Western Michigan University Newsletter, January 1959

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Mental health problems in the community are to be explored through funds made available by the National Institutes of Health, a division of the United States Department of Health, Education and Welfare.

The Center for Sociological Research is the recipient of the $26,850 grant, and the research problem was formulated by the Center staff in consultation with the Michigan Department of Mental Health and the National Institute of Mental Health.

Dr. Jerome Manis is director of the Center.

A sample survey method will be used to study the extent and the effects of mental health problems. The research aims to:

1. Advance the scientific understanding of popular ideas of mental illness.
2. Explore the relationship between popular ideas of mental illness and the use of treatment facilities.
3. Determine the actual prevalence of mental illness; and
4. Test certain hypotheses concerning the social correlates of mental health problems.

An advisory committee includes Dr. Raymond Hightower, head of the sociology department, Kalamazoo College; Dr. Clarence M. Schrier, medical superintendent, Kalamazoo State Hospital; Dr. William A. Scott, local psychiatrist, and Dr. Harold Taylor and Samuel Bennett, W. E. Upjohn Institute for Community Research.

Assisting Dr. Manis will be Dr. Chester L. Hunt who will supervise data gathering, and Dr. Leonard C. Kercher who will be in charge of compilation of hospital reports. A social statistician will be added to the staff late in 1959, and eight interviewers and two research assistants will also be used.

Planning is expected to begin next month, with the survey to be conducted during the summer. Analysis of the findings will take a year.

The Center for Sociological Research was organized in the department of sociology in 1956, following 25 years of research activity by the department. This marks the largest single grant for a study yet received.
Rickman Heads Advisory Group
In Technology

Paul D. Rickman, president of the Bard Steel and Mill Supply Company of Kalamazoo, is the new chairman of the industrial technology advisory committee, succeeding Robert A. Huston, vice president of the Fuller Manufacturing Company.


Serving for the University are Dr. Russell H. Seibert, Dean George E. Kohrman, Dr. J. W. Giachino and Frank S. Scott.

Industrial Education
Designation Returns

Industrial arts at the University will henceforth be known as industrial education, a name by which the department was known from 1948 to 1951.

With some changes in offerings effected between this department and industrial technology, most industrial teacher training will in the future be centered in the industrial education area.

Pre-engineering courses formerly in industrial arts are being transferred to the industrial technology department.

Classroom Shortage Boosted by Fire Leveling Math, Drafting Bldg.

Already crowded classroom conditions were intensified when in the early morning of Dec. 30 the University lost one of its temporary classroom buildings.

The structure immediately to the west of Vandercook hall, formerly housing the School of Business and this year remodeled for mathematics and drafting, was leveled by a fire which quickly raced through the frame structure in the sub-freezing temperatures.

The loss was placed at $100,000 by officials, as seven classrooms and faculty offices were destroyed.

However, University officials the next morning decided to move the classes into the Walwood Union building until permanent quarters can be obtained. The 1959 legislature has before it a request from Western for a $3,000,000 Natural Science building to be placed on the Gateway golf course, along West Michigan avenue. If all goes well this building would not be ready until the fall of 1960, and until then the temporary quarters will have to serve the rapidly expanding classes of both mathematics and drafting.

New quarters for the student publications were just being completed in Walwood, and these were quickly garnered for mathematics classes, along with the East and West rooms, and the Van Gogh room. The west third of the ballroom is being temporarily partitioned to house two drafting classrooms.

The recovery of equipment presents a major problem, and University and Lansing officials are expediting requisitions to permit the early return to normal classwork in both areas. In this respect, drafting was hardest hit.

Temporary structures still in use on the campus for classes include the Speech Annex, Industrial Education Annex, and Distributive Education buildings. All are World War II surplus structures.

Midwest Alcohol Studies June 21-26

Western Michigan University will be the scene of the Midwest Institute of Alcohol Studies from June 21 to 26, an event which alternates between Western and the University of Wisconsin.

Grants from the Michigan State Board of Alcoholism for room, meals and tuition are available, with the application deadline being April 15.

Enrollment is open to persons in community leadership, corrections, education, public health, industry, law enforcement, ministry, nursing and social welfare.

Dr. Leonard C. Kercher, head of the sociology department, has been named to the Michigan committee on Fulbright Scholarships.
Degree May Be Worth $76,500, Study Shows

It pays to complete your college education, and those with a four-year degree will be much better off financially than those who have earned a two-year certificate, indicates a report by Vern E. Mabie, director of placement and alumni relations.

Surveying the June, 1958, graduates, those in general curricula not related to teaching started at an average salary of about $1,700 more per year than did those who took a two-year vocational certificate. In an anticipated working life of 45 years, this equals $76,500 more.

In strictly teaching areas the top pay went to a person in elementary education of $5,900. The highest average pay was for industrial arts teachers with $4,425.

Max. Min. Aver.
Art $4,300 $3,900 $4,160
Business Education 5,400 3,800 4,210
English 4,800 3,900 4,182
Social Sciences 4,700 3,900 4,300
Home Economics 4,600 3,800 4,175
Industrial Arts 5,200 4,000 4,425
Language 4,200 4,000 4,075
Librarianship 4,450 4,200 4,350
Mathematics 4,900 3,900 4,285
Music 4,500 4,000 4,250
Physical Education, Men 4,825 4,000 4,370
Physical Education, Women 4,650 4,040 4,286
Biology 4,240 4,000 4,135
Chemistry 4,350 4,100 4,217
Physics 4,600 4,000 4,300
Rural Education 4,000 3,150 3,500
Special Education 4,650 4,000 4,300
Speech Correction 5,300 4,300 4,500
Speech 4,900 4,000 4,075

Business areas tended to offer a little bit more than did education, but there were also indications that there were more variations in pay.

Business administration graduates show a top level of $6,000, a minimum of $3,300 and an average of $4,656. In general degree it ran $6,300 maximum, $3,600 minimum and $5,040 average.

Occupational therapy showed a $4,530 maximum, $3,670 minimum and $4,020 average.

In the less-than-degree areas, secretarial graduates showed a high of

Feb. 24 Appearance By Riesel Set

Victor Riesel, probably the nation's best known labor columnist and a crusader in this cause, will appear in Kalamazoo to speak at a University assembly program Tuesday, Feb. 24. He will be heard at 7:30 p.m. in the ballroom of the University Student Center.

The event is open to the public, and Riesel will speak on "The Labor Story, 1959."

On April 5, 1956, Riesel was blinded when a hoodlum in New York flung acid into his eyes. Even while still hospitalized Riesel began again his crusading newspaper work which he carries on today.

From his journalistic beginnings in 1930, Riesel graduated to his own newspaper column in 1943.

Dr. Beth Schultz, assistant professor of biology, is beginning a two-year term as secretary of the American Nature Study Society.

Van Riper Praised By Australians

"Professor Van Riper's visit has proved the most exciting event in the history of speech therapy in our country," Grace E. Ellis, president of the Australian College of Speech Therapists, wrote President Paul V. Sangren following the November visit of Dr. Charles Van Riper.

Dr. Van Riper was invited to spend three weeks "down under" as one of three U. S. participants in the Pan-Pacific Conference on Rehabilitation.

"The stimulus and inspiration of Professor Van Riper's teaching and counsel will help us all to become better therapists with a greater desire to serve our patients with more understanding and sincerity," she continues.

"Professor Van Riper came, not as a stranger, but as an esteemed authority in speech therapy to our land. He has left us as a friend in whom we have placed our trust and whose going is regretted. We hope that some day he will return."

Three $1,800 Graduate Chemistry Aides Sought

Three $1,800 graduate assistantships in chemistry will be offered during the 1959-60 academic year, according to Dr. Lillian H. Meyer, head of the chemistry department.

The new assistants will teach half time in the general chemistry laboratories, and will be able to complete their graduate studies for the master of arts degree in two summers and the full year.

Interested persons should contact Dr. Meyer.

$1,700 Grant in Education

The Michigan Society for Crippled Children and Adults has given the university a $1,700 grant to assist in the hiring of James Billingsley as an additional faculty member in the field of special education. Billingsley is working closely with Dr. Manley M. Ellis.
Unusual Japanese Papers Given to Paper Technology

A gift of unusual handmade papers from Japan has been made to the paper technology department by Wayne E. Kendrick '52, a paper technologist for the Allied Paper Corp.

Collected by Kendrick while stationed in Japan, the group includes paper with beautiful decorative work imbedded in the sheets, as well as one sample which has the appearance of lace.

Kendrick told Dr. A. H. Nadelman, head of the paper technology department, that the raw materials usually include any one of various varieties of mulberry to produce the fiber content. This is cooked for about six hours in a soda solution. Bad and unseparated fibers are picked out by hand by women.

In the hand sheet process, bamboo molds are dipped into the vat containing the fiber suspension. When a number of sheets have been formed and placed in a pile they are pressed and then dried on a hot metal surface in front of a wood furnace.

Kendrick said that in the operation he observed six sheets could be dried at a time, and when the sixth had been put in place the first was ready to be taken off.

AMERICAN CULTURE STUDIES COURSE RECEIVES APPROVAL

Studies in American Culture is a new course planned for senior and graduate students at Western Michigan University next fall, and instituted through the division of Basic Studies.

Newly-created on the campus to consider such interdisciplinary studies is the committee which has planned this course.

It is planned that the first two or three weeks of the course will be devoted to a discussion of a major controversial issue on the current scene to encourage each student to examine his own assumptions and to introduce him to the difficult choices arising from the dilemmas to be presented and studied later.

Major areas of study will include the individual and the group, tradition and revolt, the practical and the ideal, and the human prospect.

February Basketball

- Feb. 4—University of Toledo
- Feb. 7—at Kent State University
- Feb. 11—Loyola University
- Feb. 13—at DePaul University
- Feb. 18—at Bowling Green University
- Feb. 21—Kent State University
- Feb. 23—at Indiana State Teachers
- Feb. 28—Marquette University

Foundry Program Aided by Gifts

Assistance for putting in operation the new foundry technology curriculum has come in the form of gifts from several manufacturing firms.

Among those received are: Misco Precision Casting Company, Whitehall, 39 items valued at $11,000; National Engineering Company, Chicago, a porto-muller, $1,875; Harry W. Dietert Co., Detroit, $500; Great Western Manufacturing Co., Leavenworth, Kans., $300; Lincoln Brass Co., Detroit, $1,500, and the Frederic R. Stevens Co., Detroit, materials needed to operate the equipment.

Scientists Listed

The third edition of Leaders in American Science includes Dr. William Brueckheimer, geography; Dr. Bettina Carter, biology; Homer L. J. Carter, psycho-educational clinic; Dr. Stanley Kuffel, psychology; Dean George G. Mallinson, Graduate School; Dr. Lillian Meyer and Dr. Alvin Strickler, chemistry, and Dean Gerald Osborn, Liberal Arts and Sciences.

Dr. George E. Bradley, professor of physics, is the recipient of a National Science Foundation fellowship which will enable him to spend a year in advanced study at Yale University.