiating effective change with lead poisoning with a \$250,000 grant received from the Environmental Protection Agency. The guidebook is now featured on the National Association of County and City Health Officers' website. **Dr. Janice Long**, IHS-Ph.D. cohort 2004 received a WMU 2008-09 All University Graduate Research and Creative Scholar Award.

Michael Shoemaker, IHS-Ph.D. cohort 2008 published "Use of High-Fidelity Human Patient Simulation in Physical Therapist Educational Curricula" in the Journal of Cardiopulmonary Physical Therapy and presented "Effect of Cardiopulmonary Rehabilitation on Exercise Tolerance and Health-Related Quality of Life in Individuals with Pulmonary Arterial Hypertension: A Case Report" at the KCMS Research Day on April 15 and the American College of Physicians in Philadelphia on April 23. **Pat Tattersall**, IHS-Ph.D. cohort 2006 and **Priscilla Barnes**, IHS-Ph.D. cohort 2004 presented their work in posters at WMU's Graduate Research Day on April 10. Tattersall and **Michele Anderson**, IHS-Ph.D. cohort 2004 have both had posters accepted for presentation for the Symposium for Research in Child Language Disorders, in Madison, Wisconsin in June. **Dr. Barbara Cliff**, IHS-Ph.D., cohort 2004 accepted a new position as President/CEO at Windber Medical Center in Windber, PA. Also, **Tom Moore**, IHS-Ph.D. cohort 2004 has begun serving

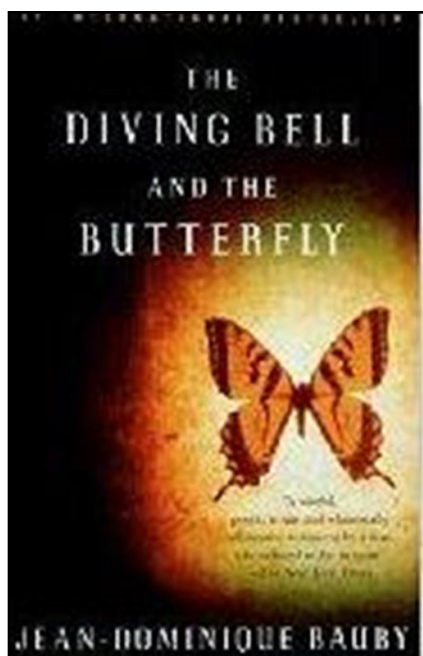


Janice Long

a term as a member of the Michigan Certification Board of Addiction Professionals.

Upcoming Events

Brook Yates, a graduate student with the Department of Blindness and Low Vision Studies, is biking across America to raise awareness and advocate the independence of people with visual impairments. Brook is looking for people to ride with her! She will be riding from April 10th – June 18th, 2009. Her northern route will be from Bar Harbor, ME to Anacortes, WA. For more information, you may contact Brook at (970) 333-4035, brookyates@gmail.com or on the web at <http://brooks biketrip.blogspot.com>.



Diving Bell book cover

College of Engineering and Applied Sciences

Items of Academic Interest

At the CEAS's first GEEK GAMEZ, students of all ages tested their skills at launching water balloons, building bridges out of spaghetti and marshmallows, and sampling a variety of other challenges. They also ate hotdogs and networked with area employers. **Joe Mydosh**, the Geek Gamez student coordinator and a senior manufacturing technology major, coordinated the event, which was held in conjunction with the Spring Co-op Cookout. This is the third year for the cookout event, a three-hour opportunity for students to explore displays of co-op and internship opportunities. In addition to building spaghetti bridges, an activity prepared by the American Society of Civil Engineers, teams were offered a variety of other challenges. Engineers Without Borders challenged teams to use a variety of items to maneuver a soccer ball through a number of buckets in a marked zone. The Society of Automotive Engineers (SAE) prepared a CO₂-powered car race, and Epsilon Mu Eta challenged competitors to construct a weight-bearing chair made of cardboard and duct tape. The balloon launcher appealed to students that ranged from upper elementary school through post graduates. Challenges were also offered by the Society of Women Engineers, Society of Manufacturing Engineers, Tau Beta Pi, Society of Plastics Engineers, and Red Button Games. **Ben Page**, an aviation administration major who joined the games described them as "well organized, competitive, yet relaxed and informal." Others who contributed to the event's success included Scot Conant, CEAS student outreach and recruitment coordinator, **Craig Vandermuellen**, and **Nicole Maggio**, career development and cooperative education graduate assistant. The goal for next year is to get Business Technical Research park corporate

participation. "We'd like to have a block party atmosphere next year," said **Fred Sitkins**, CEAS director of co-operative education.



Posing with their 20-minute bridge creation is Pyro Mania, an "aviation plus" team (from left): Erin Bushman, Ben Page, Seth Thrasher, Tali Strautkalns, and Dimitry Cripps. Bushman is a paper engineering major, Strautkalns is a computer science major, and all the others are enrolled in aviation programs.

engineers, scientists, mathematicians, and technologists came from Allegan, Barry, Branch, Calhoun, Hillsdale and Kalamazoo counties. Participating CEAS faculty and administration included **Peter Gustafson, Ajay Gupta, Pavel Ikononov, Margaret Joyce, Karlis Kaugars, Mitchel Keil, Don Nelson, Jan Perkarovic, Troy Place, Jorge Rodriguez, Frank Severance, Bade Shrestha, Matt Stoops, and Tom Swartz.** Contributing CEAS organizations included American Society of Civil Engineers and the WMU Rocket Society. For more information, contact Conant at scot.conant@wmich.edu.



Mike Romkema, ASCE president and a senior in civil engineering (standing left), oversees the testing of a bridge by a high school student who designed and constructed it as part of an Elevated Bridge challenge. Other ASCE members (from left in the back are Mark Crider, CE senior in back and wearing hat, Britney Richmond (right), CE junior, and David Schmidt, CE sophomore.

At the Region 10 Science Olympiad held at WMU, many CEAS faculty, administrators, organizations, students, and alumni, coordinated and supervised events that challenged area students. **Scot Conant**, CEAS student outreach and recruitment coordinator, directed the campus-wide efforts to host the regional event at WMU. More than 400 area middle and high school students representing 25 teams competed in 46 different events, challenging their knowledge of applied and health sciences and engineering. The future

engineers, scientists, mathematicians, and technologists came from Allegan, Barry, Branch, Calhoun, Hillsdale and Kalamazoo counties. Participating CEAS faculty and administration included **Peter Gustafson, Ajay Gupta, Pavel Ikononov, Margaret Joyce, Karlis Kaugars, Mitchel Keil, Don Nelson, Jan Perkarovic, Troy Place, Jorge Rodriguez, Frank Severance, Bade Shrestha, Matt Stoops, and Tom Swartz.** Contributing CEAS organizations included American Society of Civil Engineers and the WMU Rocket Society. For more information, contact Conant at scot.conant@wmich.edu.

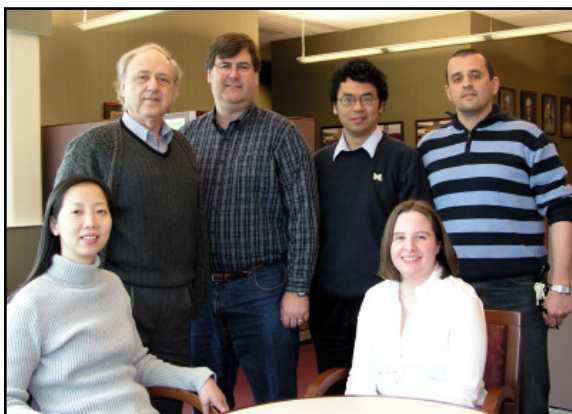
Representatives from Parker visited the Parkview Campus recently to discuss their company and its opportunities for CEAS students. Parker reps **Christy Martin**, a '94 alumnus of WMU's marketing program, and **Shawn Pollack** discussed Parker's technology and employment opportunities with interested students in the front lobby of the campus. According to **Fred Sitkins**, CEAS director of co-operative education, eight different companies have visited the campus this semester. As part of a program he initiated to encourage connection

Continued on next page

between students and employers. "Having companies visit the campus enables students to learn about the companies in a relatively short time," he said. "We know that it takes a long time for a student to research and learn about a given company, but this is the students' opportunity to learn about a given company. Moreover, this is the students' opportunity to learn first-hand about the changing and emerging technologies that represent the careers of the future." He said that when companies get involved with the CEAS career fair, they are also likely to take part in these important information sessions.

Faculty Accolades

Drs. Ala Al-Fuqaha, Dionysios Kountanis, and Wuwei Shen, all faculty in the Department of Computer Science, were recently been awarded a research grant from The Boeing Company "to develop prototypes



Members of the Boeing Research team include (seated, from left) Jing Zhang and Stephany Coffman-Wolph, and (standing, from left) Dr. Dionysios Kountanis, Dr. Steven Cooke, Dr. Wuwei Shen, and Dr. Ala Al-Fuqaha.

and tools that employ artificial intelligence and optimization techniques to perform intelligent planning on battlefield environments," Al-Fuqaha said. This effort is part of a multi-year collaboration between Western Michigan University and The Boeing Company. Over the last five years, these research efforts have totaled more than one million dollars. Fifteen students at different degree levels (Ph.D., MS and BS) are involved in the research and development efforts. Two other members of the team are **Stephany Coffman-Wolph** and **Jing Zhang**, Ph.D. students. The CEAS group is working with CEAS computer science alumnus **Mr. Steven Cooke** (MS '86), the lead engineer of research and development at the virtual warfare center at Boeing. "We do analysis of tactical systems for next-generation operations," Cooke said. Cooke's master's work was in inference systems, and Kountanis served as his adviser. "The problem we're working on is an inference problem," Cooke said. "Because I knew of his [Kountanis']



Parker reps Christy Martin and Shawn Pollack discuss Parker with Andrew Koehler, an aeronautical engineering senior.

expertise in this area, we specifically came here to WMU for the research."

Dr. Sam Ramrattan, a professor in the Department of Industrial and Manufacturing Engineering, was awarded the American Foundry Society (AFS) Award of Scientific Merit at a ceremony held at the Casting Congress in Las Vegas, April 7-10, 2009. Ramrattan was lauded for his dedication and commitment to educating

students preparing to enter the metal-casting industry, and for developing new equipment and technology to improve the quality of castings. Ramrattan came to the CEAS in 1992. He teaches materials and processes in manufacturing, metal casting, die casting, and process measurement and testing, does extensive research in casting, supervises many projects, and supports students in acquiring scholarships and positions in metal-casting. He is a senior member of the Society of Plastics Engineers (SPE) and the Society of Manufacturing Engineers (SME) and a director with the Central Michigan Chapter American Foundry Society (AFS), technical advisor to the Western Michigan University Student Chapter AFS, and a Key Professor for the Foundry Educational Foundation (FEF). He is a member of two national honor societies publishes regularly in several periodicals, has a patent, and won the 2007 CEAS Outstanding Educator award. His experience includes teaching at the University of Wisconsin-Stout, Iowa State University, and University of Technology Malaysia. He earned both a bachelor's and a master's degree from the University of Wisconsin-Stout, and a Ph.D. from Iowa State University.



Celebrating Sam Ramrattan's award are his family (from left) Bill Ramrattan, Bibi Ramrattan (Sam's wife), Sam Ramrattan, Dave Ramrattan, Sherry Ramrattan (Dave's wife).



The backdrop is a GE-NX Engine – a new generation turbofan engine made with composite fan blades to be mounted on Boeing 787. (kneeling from left) Taeseung Kuk and Anthony Bootka; back row from left Dr. Kapseong Ro, Timothy Talladay, Alex Fattal, John Potok, Andrew Strongrich, Jason Rancour, and Joseph Shaw.

Dr. Kapseong Ro, assistant professor in the Department of Mechanical and Aeronautical Engineering, arranged for six aeronautical engineering freshmen to take a two-day trip to the Cincinnati area to tour General Electric (GE) Aviation and to visit the National Museum of the US Air Force in Dayton, Ohio. The aeronautical engineering students who took part included **Alexander Fattal, John Potok, Andrew Strongrich, Jason Rancour, Joseph Shaw, and Anthony Bootka**. The students learned about the history of jet turbine engine development at the GE Learning Center and informed about the various opportunities at GE. They met with several practicing engineers including a CEAS Alum, **Greg Platz**. "The first day at GE opened my eyes to what aeronautical engineers really do in the work force," Strongrich said. Rancour described the visits as "great learning experiences" and said that he learned valuable information at GE that will help him in pursuing a career and was able to apply concepts he's learned in class to real aircraft that he saw at the museum. "Overall it was a great trip and a great learning opportunity for me and all the others who went on the trip," he said.

Dr. Damon Miller, an associate professor in the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, was invited to St. Mary's School in Paw Paw to provide elementary school students with a science experiment in electricity. Inspired by various sources, he came equipped with lemons, screws, copper wire, and alligator clips. The second and

third graders built batteries that produced enough power to activate a small light. Miller explained that a lemon can be used as a battery by inserting a piece of copper wire and a zinc plated screw as the connection points. He challenged the students to determine how many lemons would be required to provide enough electric power to light up a light-emitting diode (LED). He said that lemons can be wired in series to increase the provided voltage. "The students conducted an experiment to see how many lemon batteries are required to power the LED," he said. "It turns out that you need at least two." Miller, who joined WMU in 1997, has taught a variety of courses including circuit analysis, electronics, senior design, and neural networks. His research work focuses on nonlinear circuits and systems, neural systems, and engineering education. St. Mary's School has operated since 1937 and offers pre-school/childcare and kindergarten to 5th grade classes.

Dr. Tarun Gupta, a professor in the Department of Industrial and Manufacturing Engineering, and **Srinivas Ghattamaneni**, an IME research assistant, advised two FIRST Robotics teams sponsored by WMU this semester. Each team consisted of about 25 high-school-aged students who participated at two district events. One team's membership was exclusively home-schooled students from the area, including some from as far away as Niles, Plainwell, Battle Creek, Pennfield, and South Bend. Participating in the competition for the first time as Team 2767, the home-schooled group dubbed itself FLEET - Future Leaders Exploring Engineering and Technology. The team enjoyed a lot of extended family support as it worked many evenings on the



Dr. Damon Miller (right) discusses lemon batteries with students at St. Mary's School in Paw Paw. Photo courtesy of Connie Cooley, principal at St. Mary's School.

robot. The efforts paid off as the team earned three awards at the district competition: the All Star Rookie Award, the Highest Seed Award, and the Rookie Inspiration Award. In addition, the team was invited to participate at the state and national levels. The 2009 challenge was called Lunacy. The robots had to pull a trailer and be able to score "moon-rock" balls into the trailers of other robots. The robots used a camera to locate the target with an advanced control system. Because human team members were also able to shoot moon rocks into opposing robots' trailers – a first this year, the

WMU team members had to learn to shoot also. FIRST, which stands for "For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology," is a multinational non-profit organization that

Continued on next page

sponsors robotics competitions. Each year a new competitive challenge is presented that requires each team to design and build a robot that meets specific criteria and to complete the task in six weeks.

Student Accolades

WMU's Concrete Canoe Team won third place at the 2009 North Central Regional Concrete Canoe Competition with this year's canoe, The Black Pearl. The team is sponsored by the WMU student chapter of the American Society of Civil Engineers [ASCE].

Lawrence Technological University hosted the regional event, which consisted of four equivalent components: aesthetics, an oral presentation, a written presentation, and five canoe races. WMU's third place overall finish involved three other awards: first place in the oral presentation, second place for the technical paper, and third place in final product / aesthetics. The team also placed third in a "fun" concrete bocce ball competition. "This is the first time we've ever placed among the top three teams, and it puts us in a position as a team to be reckoned with," said

Mike Romkema, a civil engineering (CE) senior who serves as WMU's ASCE president. For the competition, the team of 25 dedicated ASCE members used their engineering skills and spent countless hours designing, building, and polishing the canoe. This year's competition required that 25 percent of the concrete come from recycled materials. The 2009 team includes Co-captains **Paul Pagano** and **Bryce DeQuoy**, who were greatly assisted by **Kim Warners**, a CE junior. **Blair Bates**, Building Restoration Inc. president, is the team's industry advisor. "Most of this would not have been possible without [Bates'] insights and suggestions,"



FIRST Robotics Team 2767 - (back standing from left) Brian Burke, Nathan Chupp, Hayden Taylor, Hassan Fadel, and Zeck Talmage; (front row), Taylor Bruinwood, Forest Taylor, Tara Joyce, and Jack Bruinwood; (sitting) Tom Allison.

Romkema said. The Black Pearl is WMU's fifth canoe since the team was formed in 2002. Romkema praised the CEAS for its support of the project. WMU competed against nine other including University of Michigan and Michigan State. Ohio Northern won first, and Michigan Tech earned second. The ASCE faculty adviser is **Dr. Hubo Cai**, a CCE assistant professor. For more information, visit <http://www.rso.wmich.edu/asce> or email the organization at wmu_asce_cca@yahoo.com.

Dr. Dan Litynski, dean of the CEAS, honored the top student in each of the 15 CEAS undergraduate programs. The students were treated to lunch as part of the awards ceremony. Each student, who was selected based on having the highest grade point average (GPA), invited a faculty member of his or her choice to the luncheon ceremony where the award winners received commemorative plaques. The awards event was coordinated by **Johanna Wells**, CEAS office coordinator, and **Tammy Bergman**, CEAS office associate. The following list includes, by department, the name and program of the award-winning student and the student's choice faculty member.

Department of Civil and Construction Engineering (CCE):

- **Travis B. Johncock**, Construction Engineering
- **Marianne M. Zenz**, Civil Engineering: **Dr. Jun-Seok Oh**

Department of Computer Science (CS):
 • **Benjamin A. Mechling**, Computer Science-Theory and Analysis: **Dr. Karlis Kaugars**
 • **Joseph E. Smit**, Computer Science-General: **Dr. John Kapenga**



The Black Pearl with the WMU team after the regional competition: Front (left to right) Kim Warners, Nick Mannon, Britney Richmond, Andy Peruski, Allison Porrett, and Allison Doty, Second Row (left to right) Mike Romkema, Alex Frazier, John Hannich, Ryan Stoughton, Perry Lyford-Stojic, and Lindsay Mukans; Back (left to right) Matt Moran, Wade Cleary, Zach Adams, Steve Houren, Bryce DeQuoy, and Paul Pagano.



Dean Awards

Continued on next page

Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering (ECE):

- **Mark T. Piotrowski**, Computer Engineering
- **Gregory M. Vosters**, Electrical Engineering: **Dr. Damon Miller**

Department of Industrial and Manufacturing Engineering (IME):

- **Jordan R. Avery**, Engineering Graphics and Design Technology: **Dr. Mitchel Keil**
- **Yenni Chen**, Industrial and Entrepreneurial Engineering: **Dr. Tycho Fredericks**
- **Jordan W. Kimble**, Manufacturing Engineering Technology: **Dr. Sam Ramrattan**
- **Joshua K. Wiese**, Engineering Management Technology: **Dr. Betsy Aller**

Department of Mechanical and Aeronautical Engineering (MAE):

- **Brian L. Doorlag**, Mechanical Engineering: **Dr. Ho Sung Lee**
- **Timothy G. Talladay**, Aeronautical Engineering: **Dr. Peter Gustafson**

Department of Paper Engineering, Chemical Engineering, and Imaging (PCI):

- **Jessica J. Baker**, Imaging: **Larry Ahleman**
- **Margaret E. Gerhart**, Paper Engineering: **Dr. Raj Aravamuthan**
- **Ryan T. Lake**, Chemical Engineering: **Dr. Peter Parker**

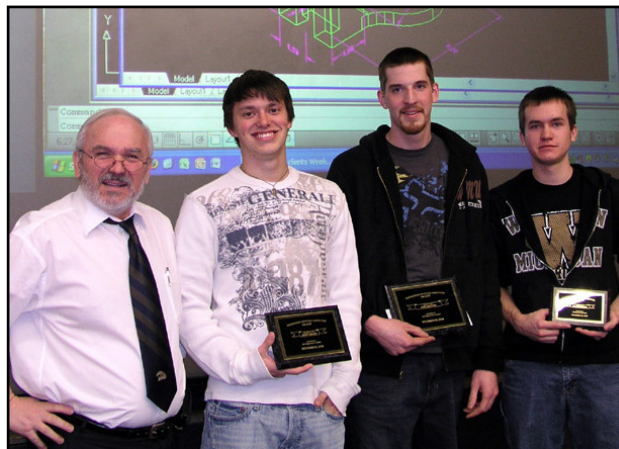
The top students in the Department of Industrial and Manufacturing Engineering (IME) were honored in April at the Student Recognition Luncheon provided annually by Clausing Industrial Inc., an IME supporter for 56 years. **Dr. David Lyth**, IME professor, emceed the Parkview Campus ceremony that honored IME's outstanding student award winners and paid tribute to the officers and advisors of seven student societies with IME members and three IME student honor societies. **Jordan Avery**, IME's top engineering graphics and design (EGR) senior, was lauded as the department's WMU Presidential Scholar and as the CEAS outstanding dean's student in EGR. IME seniors **Jordan Kimble**, in manufacturing technology (MFT), and **Joshua Wiese**, in engineering management (UEM), were IME's and the CEAS dean's outstanding students in their respective majors. **Aarti Valsadia** won IME's outstanding student award in industrial engineering and industrial and entrepreneurial engineering (IE/IEE). **Yenni Chen** was the CEAS dean's outstanding student in IE/IEE. Outstanding Service Awards were presented to



From left, Dr. Paul Engelmann, IME chair; Ashley Hovenkamp, IENM; Josh Wiese, UEM; Aarti Valsadia, IE/IEE; Jordan Kimble, MFT; Amanda Glick, Service; Jordan Avery, EGR; Madeline McAuley, Service; Jason Horton, MNEM; Dr. John Dunn, WMU president; and Dr. Dan Litynski, CEAS dean. Missing from the photo is Casey Koopmans, EMTN.

Madeline McAuley, an EGR senior who developed the IME blog and Web site, and **Amanda Glick**, an IEE senior who was lauded for assisting wherever she is needed. Graduate students honored as outstanding were **Casey W. Koopmans**, engineering management (EMTN); **Jason Horton**, manufacturing (MNEM), and **Ashley Hovenkamp**, industrial engineering (IENM). WMU President **John Dunn**, CEAS Dean **Dan Litynski**, and IME Chair **Paul Engelmann** praised the award winners and the faculty who support them. The event was organized by **Tom Swartz**, who chairs the IME Scholarship and Awards Committee, and committee members **Drs. Steven Butt**, **Kailash Bafna**, and **Jorge Rodriguez**. **Klaz Welch**, **Mary Fosburg**, and **John Jacobs**, the IME office administrators, were acknowledged for their support in organizing the luncheon.

Before an audience of students eligible to compete in the 2009 Spring AutoCAD Contest, **Slobodan Urdarevik**, the lead lecturer for IME 1420 Engineering Graphics, honored



Slobodan Urdarevik (left) with 2008 Fall AutoCAD winners (from left): Grant Miller, Karl Waltzer, and Stephan Telenko.

Karl Waltzer, a first-year civil engineering student, as the winner of the 2008 Fall AutoCAD Contest. The competition is held at the end of each semester for the more than 300 students enrolled in IME 1420 Engineering Graphics, where students complete about 50 CAD-related assignments. Waltzer is from Memphis, MI, which is located near Port Huron. The Capac High School graduate had three years of high-school, computer-aided design (CAD) classes. His future plans include obtaining bachelor's and master's degrees and then starting his own construction company. The second-place winner is **Grant Miller**, a first-year engineering management (UEM) major and integrated supply management minor from Byron Center. He had three years of high-school CAD. He is

Continued on next page

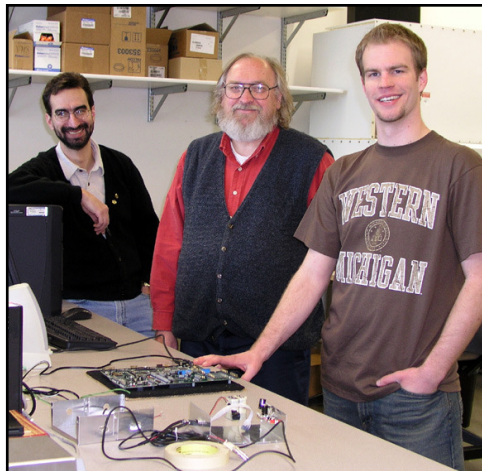
presently interning with CollegeWorks Painting. He would also like to be a teaching assistant for IME 1420. His future plans include obtaining bachelor's and master's degrees and starting his own engineering firm. Third place winner **Stephan Telenko**, a first-year engineering graphics and design technology (EGR) major, is from Canton, MI. He graduated from Salem HS, where he took four years of CAD classes drafting. His present employment involves putting up tents for special events. He would like to eventually be a designer. "I'm interested in all kinds of designing." All three winners received Best Buy gift cards and engraved plaques donated by Dr. Hooks, Inc., a Kalamazoo-based business. For the competition, students create a two-dimensional AutoCAD drawing and a 3D-solid model of a complicated part. They must show all dimensions and all symbols needed for manufacturing. For more information, e-mail slobodan.urdarevik@wmich.edu.

Kyle Batzer, a junior in computer engineering from Bay City, has been awarded a NASA Michigan Space Grant Consortium Undergraduate Research Fellowship for the project "Digital Processing of Biological Signals to Support Computing with Neuron Cell Cultures." As a member of the new Neurobiology Engineering Laboratory in the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, Batzer is developing software to process signals obtained from electrodes embedded in cultures of biological neurons. He is working under the direction of **Dr. Damon Miller** and **Dr. Frank Severance**, professors in the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, in the Neurobiology Engineering Laboratory, which is being configured to support research into the information processing capabilities of biological neural networks.

Upcoming Events

The WMU Formula Racing Team of the Society of Automotive Engineers (SAE) is unveiling its 2009 FSAE car on Fri., May 8, at 3:30 p.m. at the CEAS Parkview Campus. The team members took their finals early to compete at the Virginia International Raceway (VIR) in Alton, VA, during finals week. The team is preparing for the 2009 Formula SAE® competition, an annual event held at the Michigan

International Speedway (MIS), Brooklyn, Michigan, in May. The event at MIS is the oldest and most prestigious Formula SAE competition held within the United States. **Dr. Claudia Fajardo**, a faculty member in the Department of Mechanical and Aeronautical Engineering, serves as advisor to the SAE. **Fred Sitkins**, CEAS director of co-operative education who is also a Department of Industrial and Manufacturing Engineering professor who specializes in automotive topics, described the car as "the best designed and most precisely crafted vehicle that has ever come out of this institution." At a meeting of CEAS student leaders, he congratulated the team for the process they used in crafting the vehicle. "The car has some features that nobody's going to notice except for those of us who fully appreciate the materials, techniques, and processes employed in its construction," he said. "I really congratulate these guys about how they approached this project."



Kyle Batzer (right), a CE junior, received a NASA MSGC grant to develop instrumentation to study cultured neurons placed on an array (shown on the table). Advising the project are Dr. Damon Miller (left) and Dr. Frank Severance.

Students (ICAMES). The conference is set for May 9-15, at Bogazici University, in Istanbul, Turkey. Their paper is based on nanotechnology research they completed last year in a program coordinated by **Dr. Pnina Ari-Gur**, a professor in the Department of Mechanical and Aeronautical Engineering

(MAE). She encouraged them to apply. "Last year, we did research in Sao Carlos, Sao Paulo, Brazil, at the Universidade Federal de São Carlos, on the decomposition of organic pollutants using Titanium Dioxide," Albin said. "ICAMES allows us to present this research to people from all over the world, Singapore to the United Kingdom." Ari-Gur said that there is no conference fee, and the room/board are paid for by Bogazici University. She acknowledged WMU alum **Larry Kopka** as "a gracious donor who will cover plane tickets for the students' travel." Gerhart said she was "honored to represent Western at the conference."

Good was also honored. She said the nanotechnology research program was "an invaluable



Getting the car ready for its unveiling are some of the FSAE team members who have been putting in long hours on the car; Jeremiah McClintock (in the driver's seat) and (standing, from left) Geoff VanGemert, Chris Hartman, Nate Urban, Jeff Terry, Brian Doorlag, Scott Kennedy, and Ryan Pringle.

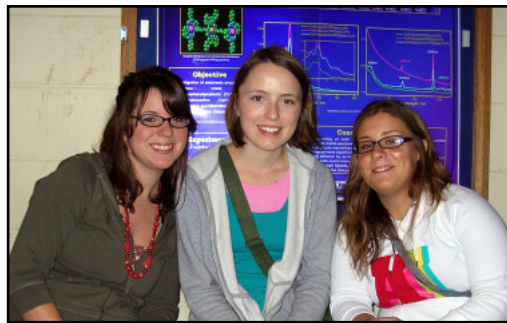
Continued on next page

experience" and that being able to not only research in Brazil but to also present in Istanbul was "the opportunity of a lifetime." Albin agreed, adding that going to Brazil opened up her world. "This is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity," Albin said. Ari-Gur said the nanotechnology research in Brazil is part of an NSF-funded project to provide students with the opportunity to obtain research experience and global understanding. She is PI for the program, which continues this year. She will be accompanying students to further research during Summer II 2009 from June 25 through Sept. 1. The program involves approximately four weeks at WMU, and five and a half weeks in Brazil.

On May 6-7 (rain dates May 19 and 20), the 2005 version of WMU's Sunseeker solar car is headed to the Allegan Area Math & Science Center's 2009 Eco Races, which are being held at the US-131 Motor Sports Park in Martin. **Abe Poot**, advisor to WMU's solar car project, said the event focuses on the efforts of area middle and high school students. The feature event on the first day is a Trash Dash, a race of little cars that are made out of junk, powered by a battery and hobby motor, and run along a string. The second day feature is Sun Sprint for small cars powered by a pair of solar cells instead of a battery. Poot said the Sunseeker team plans brief talks about the solar powered car and will demonstrate its capabilities each day. The Math and Science Center students will have the opportunity to learn more about the workings of an electric vehicle. Various team members will also have the opportunity to experience driving the solar car on the array of access roads at the Motor Sports Park.

Assessment of Student Learning

In a period of about two weeks, almost 90 percent of the first-semester freshmen who are enrolled in CEAS programs met with their advisors and registered for their 2009 Fall classes. "This has to be a record," said **Sandra Blanchard**, CEAS academic advising director. Her data shows that retention rate was 76 percent for Fall 2006 STEP and 73.5 percent for Fall



From left, Mallory Good, Brittany Albin, and Maggie Gerhart have been invited to present at the International Cultural and Academic Meeting of Engineering Students (ICAMES) in Istanbul, Turkey.



Sunseeker is headed to the US 131 Motor Sports Park in Martin for the Allegan Eco Expo. The archived photo is of Sunseeker at a past Allegan Eco Expo.

2007 STEP students. To accomplish this feat, Blanchard and **Dana Butt**, STEP program director, used several means to encourage students to consult with their advisors and to register early for Fall 2009. CEAS mentors involved in the National Science Foundation grant program Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math [STEM] Talent Expansion Program, or STEP, contacted students in their learning communities and encouraged participation. Then, academic advisors **Kim DeVries, Tycho Fredericks, Mitchel Keil, Peter Parker, Joe Petro** and **Rebecca Schmidt** provided students with extended walk-in hours during the last week of March. Students were treated to cookies as they waited to discuss their course plans for next year. In addition Blanchard offered four workshops

in the Parkview Computer labs that enabled students to come in, register, and enjoy pizza. The students' names were placed in a drawing for paid CEAS assistantship positions for the Fall 2009 semester, bookstore gift cards, and tee shirts. This year's "Advising went well," Blanchard said. First-year CEAS students who will be offered 10-hour-per-week assistantships in the fall include **Matthew Moran**, in civil engineering (CiE); **Charlie Schwall**, in construction engineering; **Brooke Solomon**, in mechanical engineering (ME); and **David Wilson**, an undecided engineering major (UND). In addition four students won WMU

bookstore gift cards: **Matt Anderson**, ME; **Brian Curtis**, CiE; **Keith Martinez**, Computer Engineering (CE); and **Nick**

Rourke, ME. The tee shirt winners are **Lance Brown**, ME; **Mitch Grabowski**, CiE; and **Ryan P. Ritter**, UND.

The First Annual Women in Engineering (WIE) dinner and panel took place April 1 at the Parkview Campus to provide students with an opportunity to network with women in industry and with engineering backgrounds at

Continued on next page



First-year CEAS students were encouraged to register for Fall 2009 by several advising personnel and academic advisors including advising office assistant Pearl DeVries (seated), and (standing from left) academic advisors Peter Parker, Joe Petro, and Mitchel Keil, Rebecca Schmidt, and Kim DeVries.

dinner and to gain insight from the "Work/Life Balance" panel that followed. Graphic Packaging, Kellogg's, Parker-Hannifin, Perrigo, Post, and Stryker participated by sponsoring a table and/or providing panelists. An electronic student resume book was compiled and shared with representatives of the participating companies. WIE was organized by members of WMU's Society of Women Engineers (SWE): Krisana Gutierrez (chairperson), **Yenni Chen**, **Sarah Gerbig**, **Courtney Heath**, **Sara Lara**, **Allison Porrett**, **Katie Risnes**, **Aarti Valsadia**, and **Ikhlas Abdel-Qader** (faculty advisor). The event was supported by **Heather Highhouse**, CEAS career advisor, **Nicole Maggio**, career development and cooperative education graduate assistant, **T'sai Lun**, and **Nikki Perk**, recruiting officer for the Department of Paper Engineering, Chemical Engineering, and Imaging (PCI). The event was also supported by staff members from the CEAS advising office and the Department of Industrial and Manufacturing Engineering (IME), the Parkview Café, and Campus Trends, which donated the gifts given to the panelists. According to Gutierrez, WIE stems from SWE's annual "Dinner with the Industry." This year, students decided to include a panel. Feedback has been very positive from students, faculty, and industry representatives and SWE is considering the possibility of making this an annual event. This year 46 students attended and SWE would like to more in the future. SWE received excellent feedback from those who attended. "...you were well organized, kept it on schedule (very important), and had a great turn out. Thank you for inviting me to participate, and I hope that you continue to develop this and make it an annual event," said Shelby Offrink, project engineer, NSE Stryker Instruments.

In early April, T'sai Lun/TAPPI, sponsored its second annual blood drive at the Parkview Campus. The event was coordinated with the American Red Cross. Students, faculty, and administrators donated blood over an approximately six-hour period. **Andrew Loveland**, a paper engineering (PE) major and the president of T'sai Lun (pronounced Sy Lon), said the organization held its first blood drive last year. "It was so successful that we decided to make it an annual event," he said. **Danielle Boyd**, a PE major and T'sai Lun member said

that membership is open to all majors associated with paper. "Our activities include basic events like helping students with homework and helping freshmen navigate their first year," she said. "We also go on trips to paper mills and work to get

internships for students including ourselves." T'sai Lun is sponsored by the national Technical Association of the Pulp and Paper Industry [TAPPI], which is, according to its web site, www.tappi.org TAPPI is "the leading association for the worldwide pulp, paper, and converting industries." Loveland said that the WMU chapter has about 60 members and that 25 to 30 students actively participate. He added that

membership was not restricted to paper engineering majors. "We have the reputation of being an organization that is limited to paper, but the paper industry needs mechanical, electrical, and other engineering majors," Loveland said. "We welcome all engineering majors." The adviser for T'sai Lun is **Nikki Perk**.



Back Row from left: Katie Risnes, Yenni Chen, Krisana Gutierrez, Nicole Remily (Kellogg's), Tonya Zaborski (Perrigo), Tiffany Malicki (Parker Hannifin), Erin Zahnow (Graphic Packaging), Jennifer Lentner (Stryker), Elizabeth Racop (Stryker), Pat Bey (Post), Shelby Offrink (Stryker), and Krista Mehren (Post); Front (from left): Sara Lara, Aarti Valsadia, Allison Porrett, and Courtney Heath.



Some of the participants involved in the T'sai Lun blood drive are (from left) Left sitting is Brandon Gorton, UEM junior waiting to give blood; Danielle Boyd, paper engineering major, Nuriyam Willmore, a student volunteer from interdisciplinary health services. Left standing is Emily Tomes, a chemical engineering major and T'sai Lun VP, and Andrew Loveland, a PE major and T'sai Lun president.

work was part of Professor **Tricia Hennessy's** Art 5700 Intern I course and is an example of the many projects completed by the 20 seniors who work in the Design Center each year to complete their Bachelor of Fine Arts degree.

College of Fine Arts

Student Accolades

Four students in the Frostic School of Art - **Danielle Giza**, **Robert Huston**, **Laura Perron**, and **Jaymeson Tucker** designed promotional materials for the Association for Behavior Analysis Annual Conference on Autism. The materials included posters, program book, DVD packaging, and a directional signage system for the event. All materials were on exhibition Feb. 6-8, 2009, at the Hyatt-Regency Jacksonville-Riverfront, Jacksonville, Florida. The

Students studying photography and intermedia art in the Frostic School of Art students have been invited to exhibit at The Koliarevsky Gallery in Poltava, Ukraine. The project was initiated by Assistant Professor **Bill Davis** during his recent trip to exhibit and photograph in the Kharkiv Oblast Region, and was supported by the Ukrainian Union of Art photographers. An anonymous donor will sponsor the printing and framing of the work which the students will submit electronically. The exhibit, which is open during April and May includes work from the following students: **Mary Vernon, Chelsea Popa, Alexander Youkanna, Annalise Freytag, Jessica Stein, Kevin Graham, Morgana Skelton, Nicholas Gialanella, Andrea Warren, Jacob Huizenga, Kyndal Mcallister, Karie Kuiper, Melissa Warner, Brooke Klenow, Andranika Tkachuk, Jennifer Habeger, Rose Godsey, Caroline Lampinen, Kelly Pynaert, Nathan Lipps, Alecia Perreault, Valerie Armstrong, Emily Steen, and Nicholas Gialanella.**

Following a New York showcase attended by some of the industry's top casting directors and agents, the Department of Theatre's Performance and Musical Theatre Performance students have had immediate results. **Andrea Arvenigian** was flown to NYC to audition for the national tour of *West Side Story*. This was followed shortly by **Patrick Keefe's** call to audition for the national tour of *Cats*. **Marcus Ringvelski** was a favorite at the LA auditions for a new musical about Bruce Lee. **Mikey Winslow** is waiting for his May callback for both the national tour and film of *In the Heights*, and **Hannah Schubkegel** just returned from auditioning for Disney in Florida. Who could ask for anything more?

Upcoming Events

Western Michigan University's Richmond Center for Visual Arts will host two exhibitions by alumni in the Albertine Monroe-Brown Gallery. The exhibitions, "Through a Crack in the Lake: Collaborative Paintings" by **Patricia Opel** and **Tim Norris**, and "Paul Marquardt: Word Play" opens April 23, and runs through June 26. Gallery hours are Monday – Friday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Haworth College of Business

Items of Academic Interest

There are some new faces and transitions in the Haworth College of Business. Three new department chairs have been named and they will take their new posts effective July 1.

- **Dr. Mike Tarn**, professor of Computer Information Systems, will become chair of the Department of Business and Information Systems. He replaces **Dr. Bernard Han**, who served as chair for six years and who will continue on as faculty. Before joining WMU in 1999, Tarn taught at Chowan College, North Carolina, for three years. Tarn specializes in multidisciplinary research involving info-communication systems, electronic commerce, strategic management and modern organizational theory.

- **Dr. Robert Landeros**, professor of Management, will chair the Department of Management, as **Dr. Tom Carey** will return to the faculty after serving as chair for eight years. Landeros joined the faculty in 1989 and is Director Emeritus of the Integrated Supply Management program. He teaches supply chain management courses, and conducts research to improve the understanding and the effectiveness of supply chain management.

- **Dr. Mushtaq Luqmani**, professor of Marketing, will chair the Department of Marketing. He replaces **Dr. Steve Newell**, who will return to teaching full-time after serving two years as chair. Luqmani's current research and scholarly interests are in the areas of international marketing and supply chain management, global sourcing and privatization issues.

Business Information Systems faculty **Dr. Muhammad Razi**, **Dr. Bernard Han** and **Dr. Thomas Rienzo**, and MBA student **Shankaar Ganapathy Thiagarajan**, presented a paper at the Microsoft Dynamics Academic Alliance Conference during Microsoft Convergence 2009 in New Orleans, in mid-March titled "Teaching Business Process and Managerial Decision-making Using Simulation." The objective of the simulation game is to effectively use Microsoft Dynamics GP in explaining to students the various processes involved in the planning, purchasing, production and sales of a manufacturing company.



Mike Tarn



Bernard Han



Robert Landeros



Thomas Rienzo



Tamara Davis

The Michigan Small Business and Technology Development Center (MI-SBTDC) has appointed **Tamara J. Davis** to the role of regional director serving nine counties in Southwest Michigan. The Center is located in Schneider Hall as a partner to the University's Haworth College of Business. Davis will work with both new and existing businesses on a range of issues, including start-up, commercialization and growth strategies to ensure that entrepreneurs

have the assistance they need to work through Michigan's network of resources in order to grow their businesses and create economic impact in their communities. Davis previously served as a business consultant at the Center when it was located at Kalamazoo College. Most recently she was chair of the Department of Marketing and Management at Davenport University in Battle Creek, Holland and Kalamazoo.

Faculty Accolades



David Flanagan



K.C. O'Shaughnessy

A paper written by Department of Management faculty **Dr. David Flanagan** and **Dr. K.C. O'Shaughnessy**, and Lori Muse (California State University, Fullerton) has been chosen as an Outstanding Paper Award Winner at the Literati Network Awards for Excellence 2009. The award is sponsored by Emerald Group Publishing Limited, a leading publisher of business and management research. The article entitled "An overview of accounting restatement activity in the United States" was published in International Journal of Commerce and Management.

Several Department of Finance and Commercial Law faculty members presented papers at the MBAA Conference in Chicago in March. **Dr. Robert Balik**, associate professor of finance, and **Dr. Inayat Mangla**, professor of finance, presented a paper, co-authored with Jamshid Mehran (Indiana University-South Bend) titled "Gradual Incorporation of Information: Bank Stocks and the Financial Crisis. Mangla presented a second paper titled "Some Pitfalls in Islamic Banking and Finance Practices: A Global Perspective," co-authored with Jamshed Uppal (Catholic University of America). **Dr. Craig Peterson**, professor of finance, presented a paper titled "Does Board Ethnic Diversity Matter: An Examination of a Board's Finance Committee Effects on Firm Performance,"

co-authored with James Philpot (Missouri State University). In addition, Balik presented his paper, "International Diversification," co-authored with Jamshid Mehran (Indiana University-South Bend), at the Annual Meeting of the Academy of Financial Services in Boston last fall.

Dr. Onur Arugaslan, associate professor, Department of Finance and Commercial Law, has co-authored a paper titled "On the Decision to Go Public with Dual Class Stock," with Douglas Cook (University of Alabama) and Robert Kieschnick (University of Texas at Dallas). The paper was accepted for publication in the Journal of Corporate Finance.

Dr. Judy Swisher, chair and associate professor of Finance and Commercial Law, received a Distinguished Research Award for the paper, "What does Book-to-Market Proxy: Risk or Investor Sentiment?" co-authored with TeWhan Hahn (Auburn University Montgomery) and Michele O'Neill (University of Idaho), at the Allied Academies Annual Meeting in New Orleans in mid-April. The paper will be published in The Academy of Accounting and Financial Studies Journal.

Dr. Zahir Quraeshi, professor in the Department of Marketing, has been awarded a 2009-2010 Faculty Research and Creative Activities Awards (FRACAA) grant. For his proposal "Managerial Decision-Making for Offshore Health Care Alternatives: Towards a Framework." The prime objectives of this research are:

- To identify and assess the major factors that result in successes and failures of offshore medical care outsourcing,
- To construct a framework that systematically includes the major factors and can provide company guidance in making decisions to consider offshore medical care for their employees as a viable alternative.



Onur Arugaslan



Judy Swisher



Zahir Quraeshi

Student Accolades

Student teams in the Haworth College of Business made presentations to Target executives serving as judges in the Target Case Study Competition Scholarship

Continued on next page



The winning team is pictured from left, (back) Marie Dwyer, Evan Escamilla, Derek Edmondson, Devan Dorsey and Paul Bernard, Target. Seated from left, (front) are Target representatives Erica Colley, Ashlee Wetherall and Rick Miller.

Program in early April. The students competed against teammates in their MGMT 3500 (Managing Diversity in Organization), class taught by Paula Eckert, instructor in the Department of Management. Their charge was to pose solutions to anticipated staffing issues resulting from the baby boomer generation leaving the workforce. The winning team members received \$1000 each. "The competition provided the class with a chance to apply theories and practice presentation skills," said Eckert. "Overall, it was a great learning experience. There were twelve teams in the competition, all of which arrived at innovative ideas and solutions for Target to consider."

Army ROTC Cadet **Raymond Johnson** was recently honored by the Armed Forces Communications and Electronics Association (AFCEA). Cadet Johnson, a computer science major, was selected by the AFCEA as one of only four Army ROTC cadets nationally to receive a \$2000 scholarship and participate in the Future Heroes Program. The Future Heroes Program provides exceptional ROTC cadets practical, real-world leadership experience through an intensive summer internship with senior military leaders. Awardees



Raymond Johnson

are assigned to major military commands where they shadow senior military leaders and closely interact with commanders and enlisted leaders throughout their day-to-day routines. They also have the opportunity to engage in practical experiences alongside officers and

enlisted personnel of various levels meeting the daily rigors of command. Cadet Johnson was nominated for the award by Lieutenant Colonel **John Cyrulik**, the Military Science department chair at WMU. He was and selected by a board of senior active duty officers and retired general officer advisors. The program is an all expense-paid internship at the United States Army Signal Center at Fort Gordon, Georgia. His sponsor for the internship is Brigadier General Foley, Commanding General, U.S. Army Signal Center. AFCEA International, established in 1946, is a non-profit membership association serving the military, government, industry and academia as an ethical forum for advancing professional knowledge and relationships in the fields of communications, IT, intelligence and global security.

Haworth College of Business students have spent a lot of time on community service projects.

- Management Student Organization members participated in WMU's revival of "Spring into the Streets" in late March. The group spent an afternoon



Pictured are Stephanie Goeman (HRM), Megan Pierce (HRM), LeAnna Crowell (MGMT), Bob Strehl (FIN), and Chris Clapp (MGMT).

working for the Vine Neighborhood Association helping residents prepare for the Kalamazoo historic housing tour.

- This semester's Urban Plunge (United Campus Ministries) took place in late March. Of 28 WMU students on the Chicago service-learning trip, 10 were from **Dr. Tim Palmer's BUS 4750** sections. These included: **Jason ter Avest** (FIN), **Ashley Barnes** (FMK), **Matt Clauser** (FIN), **Sandra Groesch** (FIN); **Katie Hallin** (MGMT), **Larry Harrell** (ADV), **Micah Klaassen**



Project Management team with Buster Bronco.

(FIN), **Ashley McKenzie** (ISM), **Steve Mullins** (MGMT),

Continued on next page

Brett Walsh (ACTY).

- This semester, 14 teams in the MGMT 3010/4010 Project Management sequence completed roughly 7,000 hours of service to local entrepreneurs. In addition to working with the SBTDC, teams conducted studies for WMU's Office of Intellectual Property Management and Commercialization, HCoB's Center for Entrepreneurial Studies, and Downtown Kalamazoo, Inc.

Upcoming Events

The Small Business & Technology Development Center – Region 11 is sponsoring an “Evening with the Experts” on Wed., May 13, 2009 from 6 -9 p.m. in Schneider Hall. Experts in the areas of business law, taxes and marketing will provide attendees with information on legal structures of business, financial management –tax information and marketing concepts. Pre-registration is required by contacting the center at (269) 387-6004 or sbt-dc-kzoo@wmich.edu, or online at www.misbtdc.org.

Assessment of Student Learning

The Society of Human Resources Management has acknowledged the human resources management program at the Haworth College of Business as being aligned with established SHRM HR curriculum guides relative to topics, courses, business context and delivery methods utilized in the Human Resource (HR) degree program. According to Dr. Debra Cohen, SHRM's chief knowledge officer, the guidelines were recently established to provide a resource for colleges and universities to track HR curricula against a common, minimum skill set, as deemed necessary by employers who seek to fill HR professional positions. The guidelines offer flexibility in devising HR courses, while providing a minimum level of standardization for HR content being taught. “This is further recognition of the quality of our program and our faculty as we try to stay on the leading edge of professional thought and practice” said **Dr. Dan Farrell**, human resources program coordinator in the Department of Management. “There are 13 minimum core HR related topics that are in every HR degree program, as well as 11 elective topics,” said Farrell.



Dan Farrell

“Topics include areas such as staffing, employee relations, compensation, benefits, and organizational development.” The Haworth College of Business is accredited by the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business. Member schools are encouraged to use the SHRM templates as a guide to developing and reformulating HR degree programs. The acknowledgement of alignment was awarded after SHRM members conducted an analysis of WMU's Bachelor of Business Administration degree in Human Resources Management.

Prism Newsletter

Editor-in-Chief:

Dr. Timothy Greene

Editors:

Amy Routhier
Megan Anderson

Production:

Carly Kuppe

Accredited by The Higher Learning Commission and a member of the North Central Association.

www.ncahigherlearningcommission.org

1(800) 621-7440