Dear Friends,

With all that is being written and experienced regarding the "plight" of higher education today, an image of negative growth could be easily formed about colleges and universities. This is not, and should not be the case with Western Michigan University. It is true that enrollments are "stabilizing" at a level lower than 1970-71. It is also true that the nation's economy is forcing institutions such as Western to pay higher costs for the educational enterprise. But it is equally true that a great deal of innovation and overdue efficiency is resulting from the so-called plight.

A few should be mentioned. Western is placing renewed emphasis upon service-oriented programs which will benefit the community as well as the University. A renewed attention to the Arts is fast rising. Students are more concerned about their education and careers in a tighter market. They want quality. New programs which not only reflect, but anticipate the trends of society are being mounted in the areas of health services, legal services, social services, public relations and action-oriented research and delivery systems in business, education, and the sciences and humanities.

Along with those developments a number of other internal problem areas are experiencing positive changes. Personnel policies are being improved. Continuing high priorities given to improvements in compensation and working conditions for faculty and staff.

The university is not only aware of, but overcoming, inequities which have existed in equal employment opportunities and affirmative action programs.

One noteworthy area of concern is that of the status of women in the University community. Concerted efforts are being made to identify and rectify any significant discrepancies which exist in the recognition of the valuable contributions of the women of Western. It is a tribute to the women faculty and staff members that they have created the awareness of real differences which exist. And they have done this with a positive, persuasive attitude which has resulted in a realistic recognition of a variety of conditions which must be changed.

This is indeed an exciting and energetic period in the history of Western. It is also a time of adaptation, since three presidents will have served the University within a period of less than one year. One prediction appears to be sound. The future of Western with President John Bernhard's leadership promises to be every ounce as lively and productive as have been those good years of growth in stature and maturity with President James Miller. Western's influences, while they may be of a different nature than in the past or present, will continue to be felt in an ever-expanding sphere.

The most rewarding tributes which a university can realize are the successes which come to her alumni and the continuing support of her many friends. In these respects Western is a richly endowed University.

Sincerely yours,

[Signature]

President
Whenever a nation or group of people find power and reputation in ascendance, they look back nostalgically towards a golden age—the time in dewy, misty memory when all desires had been accomplished and crystallized. Caught like an insect in amber, the ideal age is turned over and over in the hands of the present to understand its essence, to emulate its perfection. The Elizabethans celebrated their shaping of London into the second Rome. The Romantic poets of the 19th century saw the early Greek poets as their predecessors and mentors.

It is not realistic history that the new revolutionaries want, of course, but idealized history, an example after which they can model themselves, a banner of the past that can be held aloft in hope for the present. The modern women’s movement is beginning to look more and more to the Renaissance, especially England under Elizabeth, for its image of the golden age for women. There were then more women rulers than ever before or since. Catherine De Medici in France, Mary Queen of Scots and Elizabeth in England all demonstrated that women could rule as well as men. And the many biographies that are spilling out of the press now bear witness that although these women ruled aggressively, forcefully, and as intelligently as any man, their public styles were strongly colored by their femininity. Dressed in sumptuous dressing gowns, Mary Queen of Scots would sometimes insist on her callers interviewing her as she sat languorously framed by the resplendent headboard of her bed. She felt that day too “frail” to get up, but not to attend to state business! Mary could ride, pregnant, twenty-four hours at a grueling speed on difficult roads when danger threatened her. Catherine of Spain fought the heathen in armor, on horseback, beside her husband, sometimes leading the troops. Even when pregnant she went to battle
Imagine maternity armor!), Caterina Sforza, an Italian duchess, also led troops while pregnant. In fact, one chronicler has it that she dismounted only when contractions revealed that birth was imminent, immediately remounting after delivery to lead her flagging troops. And she took the fort.

Queen Elizabeth is perhaps the most admirable of all these women who held a traditionally male post but never lost their sense of femininity (in fact, as I shall point out, they redefined "femininity"). Elizabeth remained semi-engaged to several rulers in Europe for years and thus kept war off English soil. Each man had the army to take England and would have done so had not each hoped that marriage to the queen would be a quicker and less expensive way to gain England. A nice merging of feminine wiles and clever diplomacy! Elizabeth saw herself as a mother to her country and always saw this role as a protective one; she visited those who became ill in her court, consoling them as only a woman can. When pressed by one of her advisors to wage war on an enemy, Elizabeth in a fit of feminine pique (feigned or real?) threw her slipper at him, thus effectively ending the argument. Yet in her role as protector of England’s security, no one could be more deliberate and ruthless when pressed. She had her lover, the Earl of Essex, beheaded when he began to excite revolutionary forces against her, disappointed in his attempts to force marriage on her. She said, "Yet I warned him never to touch my crown."

Her spirit seems to live again in a contemporary female ruler. Golda Meir, of American origin, sometimes takes cakes to political meetings. She has been married and states that she very much likes men, and has always been treated well by them. Yet she is quite coolly glad about her ability and training in the Israeli army to shoot and kill the enemy, although she has never been in a situation where she had to kill. She does not seem to find the possibility the least disturbing and notes her decisions cause the death of men, which is not essentially different from pulling the trigger herself.

Studying the lives of these women rulers, Elizabeth and twentieth-century, will lead, I think, to a redefinition of what it means to be a man or woman. Instead of the polarities of masculinity and femininity which connote passiveness versus aggression, perhaps new words can be found that show men and women can and must do the same things, but perhaps in a different style.

How about the words "nubile" and "virile"? "Nubile" suggests a flexible, eager, effectual woman, whose creative and regenerative powers permeate her political and spiritual selves. A woman’s lifegiving properties need not be passive, but an open-handed kind of giving to her friends, her profession, her lovers, her children. "Nubile" suggests an exciting, forceful woman whose slighter stature, lighter voice and step gives her the special powers of quickness and flexibility.
“Virile” might suggest a strength that protects, a man who is poignantly gentle because of the physical strength he contains and controls. A man should quite properly take pride, but not arrogance, in his sheltering abilities. He should strive to develop an out-going, eager-to-learn, open strength that pours its love and generosity out of the special qualities of sturdy flexibility and watchful concern.

I do not mean to suggest that men are or should be psychically stronger than women. Vitality and energy are key features of a strong and exciting personality for both a man and a woman. Both should embody energy and constancy. Nevertheless, there are undeniable physical differences in stature and biology that perhaps enhance different personas as men and women move through the same professional and family worlds.

Since I am an English teacher, I attempt to help my students see these qualities in the most ideal heroes and heroines of Elizabethan literature. Shakespeare often has young heroines dress up like men and sally through the most harrowing of adventures so that to their sweet gentleness they may also add initiative, courage, and the ability to use force, when necessary. Portia in “The Merchant of Venice,” Rosalind in “As You Like It,” Imogen in “Cymbeline,” and Perdita in “The Winter’s Tale” are good examples. On the other hand, some of Shakespeare’s male characters die tragically, precisely because of their limited or perverted versions of masculinity. For MacBeth, to be a “man” is to use martial and personal power ruthlessly to fulfill ambition. Coriolanus’s only idea of manhood is to be a warrior, and at the end of the play when the love of his family and life itself make him reject his role as warrior, his own war-oriented Roman culture closes in on him and kills him.

In Spenser’s Faerie Queene the major female character, Britomart, hunts her beloved throughout faery land. She rides dressed in armor and jousts with many knights on her pilgrimage. Yet one of the most erotic scenes in literature occurs when she meets her beloved, who at first challenges her, thinking she is a male knight. He knocks her helmet off and her beautiful golden hair floods out, cascading to her feet. Spenser’s description of her lush hair glinting in the sunlight against her armor is breathtaking. She is the fullest character in the epic because she so completely embodies and synthesizes masculine and feminine virtues.

Spenser also gives us men with balanced, magnanimous personalities. Britomart’s beloved Artegall is forced to dress in women’s clothes when he is captured by a wicked Amazon. He has been excessively masculine, cutting people’s heads off, mistaking masculine physical power as the right to commit brutalities. As he is forced to sit in women’s “weeds” and weave, he learns patience, humility and is able to ride on later as a mature man in control of his strength. The feminine virtues of gentleness and patience have balanced out and checked his masculine virtues and he becomes as full as Britomart finally—he is an appropriate mate for her. Spenser makes much of the fact that they will rule equally. They most clearly symbolize the coming together of the “nubile” woman and the “virile” man.

Thus the women and men in Elizabethan literature reflect the positive and exciting living examples on the thrones of Europe and England. And I have noticed on campus that just as Elizabethan girls wore Elizabeth medallions, so are girls beginning to wear Golda Meir medallions. Perhaps we are on the threshold of a new Renaissance. Why do we complain that boys and girls dress alike now? It is time to stress the similarities we share as humans and realize that our maleness or femaleness should only be used to enhance our effectiveness as humans. Let’s stress the similarity in essence, and see our sexuality as style, as overlay to each person’s basic humanity. And those of us who educate should feel especially responsible to give back to our female students those historical and literary prototypes of heroic women so that they might have models fit to strive after.

Dr. Stephanie Demetrakopoulos is an assistant professor in the Department of English, since 1971. She is a specialist in Renaissance literature and women in literature.
QUESTION: Two kinds of revolution appear to be carving new patterns on American campuses—the rise of black pride and activism, and the growing self-awareness and independence of women. John, you must be very sensitive to both these revolutions in your classes in black literature since the image of the black heroine in literature significantly touches both dimensions. What about the search for fulfillment by the black woman, who, after all, is a victim of double prejudice. Is it unique or similar to that of the white woman?

MURPHY: The search is similar, but the cast of characters is peculiar to the black experience. Usually there is a grandmother who was associated with the slave experience, who provides the heroine with values in childhood which help or hinder. Usually these are destructive values: phony respectability, an inordinate obsession with security, and a confining definition of self as wife or mother. In The Blacker the Berry by Wallace Thurman, Emma Lou never completely abandons her expectations of achieving these values. Her disillusionment becomes overwhelming, but she finally reaches a degree of self-acceptance, although a painful one. Janie in Their Eyes Were Watching God exchanges one type of respectability for another, first marrying an older man with property and then leaving him for a hustler who becomes the town's banker, land developer, postmaster, mayor, and store owner. In both marriages she is used by her husband to make his position tenable, like Carol Kennicott in Main Street. After forty years of struggling with her grandmother's values, she finally realizes that Nanny had taken the biggest thing God had ever made—her horizon—away from her and pinched it in. Then Tea Cake, a penniless worker from the Florida Everglades stops at the store. With him she learns to laugh, play cards and respect her own judgment and worth as a human being. Now widowed, she marries Tea Cake and romps through the cane fields at his side. He helps her cook supper. Life burns with a new
intensity. When Tea Cake dies, Janie follows the casket dressed in overalls, too busy feeling grief to dress for it.

QUESTION: You mentioned earlier that the grandmother, whose experiences stem from slave days, provided the heroine with values which helped or hindered. Are these values, then, sometimes supportive?

MURPHY: In Jubilee by Margaret Walker we have a good example of the other type of grandmother figure. Mammy Sukey and Aunt Sally help Vyry, the heroine to cope with her life. Both are deeply religious and very supportive of her in her precarious position as daughter of the white plantation owner and, therefore, natural enemy of the white mistress.

These women contrast with the grandmother figures in the books just mentioned (Their Eyes Were Watching God and The Blacker the Berry) and in God Bless the Child by Kristin Hunter. They are like rays of light illuminating the heroine's life, teaching her a kind of self discipline that enables her to survive.

QUESTION: Would you say that the strong presence of the grandmother with overriding ambitions to lift her children above the insecurities and terrors that beset her during slavery substantiate the claims of a black matriarchy?

MURPHY: Adversity has made the women in these books strong-willed, with a clear set of objectives. Yet they are underdogs in terms of their own race. The man always seems to have the upper hand.

The myth of a black matriarchy developed and popularized by the black anthropologist, Franklin Frazer, evaporates as stereotypes do when the lives of these women come under the floodlight of a good author and we see their complexity. In Sisse by John Williams, the mother begins as a textbook example of the emasculating bitch—has enormous ambition for her children, finds fault with her husband, but suffers and grows. By death she is willing to admit things about her life. The mammy figures in most fictions are respectable, religious, deferent to whites who hold the power, but their inner lives are masked. In Their Eyes Were Watching God the reader learns that the grandmother had been the unwilling concubine of a white man during slavery, and that her daughter, Janie's mother, was raped and left to become a prostitute. When Nanny sees her granddaughter being kissed by a youth Janie's age, her terror is understandable. She tells Janie that the white man throws down the load and tells the black man to pick it up. He picks it up because he has to but he doesn't carry it. He hands it to his womenfolks. The black woman is the mule of the world. She has prayed for a change, but it hasn't come. It is then that she urges Janie to marry Logal Hillicks, an older man who has the distinction among blacks of owning sixty acres free and clear as well as the only organ in town. No matter that he looks like a skullhead in a graveyard. It is clear with the black grandmother of fiction that romantic love is an inappropriate luxury for a black woman.

QUESTION: Although psychologists like Fromm tell us that it is impossible to find oneself through another person, women have often tried to find their identity through the man. A man's search for self appears to be largely through his work, at least in western societies. The same is becoming increasingly true for white women. What about the black woman? Is her search largely through the male?

MURPHY: Yes, initially. If there is a pattern, after she is married and it's not all it was cracked up to be, she looks for compensatory values. These are very limited since she has almost no opportunity for interesting employment. The compensatory values are more often children and neighbors. In Maud Martha by Gwendolyn Brooks, the heroine pursues a quiet search with increased perception from reading and from her own suffering.

QUESTION: What are the chief obstacles to the black woman's fulfillment as you see them?

MURPHY: The values derived from a twice-removed generation, i.e., from survival needs developed during slavery, and too confining a role. The presence of poverty, too. Work cannot be a compensating factor in an exploitative economy system in which the black woman is paid less than half the wages of
a white man, and she must also draw from the more menial jobs at the bottom of the pay scale. All of her energy is used in just staying alive. There is no time for cultivating self. Lutie Johnson in The Street by Ann Petry wants to escape the ghetto. She wants a place to raise her son where there are trees and grass. She takes the civil service exam as file clerk and studies at night. Because she is female and attractive, she becomes the prey of men. Rather than prostitute herself, she kills a man. Another obstacle for the heroine is the weak male who has been emasculated by menial work. Although the female is paid even less, she is less apt to acquiesce to injustice.

QUESTION: John, you once told me that if a reader wants to encounter black female characters who possess depth, he must go to Afro-American literature, and, with a few exceptions, he must go to literature written by black women. Is this still true?

MURPHY: The list of memorable black female characters in the works of major and minor white American writers is so brief that a list itself seems incongruous. Female authors, both white and black, definitely give their heroines a more sympathetic treatment. With male authors, she seldom wins. Sometimes we have a strong heroine as with Dilcey in The Sound and the Fury. Yet Faulkner never gets inside. We never intimately know the heroine.

QUESTION: How do your students react to the experiences of the black female? Is there a difference between the white and black women in your classes in their reactions?

MURPHY: Black women are not nearly as concerned with self fulfillment as white women. They put their loyalties into improving life for their race or into overcoming inequities in general. Their own fulfillment is secondary. This is true of the black women poets too, like Gwendolyn Brooks, Nikki Giovani, Carolyn Rogers, and Sonia Sanchez. The black male is finally becoming flamingly assertive, and they do not want to discourage him in any way at this point after years of "Yassuh." Yet, with female authors, the women are seen as humans who chafe under the confining roles. Women, black and white, seem to be asking to be taken as they are. However, even in the modern black fiction, the women still try out the old roles initially, coming to a gradual realization that the fault is not in themselves that these roles are so stultifying but in the system which expects them to serve men.
Scene 1954. The Korean Conflict is over as far as the United States involvement is concerned and servicemen are returning to civilian jobs. Susan enrolls in the university with the goal of becoming a business executive. She wants to major in accounting, and minor in general business or management. Her high school counselor has advised against such a commitment, pointing out that teachers, nurses, and home economists were in high demand, and chances of becoming employed in a responsible position in business management, particularly in accounting, were indeed dim.

However, Susan persevered, enrolled in the nearly all male population accounting and related courses, and graduated four years later with a BBA degree, with a major in accounting and a grade point average of 3.50. There were many roadblocks on the way, and although Susan had interviewed widely, there were no job offers upon graduation. Accounting firms pointed out the necessity of extensive travel, that clients and co-workers would be male, and therefore, would be reluctant to deal with a woman. The corporate industries were more receptive, but the time was not ripe for a young woman with a definite career goal in business management to step in as a junior accountant. Generally, employers saw her leaving within a short period of time for marriage and family responsibilities, and felt all that training and indoctrination time would then be lost.

Susan accepted a position as an executive secretary in a large brokerage house in New York, and eventually became an account executive and investment counselor for the firm.

Today, twenty years later, we are witnessing a dramatic turn-about in the employment market for women college graduates. But even more significant, most of the change has occurred since 1970. Recent federal and state legislation specifically prohibits sex discrimination in hiring, and places the burden on the employer who specifies sex as a job requirement to prove that a member of the opposite sex could not perform the job. In fact, the Affirmative Action program requires that federal contractors and subcontractors develop specific plans for recruiting, hiring, training and promoting women. This has had the significant effect of moving more qualified women into positions of greater management responsibility in these organizations.

Although legislation and court decisions will continue to have a much stronger impact, the typical stereotypes will take a long time to break down. It is still very atypical for the average citizen to think of an architect as a woman or an occupational therapist as a man. However, there is no logical reason why members of either sex, properly trained, can not adequately perform duties typically associated with the opposite sex. For the college graduate today, there are probably no more than two or three categories where the sex of the individual is a major criteria. Examples are modeling and acting.

The illustration at the beginning of this article has little credence today. Contrary to past policies and generally accepted customs, accounting firms and business and industrial employers are actively en...
couraging applications from women. They seek them out on campus recruiting trips, and specifically request recommendations from placement officers and faculty regarding trained female candidates. Although the competition for the best qualified accounting candidates is keen, the woman is now regarded as equally marketable as her male counterpart for the best entry level positions.

Not only does this apply to accountants, but the occupational areas formerly reserved almost exclusively for men are opening to women. The fields of engineering, printing, law enforcement, personnel, computer science, and mathematics, to name a few, are actively seeking trained female professionals. The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics has forecasted that the professional and technical worker category will increase faster than any other general employment category by 1980 (39 percent), and opportunities for the college graduate in most of the categories in this classification will be particularly open to women. The major employment problem in these areas for women will not be lack of opportunities, but lack of numbers who will be entering these fields and completing the required preparation programs.

Teaching is the largest of the professions, totaling 2,500,000 teachers at all levels in the United States, including about 1,600,000 women. Over 2 million teachers are employed in the nation's public schools, and estimates are that by 1980 the U.S. will need at least that many newly trained teachers to replace those lost by resignations, retirements and death. However, the number of teachers trained in the past four years has exceeded the demand, creating a surplus except in certain specialized fields. The continuance of this surplus condition will depend upon the number who complete teaching certification requirements in the next five or six years. Based on available information, I believe today's surplus could again become a shortage by 1980. Since about 64 percent of our teachers are women, the areas of training for these replacements become more crucial. As the number of working women increases, there will be a greater need for pre-school or nursery education. But if the birth rate continues to decrease, the number of teachers in the elementary grades, usually female, will decline correspondingly. These college trained women will have to make alternative occupational choices, and they often turn to a closely related field which deals with extensive person to person contact, such as social work, nursing or other health occupations.

The professional area of greatest proportional increases for the female graduate in the foreseeable future is the broad field of business administration, which includes accounting, marketing and management, public relations, business research, advertising, investments, banking, insurance, merchandising and purchasing. Although women are in increasing demand in the technical areas of engineering, architecture and the sciences, these are not areas where we are likely to find large numbers of women interested. Demands for women in medicine, law, dentistry and public administration will remain strong, but the female percentage of workers in these categories will probably not increase as much as in the business field.

Perhaps the most important feature of the Women's Rights in Employment Movement is the promotability of the female employee to positions of greater responsibility. All three branches of government and the laws, orders and decisions emanating from them have had a tremendous impact upon employers to promote more on the basis of ability, training and experience. Again, the burden of proof is largely upon the employer to prove that the higher position can be handled adequately only by an individual of a particular sex, race, religion, physical characteristic or national origin. For this and other reasons, many more college trained women are assuming middle and higher management positions in business and industry. In government positions discriminatory practices in promotions are being eliminated.

We are now in the midst of an extremely competitive employment market for the college graduate.

Pat Veller, class of '75, is an industrial arts major with a minor in graphic arts.

The most critical areas of competition are for the graduates in liberal arts with little or no related work experience, and for those in education outside of the specialized fields. Since many women are enrolled in these areas, it is important they take certain steps to become more marketable. Recommendations include:

1. Obtain part-time or summer job experience in a business oriented situation.
2. Participate in on-campus extra-curricular activities that reflect responsibility and leadership.
3. Be flexible in assignment and geographic location.
4. Keep all resumes, credentials and recommenda-
tions current.

Employers continually remind us that they are
interested in individuals who have potential for up-
ward mobility within their organization. They can
be very selective, and candidates who combine the
best qualities of intelligence, ambition and skills with
pleasant personality and physical appearance will
continue to be among the first to be hired and pro-
moted. On the other hand, a person whose work
record indicates job jumping with little or no pro-
gression is a poor risk for both initial employment
and promotion.

In summary, my perception of the employment
market for the college graduate would indicate that
there is presently little or no indication of discrimi-
nation on the basis of sex for employment into entry
level positions in professional technical classifications
such as medical, legal and engineering fields. There
is evidence of lower average starting salaries being
offered to the female college graduate because a rela-
tively large number still enter the employment
market as clerical personnel within a limited geo-
graphic region. In public school education, single
salary schedules and master contracts in the nation's
school districts virtually eliminate salary differentials
between men and women, but in higher education
these schedules and contracts are the exception ra-
ther than the rule, and women are usually at a lower
level in salary and rank than men. However, these
differentials are being reduced or eliminated in many
of our nation's community colleges, colleges and
universities. Perhaps the most significant differential
between men and women in higher education is oppor-
tunities for promotion.

In our rapidly changing society, the traditional
roles of men and women in employment have been
challenged, and the future is blurred. However, for
the woman who desires to explore new and different
career opportunities the chances have never been
better.

Dr. Robert D. Hellenga is the director of Career Plan-
ning and Placement at Western Michigan University
and an associate professor of Educational Leadership.
He has been at Western since 1963.

Women's Resource Center

Established for Mature Women

Women today are searching for means to improve
their personal relationships and increase their oppor-
tunities in an environment of change and growth.

A Women’s Resource Center has been established
in WMU’s Office of Continuing Education for Women
to provide an orientation service for community
women. This Center is organized around the follow-
ing objectives:

1. To focus the academic pattern of adult women
whose education has been interrupted.
2. To provide personalized guidance in reviewing
earlier education, in evaluating abilities and
work experience, and in making decisions and
setting goals.
3. To help the mature woman become acquainted
with opportunities for education, part-time and
full-time employment, second careers and vol-
unteer services.
4. To serve as a clearing house for information
and orientation for women considering enrollment
at any of the educational institutions and
agencies in Kalamazoo.
5. To coordinate short courses and seminars to
meet the needs of women in education, em-
ployment and cultural enrichment.

By providing counseling, information, referral and
encouragement, the educational and vocational plan-
ning services of the Women’s Resource Center assists
a woman define her needs, discover community re-
sources and move in the direction of more fully using
her time and talents.

The office is open daily from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., and
the phone number is 383-1860.

Susan Brody

Manzella Fitch is director of Continuing Education
for Women at Western Michigan University, and
coordinates activities of the Women’s Resource Cen-
ter, located in Walwood Union.
If you are a woman who graduated with a bachelor's degree from Western in 1970 or 1971 and were over 35 years of age at the time, the composite YOU was 42, married, and employed in teaching. During your enrollment at WMU you had three children to care for at home, and you completed your undergraduate work in seven or eight years. Your husband had had some college training, but this didn't really influence your decision to go to college and graduate. You began or returned to college to satisfy a desire for self-improvement. You were also motivated, to a lesser degree, by your need or wish for a job. You admitted boredom as a somewhat significant factor influencing your decision to complete your college work. The current women's movement was not a factor in your analysis of your motives to complete the work for your college degree.

You rated your college experience at Western as valuable and personally satisfactory, though you found the quality of instruction poor as it related to your professors' lack of understanding of what it is really like to be teaching in the public schools. You found that your understanding of the normally younger college student has improved because you have attended classes with them.

This profile of the mature woman graduate of Western Michigan University, 1970 and 1971, was revealed in a research study entitled "A Study of the Motivations Underlying the Earning of a Baccalaureate Degree at Western Michigan University by Women Thirty-Five or Older; Their Evaluation of Their College Experience at Western Michigan University" by Manzella G. Fitch as a graduate course project 1972.
Prior to 1960, women could compete only in tennis on the inter-collegiate level or join in playing basketball, field hockey or swimming at an occasional playday. But during the 1960's, opportunities for women to participate in intercollegiate sports expanded along with Western's rapid growth in student enrollment and faculty ranks.

Today Western women can choose from eight competitive sports, including bowling, field hockey, gymnastics, volleyball, basketball, speed swimming/diving, track and field and tennis.

The 1973-74 season was marked by expanded schedules, higher caliber of competition and good showings in many sports. Coach Jean Friedel guided the gymnastics team through its first real competitive season, in which Western met six opponents, an increase of four over 1972-73, and the first home meet was held in Gary Center.

The speed swimming/diving team, coached by Norma Stafford, established as its goal the setting of new team and pool records. Paced by swimmers Sue Matthews, a Livonia sophomore, Mary Ambrose, a senior from Grosse Pointe, and Janet Romig, a Lansing freshman, the team set a total of nine new team and seven new pool records.

The volleyball team, headed by Ruth Ann Meyer, chairman of the Department of Physical Education for Women, placed third in the state, and under the direction of Fran Ebert, the basketball team won the second place spot. Both teams attended regional tournaments.

Western's bowlers finished first in regional competition this year, with Harriet Creed at the helm, and one bowler represented the team at the national tournament in April.

Two members of Coach Jean Friedel's field hockey team, Kathy Phelps, a senior from Archibald, Ohio, and Kris Knisel from Blissfield, qualified to attend the national tournament of the U.S. Field Hockey Association. Also, in independent play, Janice Martin, a Livonia junior, defeated the 1973 national table tennis champion, Diane Turnbull from Wright State (Cleveland) University, in regional competition and won first place in the national tournament in April, 1974.

We are looking forward to good seasons for tennis and track and field, which are young programs but with good participants. Three members of the track and field team, Renee Bolen, a junior from Grand Rapids, Paula Nyman, a Midland sophomore, and Karen McCallum, a junior from Farmington, are expected to make the season interesting. Coach Pat Lemanski hopes for a repeat performance by the tennis team of the 1973 season, when one player made it to the quarter finals in the Midwest tournament at Kalamazoo College, and another was in the finals of the consolation tournament.

The WMU Department of Physical Education for Women (DPEW) is guided by the standards and policies of the Association of Intercollegiate Athletics for Women, the national governing body of women's intercollegiate sports which is equivalent to the National Collegiate Athletic Association, the organization governing men's sports. The DPEW also belongs to both the Midwest and the Michigan Associations of Intercollegiate Athletics for Women. These organizations set standards and policies for the conduct of women athletes, and sponsor the annual state, regional and national tournaments.
The number of women trying out for spots on intercollegiate teams has increased during the past few years, probably due to the enlarged scope of competitive sports in high schools, resulting in better skills and a desire for continued competition.

Hopefully we will soon reach the point where women will have the same opportunities as men in facilities, coaching and competitive events.

Harriett K. Creed is an assistant professor of Women's Physical Education and coaches the women's intercollegiate bowling team. She has been at WMU since 1967.

Members of WMU's titlist women's bowling team flank Janice Martin (4th from left), the national ping pong champion; bowling team members, from left, are: Kim Mason, Julie Graham, Sandy Lubbers, and Bonnie Owens and Lucy Morgan to Miss Martin's left.
It is interesting to note reactions when you tell people where you work. You may say that’s not unusual, especially when the answer to the question is Western Michigan University. My wife, however, requires I give more details: “No, tell them where you work,” she insists. “Oh!” I say blandly, “The physical education department.” “No, no,” she persists, “exactly which department.” “Oh!” I say again, “Women’s physical education.” It is the last statement that elicits the reaction, depending on the sex and the relative ends of the continuum to which the listener may belong. In the current atmosphere of male and female competition, I am pleased that comments are mostly favorable, if not envious, especially from the male. Typical reactions include “How did you get a job like that”? “Do you get paid as well”? “I didn’t know such a job existed.” Of course there are always those who ask, “How can you stand it”? You may still be wondering what’s so unusual, since men have taught women’s physical education before.

Well, you see, I am the only male in a women’s world. I like to think of myself as a well-cared-for minority, rather than, as some have put it, “Daniel in the lion’s den.”

Gentlemen! The ladies are most charming and I have not once been challenged to a knitting contest to prove women are superior to men at certain things, although I feel some aged tennis player may still have other thoughts. Come to think of it, a promotion such as that may raise enough money to repair the leaks in the Oakland Gym roof, or even provide a new building for the fairer sex.

People do suggest the job must have some setbacks, but it is very difficult to think of what they may be unless you consider sitting in your office watching girls performing gymnastics, or advising an attractive co-ed about what courses she should take next semester, or where she went wrong on her last physiology experiment, or why the center of gravity of the human body is normally higher in men than in women as setbacks. Yes! There are the trying times, but they tell me that faculty meetings tend to drag on in other departments too.
Western's Student Alumni Service Board (SASB), originally created to act as a communications bridge among students, faculty, administrators and alumni, has performed yeoman duties in meeting its objectives. Five seniors who have made integral contributions to the SASB as board members have also been named to the 1973-74 edition of Who's Who Among American Colleges and Universities. They are:

- Philip Gajewski of Hamtramck, majoring in communication arts, has been active in the freshman summer orientation program for two years, aided the University Ombudsman, and was assistant director of French Hall.

- Judy Walter, who has been a varsity cheerleader, and held membership in Mortar Board, the women's honor sorority, and in Associated Women and Men Students' committees. She is from Pontiac.

- Bob Brazda of Grand Haven, who has a 3.74 (out of 4.00) grade point average in accounting and earned numerous academic honors. He was also assistant director, Vandercook Hall.

- Kristine O'Rourke of Mason, who represented WMU last spring at the Mid-American Conference Spring Sports Carnival queen competition. She plans a career in college student personnel administration, inspired by her work as assistant director, Garneau Hall.

- Stewart Strauss, an Oak Park marketing major, has served as vice president of Associated Student Government as well as for Ellsworth Hall.

The SASB record contains some interesting documentation.

FACT: SASB gained membership in the Bronco Sports Century Club via creative marketing of souvenir pieces of leftover Astro Turf from the original Waldo Stadium carpet, with proceeds going to the Mike Gary Athletic Fund.

FACT: SASB donated more than $450 to the Alumni Short Term Loan Fund from its second annual Strikes for Scholarships Bowling Tournament, thereby becoming a member of the University Club.

FACT: An SASB telethon in Grand Rapids raised substantial funds for the University Jazz Lab Band and University Dancers to perform at Fountain Street Church, with the remainder going to the Harper Maybee and Dance Department scholarship funds.

FACT: SASB each year conducts on-campus voting for the Alumni Teaching Excellence Award, the first step for Western faculty to attain the honor and its $1,000 stipend.

FACT: The WMU Board of Trustees meets annually with SASB to gain a better perspective of campus events from the student viewpoint and to maintain a rapport with some of Western's most on-the-go students.

FACT: SASB members represent WMU on both the Alumni Association and the Annual Fund Boards of Directors.

Most of these programs were originated through the efforts of the following students who have set a remarkably high standard for their peers and other campus organizations:

- Kristine O'Rourke
- Stewart Strauss
- Phil Gajewski, Judy Walter, Bob Brazda, Kris O'Rourke, Stu Strauss, Judy Baldwin (Howell), Chylon Lewis (Stevensville), Shann Miedema (Muskegon), Karen Parker (Fremont), Kathy Vincent (Detroit), and Laura Woodruff (Monroe).
1914-59

Beulah Haight TC '14 featured in recent Grand Rapids Press story about her indomitable spirit which has prevailed over 59 years of invalidism.

George McCormic TC '32, '36 retired as Superintendent, Southgate Schools, after 22 years.

Mrs. N. Lorraine Beebe '32 one of 10 Michigan women to get "Distinguished Women" award from Mich. Federation of Business & Professional Women's Clubs.

Albert C. Johnsen '33, MA '39 retired after 40 years in education, past four as Godwin Public Schools Superintendent. Winsor Dunbar '34 retired from 39 years teaching, past 25 at CMU.

Dr. L. Dale Faunce '35 retired from WMU faculty; was a WMU vice pres., 1956-66.

Joel G. Mason '36 promoted to Wayne State U. professor.

Hal Helmer '38 retired as Western School Dist. Superintendent at Jackson.

Albert S. Zagers '39 has retired as superintendent, Godfrey-Lee School District near Grand Rapids, as of June 30, ending 43 years in education.

Floyd Diephuis '41 named Manager, Hercules Inc. subsidiary plant in The Netherlands.

Murl B. Connor '41, MA '53, Sp. '59 named Business Mgr., Glen Oaks Community Col.; had been Belding Superintendent since 1957.


Dr. Richard C. Dunkelberger '47, new Director, Presbyterian Village for Retirees, Detroit, after 26 years in ministry. Mrs. Betty L. Ongley '47, MA '58 elected mayor of Portage.

James W. Hoy '48 named Superintendent, Iowa Training Schools for Boys.

Raymond M. Sreboth '48 named Superintendent, Berrien County Intermediate School Dist.

M. D. "Spyde" Sumney '48 appointed vice chairman, 1974 Kalamazoo County American Cancer Society crusade.

Floyd Green, Jr. '49 elected vice chairman, Berrien County General Hospital Board of Trustees; is Employee Relations Mgr., Clark Equipment Co.


Lorraine Beebe Betty Ongley

William Rogers, Jr. '51 appointed to new position of administrative assistant at Kalamazoo Gazette; had been controller since 1965.

Donald L. Huysen '51 appointed Marketing Mgr., specialty papers, Dunn Paper Co., Port Huron.

John Hramiec '51 named by Gov. William Milliken to newly reorganized Michigan Commission on Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice; is assoc. prof. at Macomb County Community Col.

S. Ward Ritchie '52, MA '63 named director, proposed Van Buren County Career Education Center, helping plan and direct construction of $3-million center.


Gerald E. Rush '53 named Personnel Administration Mgr., Kentucky Fried Chicken Corp., Louisville.

Ronald J. Heaviland '54 appointed Parks and Recreation Superintendent, Marquette, Mich., was ass't director of admissions, Northern Mich. U. since 1971.

Bill Lajoie '55 promoted by Detroit Tigers to new post of Coordinator of Scouting.

Mrs. Dorothy Rothrock '50, MA '65, supervisor of information services, Kalamazoo Public Schools, presented with Golden Quill Award by Michigan School Public Relations Association for outstanding work in internal communications.

Richard G. Wilkie '50 named head of accounting & office functions, Kent County Social Services Dep't.

Donald L. Huysen '51 appointed marketing manager, specialty papers, Dunn Paper Co., Port Huron.

Barbara Simmons Constance Bartlett

Donald Sherrod '55, Battle Creek vice mayor, enrolled in management training program, American Nat'l Bank, Battle Creek.

Mrs. Barbara Waters '55 elected mayor of Petoskey.

Mrs. Elizabeth Bishop Sutton, att '56-'57, elected to Univ. of Colorado Phi Beta Kappa chapter.

Franklin M. Friedman '57, MA '59, is French teacher and Director, Language Labs, Flint Community Col.; also chairs C. S. Mott Special Education Scholarship Committee there.

Michael C. Mahoney '57 named Vice President, Employee Relations, Heil Co., Milwaukee, Wis.

USCG Com. David H. Freeborn, att. '58, named Executive Officer, USCG Cutter Westwind, based at Milwaukee.


Mrs. Mary L. Nicholson '58 is in "Outstanding Elementary Teachers of America" for 1973; teaches at La Porte, Ind.

E. Verne Fredlund MA '58 named principal of Hillsdale High School.

Ronald Chandonnet '59, MA '60 first Director of Special Education, six school districts in northern Muskegon County.

Roger H. Marvin '59 named vice president and auditor, 1st Nat'l Bank & Trust Co. of Michigan at Kalamazoo.


1960's

Stan Snyder '60 now Director of Purchasing, Gibson Guitar Co., Kalamazoo.

Gerry Doolittle '60, MA '65 is pastor, Bloomingdale Christian Church.

Robert De Young MA '60 named Vice President for Student Affairs, Hope College; had been Dean of Students since 1967.

James C. Kellogg '60, Michigan's deputy director of urban & public transportation.

Constance J. Bartlett '61, MBA '70 named vice president and Director of Personnel, American Nat'l Bank & Trust Co., Kalamazoo.

Alfreda M. Frost MA '61 elected secretary, Michigan Assoc. of Elementary School Principals; is principal, Central Elem. School, South Haven.

Fred A. Richardson MA '61 named acting superintendent-elect, Hillsdale Community Schools; working toward doctorate at MSU.

William R. Walkowiak '61, MA '63, lecturer in Division of Special Education, Boston College, has returned from Osaka, Japan where he coordinated a workshop for teachers of Orientation and Mobility for the Blind, at invitation of Japanese government.

Karl A. Van Asselt '62 received U.S. Civil Service Commission "Special Citation of Official Commendation & Praise," one of two recipients nationally of highest commission award to private citizens.


Albert A. Almy '63, legislative counsel, Michigan Farm Bureau; resides at Orleans.

Frederick G. Edgerton, att. '63-'66, named Allegan County Treasurer.

Charles E. Harrington '63 named staff geographer, Nat'l Ocean Survey, U.S. Commerce Dept.

Ronald M. Gillum '63 received education category annual award from Detroit's Cotillion Club; working toward Ph.D. at Wayne State U.

John Hale '63 named director, industrial relations Buhr Machine Tool Corp., Ann Arbor.

Raymond Snowden '63 named director, Coalition for the Use of Learning.

Willie C. Murphy '64, promoted to assistant deputy warden of Michigan Reformatory in Ionia; more than 20 years ago was sentenced to a 30-60 year term in the death of an acquaintance in his home. Murphy soon became an instructor of other prisoners and was transferred to a technical minimum security institution where he helped youthful offenders straighten out. Following an early parole some 10 years ago he began classes at WMU and after graduating joined the state penal system, later earning a master's degree, and becoming assistant school principal at Michigan Reformatory. He is believed the highest placed ex-offender in an American penal institution.

Jack E. Vandenberg '64 appointed Controller, Market Opinion Research, Detroit firm.

Willie E. Thompson '64 named to unexpired Saginaw Board of Education term through 1975; working toward doctorate.

David Sinclair '64 is Director, Calhoun County Juvenile Home.

Mrs. Judy Loudin '64, MA '73 is counselor, Crisis Center, Centreville.

John Ripmaster '64, MA '65 named president, Ottawa-Kent Ass't Principals Assoc.; is ass't principal, Godwin High School, Kent County.

Carl W. Waters, '64 chosen for publication, "Outstanding Secondary Educators of America," teaches at Concord High School.

William Jannenga '64 is a member of Cadillac City Commission and in real estate sales.

Moses Walker

Dr. Warren Y. Heydenberk '64, MA '65 is ass't. prof., Lehigh Univ.

Dr. Alan C. Coe '65, MBA '66 appointed director, Kent State Univ. Trumbull Campus, Warren, Ohio of 1,700 students.


Betty J. Brown '65, Lake Orion High teacher, listed in "Outstanding Educators in America."

William B. Hardin '65 named Executive Director, Metropolitan Society for Crippled Children and Adults, Detroit area.

Mickey R. Noble '65 appointed Bloomington High School principal.

Mrs. Antonette Peatly '65 named Dean of Girls, Detroit Country Day Middle School.

Judy A. Hallock '65, MBA '71 received national award for outstanding work with in-service training in area of instructional media from the Association for Educational Communication and Technology at AECT national convention in Atlantic City.

Betty J. Brown '65 selected for listing in Outstanding Educators in America 1973-74; she teaches English at Lake Orion Junior High School.

Timothy Stewart '66, MA '69, heading new Allegan Community Mental Health Clinic's drug & alcohol abuse program.

Jerry Sisson '66, MA '72 named Dekatur High School ass't. principal.


William J. Pollard '66 named Bloomingdale middle school principal.

Moses Walker '66, Executive Director, Douglas Community Assoc., Kalamazoo, elected to Kalamazoo City Commission.

Glen Walter '66 promoted to Director of Curriculum, Harper Creek Schools; was junior high principal.

Ray L. Lurtsema '67, William B. Co. named Program Director, Bay-Arenac Community Mental Health Services Board.

Barbara Bruce '66 named Program Director, Traverse City office, Dairy Council of Michigan.

James P. Bishop '66 partner in Kalamazoo C.P.A. firm.

Kyle E. Hasselden MA '67, Supervisor, Vocational Rehabilitation Services at Bay City, serving handicapped in three counties.

Gilbert Schmidt MA '67 named Director, Eaton County Mental Health Center at Charlotte.

Robert A. West '67 appointed ass't. vice president, marketing, by American Nat'l Bank & Trust Co., Kalamazoo.

Richard D. Cooper '67 named ass't. vice president, American Nat'l Bank Co. at Portage.

Gib Bert Furtsema '67, Minnesota Vikings pro football lineman, in January became first WMU grad to play in Super Bowl pro title game.

John H. Dinse MA '67 received Ph.D. degree in political science from Indiana Univ.; is ass't professor at Central Michigan Univ.

Mary A. Sproull MA '67 promoted to Marketing Training Manager in Ames Co. Division of Miles Laboratories, Inc., Elkhart, Ind.; she joined Ames Co. Division in 1969.

William G. Plummer MA '68 named Calhoun County lension director by Michigan State Univ.

Frank D. Willis '68 named ass't. Van Buren County prosecutor.

Richard C. Probst '68 appointed ass't. director of nursing, Harper Hospital, Detroit.

Glenn L. Van Wieren '68 received Ed.D. degree from Brigham Young Univ.

Mary K. Shea '68 named ass't. mgr., Campus Branch, Huron Valley Nat'l. Bank, Ann Arbor.

Louise Lyman '68, first woman to receive contract truck driver's certificate from Aero Mayflower Transit Co.

Arthur M. Kidney '68 named ass't. vice president and Operations Officer, First Nat'l. Bank & Trust Co. of Michigan, Kalamazoo.

James A. Groh '68 named manager, West Shore Computer Services, Scottville.

James L. Schultz '69 MA '70 appointed ass't. dean of curriculum, Aquinas College, Grand Rapids.
Robert Eells '70 named ass't. director, Newaygo County Community Services.
Raymond M. Dost MS '70 named first St. Joseph County Engineer; had been chairman, Technology Div., Glen Oaks Community College.
Robert F. Becker '70 promoted to ass't. vice president, First Savings Assoc. of Saginaw.

John C. Hramlec      Mary Sproul

Donald G. Davenport MA '70 named principal, Almont High School.
Dennis Conant '70 appointed ass't. Ingham County prosecutor.

Mrs. Gladys Burks '70, MA '72 named principal, two Benton Harbor Public School District elementary schools.
Frederick C. VanDenBerg '71 promoted to ass't. vice president, First Nat'l. Bank & Trust Co., Holland.
Bernard D. Bishop '71 appointed regional representative, West Central Region, Mich. Farm Bureau, seven-county area.

Dr. Peter A. Dual '71 named ass't. to Director, African and Afro-American Studies and Research Center, Univ. of Texas at Austin, and ass't. prof. Robert Johnson '71 is executive vice president, Greater Monroe Chamber of Commerce.
Gregory Longpre '71 named manager, Stevensville Branch, St. Joseph Savings & Loan Assoc.
Pearlene White '71 named Outreach Service Program for Benton Harbor-St. Joseph YWCA.

Mrs. Ann L. Benz '71 joined administrative staff, Maurice Spear Campus, Adrian; a juvenile home.
Mark B. Anderson '71 commissioned as U.S.N. ensign; taking flight training at Pensacola, Fla.
Donald H. Kalisiak '71 MBA '73 recently joined Upjohn Co., Kalamazoo, as Data Processing Coordinator and Material Planner.

Mrs. Sue Biermacher '72 appointed Director of American Red Cross Youth Service Programs at Kalamazoo.
Sandra Holmes '72 named Special Services Director at Benton Harbor-St. Joseph YWCA.

Richard Green '72 appointed Urban Outreach Director by Kalamazoo YMCA.
Kenneth Petersen '72 named Human Services Coordinator for Tuscola County.

Jonathan R. White '72 recently received Legion of Valor's Bronze Cross for Achievement medal, one of nation's highest ROTC awards, presented by the Legion of Valor to distinguished ROTC cadets for exceptional achievement; he's now a WMU grad student.

Kenneth Hinchman '72 recently commissioned by U.S. Navy as ensign.
Timothy Check MA '72 named Northview Community School Director, north of Grand Rapids.

Elizabeth A. Toth '72 elected to Executive Council, Ohio Distributive Education Clubs of America; also chairman, Dist. 7, Ohio Distributive Ed. Coordinators; recently had published a sales training manual written by her; teaches at Avon High School, Ohio.

James L. Hamm '72 appointed Chief Operating Officer, Detroit Lakes Industrial Development Corp., in Minnesota.

Esther M. Kinnison '72 joined Upjohn Co., Industrial Health Unit, as medical technologist.

Dr. David G. Waite, Ed.D. '73, appointed to new position, Coordinator for Program Development, Mecosta-Osceola Intermediate School District, serving five districts.

Dr. Barry Fitzgerald, Ed.D. '73, Director of Community Education, Buchanan.
Mrs. Mary Wassink '73 named work evaluator, Jenkins Center Goodwill, Kalamazoo.

Patricia Jahn, MLS '73 named Director, Van Buren County library system; had been Decatur High School librarian.

Philip R. Harbach '73, joined Upjohn Co. Toxicology and Pathology Research Unit, Kalamazoo, studying tumors.

Harold R. Adams '73 received USAF commission as 2nd Lt., assigned to Craig AFB, Alabama.

Mr. Marion J. Grajewski, Jr., named Program Director, Monroe County Catholic Youth Organization.

Luman Bailey '73 named mgr. of Val Aire, new Battle Creek restaurant.

Robert D. McParlan MA '73 appointed E d w a r d s a u r g Community Schools Coordinator.

Daniels K. Reynolds '73 named Brink's, Inc., Muskegon Operations Mgr.

Reuben Moss '69 named Office Mgr., Focus News, Kalamazoo weekly newspaper.

Nick De'Young '69 opened registered language school's office at Charlevoix.
JoAnn Lovejoy '69 is seven-county drug abuse coordinator for Rap-inc., at Alpena.

Crystal Stewart '69 ass't. prof. of public health nursing education at Grand Valley State College.
Milton E. Clark, Jr. '69 named ass't. product marketing mgr., Anesthesia Apparatus and Accessories, Ohio Medical Products; resides in Madison, Wis.

Donald L. Barniske '69 is nat.'l. chairman, Public Health Committee, American Optometric Student Assoc. and a senior at So. California College of Optometry, Los Angeles.

James C. Lucas '69 received Juris Doctor degree from Univ. of Detroit Law School.

Capt. Michael D. Uramkin '69 received regular U.S. Air Force commission; previously held a reserve commission; serves with S.A.C. at March AFB, Calif.
Howard H. Helmke '69 new personnel director at Memorial Hospital, St. Joseph.

Dr. Carl D. Swanson MA '69, Ph.D. '71 named Visiting Scientist for 1974 by American Psychological Assoc.-Nat'l. Science Foundation; is Director, Madison College Counselor Education Program, Harrisonburg, Va.
Carlos A. Florido MA '69 is ass't. principal, Belleville High School.

Philip S. McKersie MBA '70 promoted to Training Director, Midwest Printing Papers Div., Georgia-Pacific Corp., Kalamazoo.

1970's

Gary W. Freels '70 promoted to loan officer, Commercial Finance Dept., Bank of the Commonwealth, Detroit.

Donald H. Groenleer '70 appointed Controller, First Federal Savings & Loan Assoc., Niles.

James B. Leadford '70 named processing engineer at Woodall Industries, Inc., PlasTech Div., Fremont, Ohio.

John A. Nordberg '70 promoted to Market Manager, pediatric vitamins, Mead Johnson Laboratories, Evansville, Ind.

Ronald L. Ford '70 joined Hygrade Food Products Corp. as corporate process engineer.

Edward E. Kurt '70 elected ass't. vice president, Pan American Bank of Ward County, Ft. Lauderdale, Fla.

James C. Dickle '70 named conservation officer for Shilawassee County Soil Conservation Dist.

Terry Harvey MSW '72 joined staff of Federated Counseling Services as rep. of Catholic Social Services at Grand Haven.

William Walkowiak      Patricia Jahn
In Memoriam

Mrs. Helena Baeuerle Barker TC '09, at Kalamazoo.
Mrs. Mae Brown Kenning TC '10, at Grand Rapids.
Vida E. Parks TC '11, at Battle Creek.
Mrs. Mary Walters Smith TC '17, at Kalamazoo.
G. Roy Lahr '26, while visiting in California.
Mrs. Anna Warsop Mack TC '17, at Coldwater.
Beatrice A. Bacome TC '18, '32, at Berrien Springs.
Helen A. Schaaf TC '19, at Grand Rapids.
Mrs. Mary Henderson Stadler TC '19, at Kalamazoo.
Mrs. Nina Goodrich Rix TC '19, '42, in Florida.
Mrs. Gertrude Stewart Hagen TC '20 at Paw Paw.
Mrs. Pearl Paddock Cleveland TC '22, '50, at Bangor.
Mrs. Hazel Garred Smith TC '23, '27, at Kalamazoo.

Mrs. Elga Todd O'Brien TC '25, '35, at Kalamazoo.
Mrs. Louisa Durham Mohr TC '26, '31, in Florida.
George W. Kent TC '29, '35, at Plainwell.
Mrs. Nellie Davis Crittenden TC '31, at Kalamazoo.
Henry Ludwick '32, at Grand Rapids.
Elmer Liskey '34, at Grand Rapids.

Mrs. Ethel Mellon Kelly '36, at Fremont.
Dr. Gordon Caswell '38 in Arizona.
John J. Dill '38, near Manistique.
Blair Mickel '40, at Grand Rapids.
Mrs. Mary Ahlstrom Klok '42, MA '63, at Kalamazoo.
Mrs. Dorothy Crawford Putt '52 in Arizona.
Mrs. Lena Rice Claar '57, at Coldwater.
Mrs. Helen Burchardt Hudson '58, at Grand Rapids.
Mrs. Ellen N. Brown '59, at Grand Rapids.
Thomas E. Corryn '65, at Niles.
Robert A. Fischer '65, MA '72, at Ann Arbor.
Mrs. Diana Streidl de Castro '67, at Kalamazoo.
Mrs. Bernice Andre Burke '69, MA '70, at Gobles.
Katherine Skedgell '72, near Battle Creek.

William Griffin '69 was recently elected president of Western Michigan University's Alumni Association at the same time that two new vice presidents and seven new Board of Directors members were chosen.

Griffin was president of his WMU senior class and is presently owner of the Adventure Travel Agency in Kalamazoo.

Mrs. Mildred Johnson of Muskegon, a member of the WMU Board of Trustees since its inception

in 1964, and Dr. Donald Thompson of Flint were elected to one year terms as association vice presidents.

Mrs. Johnson is the president of the Muskegon County Historical Society and was state president of the American Association of University Women.

Dr. Thompson is an urban specialist on the University of Michigan staff at its Flint branch.

New directors for 1974 are:
Dr. C. Bassett Brown '48 of Benton Harbor;
Robert W. Denison '55 of Kalamazoo;
Richard M. Hughey '52 of Kalamazoo;
Mrs. Suzanne Barnes Lang '69 of Hastings;
George G. Malacos '69 of Cincinnati, Ohio;
and Dr. Charles Mitchelli, Jr. '59 of Detroit. They will serve three year terms.
Arthur J. O'Connor, Director of University Information at Western since 1964, died February 2 at the age of 66 of a heart attack. A 1929 graduate of the University of Detroit, O'Connor's career included reporting and editorial positions with the Big Rapids Pioneer, the Ludington Daily News and the Muskegon Chronicle. He was head of the information division of the State Department of Economic Development (later renamed Economic Expansion) from 1957-64, with the exception of one year as press secretary to Governor G. Mennen Williams in 1959-60.

O'Connor joined Western's staff in 1964 at the request of now-retired WMU President James W. Miller, who became acquainted with him in the late 1950's when Miller was Michigan's controller and O'Connor was with the Department of Economic Development. A close relationship developed between them when Miller was named WMU President in 1961, he created the new position of Director of University Information, which he held open for O'Connor for two years until family considerations allowed his move to Kalamazoo.

A former reporter colleague of Arthur O'Connor remembers him as a "pipe-smoking Irishman through and through, who wrote his stories with one leg slung over his desk." Slight of build, about 5'8", with a nearly-continuous twinkle in his eye, Arthur was the prototype of a leprechaun, as he was often tagged during his 10 years at Western.

Notorious for puns which "were at times so awful they were funny," recalled retired President Miller, O'Connor also used humor as a lubricant to soften abrasive issues.

"He could see the funny side of serious matters," Miller said. "I don't remember specifics, but when a colleague would become deadly serious on a subject, Arthur would come up with a statement that would say, in a gentle way, that we must take ourselves less seriously; and he did it so unobtrusively that you weren't really aware he was doing it."

Despite 26 years in the newspaper business, an experience which sours and makes cynics of many individuals, O'Connor retained his belief in people.

"Arthur had a healthy dose of doubt about the motivations of people or groups," Miller said, "but he could arch his eyebrows. Although he wasn't above saying someone was totally unright, I never heard him speak ill of someone to deliberately hurt a person."

O'Connor's special talent in combining humane concern with professionalism was recognized by Muskegon politicians and city staff personnel whom he covered as a reporter from 1935-43. When he assumed the job of city editor in 1946 after three years in the service during World War II, he was given a testimonial dinner by these same people about whom he was often forced to write critical stories, an unusual tribute to a reporter.

"Art O'Connor was one of the few people who are completely morally honest, or maybe intellectually honest is a better description," said Bill Kulsea, chief of the Lansing bureau of Booth Newspapers, who knew O'Connor during his career with the Chronicle (a newspaper in the Booth chain) and later as press secretary to Governor Williams.

As press secretary, O'Connor played it straight with the media, Kulsea noted. "If he couldn't tell you something, he would tell you he couldn't tell you, which is quite a virtuous characteristic for a fellow whose position is designed to protect his boss."

When former associates speak of O'Connor, "loyal" and "devoted" are the terms they often repeat to characterize him.

"He was completely loyal to me as an individual and as governor, and to the job that had to be done, large or small, day or night—he gave it everything he had," former Governor and now Supreme Court Justice Williams said of O'Connor's performance as his press secretary.

Miller echoed Justice Williams' sentiments, also noting that "The true mark of a good public relations person is anonymity, which was the name of the game for Arthur."

O'Connor was in the behind-the-scenes decision-making at Western to a degree that was not recognized by many beyond top administrators and Board of Trustees members. He functioned as a personal confidant to Miller, who regularly turned to him for advice, and he approached problems from a viewpoint encompassing the concerns not only of administrators and faculty, but also of students and their parents, for whom he served as an informal spokesman.

"Arthur had a substantial background in areas beyond those that would be limited to his public relations responsibilities, and his ability to ask the right question at the right time was a great strength to me," Miller said.

Another of O'Connor's strengths was his wide knowledge of public figures and their roles in Michigan. He was on close terms with two governors, Williams and John B. Swainson; two state controllers, Miller and his successor, Dr. Ira Polley; a federal district judge, Noel Fox; and a host of higher-ups in the Democratic Party. His knowledge of who was who in the Republican Party was also extensive, and his contacts in the media were wide-ranging.

"Despite the fact there was a lot of power inherent in such relationships, I don't know of anyone ever accusing Arthur of abusing that power," said WMU's Vice President for Student Services Thomas Coyne, a close associate of O'Connor.

His friends agree that O'Connor was a man totally devoted to his family, his friends and his religion.

While O'Connor delighted in pointing out the redundancy in describing someone as a "good Irishman," since, he said, all Irishmen are good, he would agree that some are better than others.

Western Michigan University pays tribute to Arthur O'Connor simply by remembering that he was one of the best.

Patricia O'Brien
Acting Director of University Information
Western Michigan University
Alumni Association Officers

President
William F. Griffin ’69, Kalamazoo

Vice President
Mrs. Mildred Johnson, Muskegon

Vice President
Dr. Donald E. Thompson ’68, Flint

Executive Secretary
Rick Markoff ’68, Kalamazoo

Alumni Association Directors

(Terms expire Dec. 31, 1974)
Sterling L. Breed ’55, Kalamazoo
Harry Contos, Jr. ’50, Kalamazoo
Selit Lum ’54, Kalamazoo
James R. McKinley ’66, Ypsilanti
Anita Rutherford Orr ’66, Detroit
Peter Van Dyken ’56, LaMirada, Cal.
Dr. William J. Yankee ’54, Traverse City
Dr. C. Bassett Brown ’48, Benton Harbor

(Terms expire Dec. 31, 1975)
Ronald W. Carmichael ’60, Phoenix, Ariz.
Michael L. Gulino ’66, Washington, D.C.
Dr. Donald E. Thompson ’68
John Kreidler ’50, Kalamazoo
Mildred Johnson, Muskegon
Norbert F. Vandersteen ’53, Palatine, Ill.
Philip Watterson ’32, Ada
Rosanne Gorman Whitehouse ’69, Ann Arbor
William F. Griffin ’69

(Terms expire Dec. 31, 1976)
Robert W. Denison ’55, Kalamazoo
Richard M. Hughley ’52, Kalamazoo
Suzanne Barnes Lang ’69, Hastings
George G. Malacos ’69, Cincinnati, O.
Dr. Charles Mitchell, Jr. ’59, Detroit
J. Daniel Telfer ’62, South Bend, Ind.
Miriam VanderWeele DeHaan ’46, Kalamazoo

Representative, Alumni “W” Club
William J. Kowalski ’48, Kalamazoo

President, Alpha Beta Epsilon Alumnae Sorority
Miriam VanderWeele DeHaan ’46

President, Student Alumni Service Board
Robert L. Johnson, Monroe

Ex-officio Members

Rick Markoff ’68
Director, Alumni Relations

Larry R. Koenes ’73
Director, Annual Fund

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