Scientists of a different stripe
Dear Friends,

The next time you visit campus, you'll be amazed to see the many changes under way. These physical changes are a direct reflection of the growth and vitality of our University, and we revel in the progress they represent.

The following are a few of the significant building projects going on.

- **College of Engineering**—We recently broke ground for our new 250,000-square-foot College of Engineering building that will open its doors in 2003. Construction of the college's new Paper and Printing Pilot Plant has been under way for several months and will be completed in 2002. The new college and pilot plant are located at the newly designated Parkview Campus, which is located about three miles south of main campus near the intersection of Parkview Avenue and Drake Road.

- **Business Technology and Research Park**—Sharing the Parkview Campus with the College of Engineering will be the new Business Technology and Research Park. The BTR Park's private-sector tenants will engage our faculty and students in research, internships and other exciting collaborations. Buildings for our first two high-technology partners, Richard-Allan Scientific Inc. and Fluid Process Equipment Inc., are now under construction.

- **Seelye Indoor Practice Facility**—Construction is just starting on the Donald "J" Seelye Athletic Center, which will be open in 2002. Situated at the north end of Waldo Stadium, it will include indoor practice space for baseball, football, golf, soccer and softball.

  The Seelye Center's principal public entrance will incorporate the Oakland Gym's front facade and include displays of Bronco athletic memorabilia and WMU history as well as a home for the W Club. This is part of our commitment to maintain the architectural integrity of our historic East Campus so that future generations of students can appreciate the University's history and traditions.

- **Regional centers**—This spring, we opened a new downtown Graduate Center in Grand Rapids, Mich., in the Cherry Street Landing district near Van Andel Arena. In August, we will break ground for a new Southwest Michigan Regional Center on the campus of Lake Michigan College in Benton Harbor, Mich. When this facility opens in late 2002 our regional center will relocate there from St. Joseph High School where it is currently housed.

If you would like to learn more about these and other campus building projects, visit our new construction Web site at <www.wmich.edu/construction>.

Warmest regards,

Elson S. Floyd
What's happening on campus?
Planning a visit to Kalamazoo? Check the WMU News Web site for the latest information about campus events that you can attend. Calendar listings are currently available through April 2002 and are regularly updated at <www.wmich.edu/wmu/news/events/calendar1.html>.

Features

New fine arts dean hits the ground running
Margaret Merrion is literally racing around the campus in her new job as dean of the College of Fine Arts. She has four busy departments to keep pace with and an ambitious set of goals for the coming decade.

On the cover
Scientists of a different stripe
Armed with new data from the human genome project and a long history of innovative research, WMU faculty members are building bridges between disciplines to tackle challenges in the life sciences.

Cover photograph by Ed McKinney

Farewell to a treasure
Alumna Gwen Frostic overcame physical limitations to forge a life as one of Michigan's best-known artists—and one of its most savvy businesswomen. She's left a legacy few could equal.

The making of the president's visit
After six intense days of preparation, the University pulled off a rousing welcome for U.S. President George W. Bush—as well as scores of others who came along.

Sections

University News
College News
Alumni News
Classnotes
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Athletic News
WMU's Business Technology and Research Park has been named one of Michigan's first SmartZones, putting the entire Kalamazoo area on the front line in the state's high-technology economic development efforts.

The University also will play a major role in a second SmartZone project, an innovative initiative by the nearby city of Battle Creek, where WMU's College of Aviation is located, to combine this area's aviation and aerospace strengths with online education.

Anchored in the BTR Park, the Kalamazoo zone will focus on creating life sciences, information technology and advanced product engineering jobs. The park will include a business incubator and resources tailored to meet the needs of firms locating there.

Two Kalamazoo companies already are constructing facilities in the park, Richard-Allan Scientific Inc., a life-sciences firm, and Fluid Process Equipment Inc., an engineering, consulting and marketing firm.

In Battle Creek, the economic development focus is on aviation education. A Dutch firm, European Pilot Selection & Training, has committed to making its soon-to-be established American division the first business to locate in that SmartZone.

**Oakland Gym being incorporated into new indoor practice facility**

Site preparation has begun around Oakland Gym on East Campus to get ready for construction this fall of the Donald “J” Seelye Athletic Center.

The 120,000-square-foot building will be constructed at the north end of Waldo Stadium and will have major entry points on Stadium Drive and through the front of what is now Oakland Gym on Oakland Drive. The Brink Printing Services building will be demolished to make way for the new facility, which is the first indoor practice facility for athletics built at WMU in more than 40 years.

The Oakland Drive entrance to the building has been designed to preserve the look and feeling of historic East Campus and incorporate the existing front wall and roofline of Oakland Gym.

**Cyclist is among nation's top 10**

WMU student Kelli Emmett has survived more than a few bumps in her quest for Olympic success, but that is not unusual for a cross-country cyclist who competes on terrain that includes rocky trails, drop-offs and mountainsides.

Emmett has risen to the top of the cross-country category of mountain biking. She placed first at the 2000 National Collegiate Mountain Bike Championships, becoming the first WMU cyclist to win this event; consistently places in the top 10 at World Cup races; and has qualified among the top five U.S. riders for a spot on the 2004 Olympic team.

Her record is impressive for someone who got involved in the sport only six years ago.

"I would go to the trails with my brother and father and they would watch me crash," Emmett recalls. "I was pretty scary on a bike back then. But after doing a few local races, I started competing at the national level."

Now, the senior management major from Plymouth, Mich., participates in nearly 80 races a year and is conditioning at the Olympic Training Center in Colorado. But she still takes courses at WMU's Kalamazoo campus when she can and via distance education when she is on the road.

**Charter schools showing mixed results, WMU researchers say**

The strengths and weaknesses of charter schools can vary significantly according to where they are located and who oversees them, a group of studies conducted by WMU's Evaluation Center indicate.

The mixed results appear in three major reports released during the last nine months. The reports are available in their entirety online at <www.wmich.edu/evalctr> and cover studies that examined Edison Schools Inc., the nation's largest private educational management firm, and charter schools in Michigan and Pennsylvania.
Key conclusions made by Evaluation Center researchers thus far include:

- Edison—when measuring student achievement, this firm's charter and contract schools perform at levels similar to their host districts, but fail to make the educational gains Edison administrators claim.
- Michigan—innovation and community involvement, the goal of the state's charter school legislation, is being blunted by the influence of for-profit management firms.
- Pennsylvania—charter schools are having a positive impact on the predominantly at-risk student population they serve, and although only 4 years old, this state's school reform initiative is among the nation's most successful.

**Board of Trustees gets four new members, selects 2001 leaders**

Four Michigan residents were recently named to the WMU Board of Trustees. The new trustees are Vernice Anthony of Detroit; Peter L. Aseritis, BBA '73, of Williamsburg; Sarah DeNooyer of Kalamazoo; and Daniel Pero, B.S. '73, of Dimondale.

Anthony is senior vice president for corporate affairs and community health for Detroit's St. John Health System. She will serve a term that expires in 2004.

Aseritis is president of Portfolio Performance Analysis, Inc., in Traverse City, Mich. He will serve a term that expires in 2006.

DeNooyer is a former clothing buyer for Redwood & Ross and an active community volunteer. She will serve a term that expires in 2008.

Pero is a partner in Sterling Corp., a Lansing, Mich.-based, public relations company. He will serve a term that expires in 2008.

Earlier in the year, Richard Y. St. John and Richard F. Chormann, B.S. '59, of Kalamazoo were elected to serve one-year terms as chairperson and vice chairperson, respectively, of the board.

**New graduate center opens**

A new regional facility in downtown Grand Rapids, Mich., has opened for business.

Called the Graduate Center-Downtown, it is located in a 77,000-square-foot building at 200 Ionia Ave. S.W. Among its features is a complete counseling clinic and training facility that provides accredited, supervised practica experiences under one roof for all students in the graduate counselor education and counseling psychology programs.

The Graduate Center-Downtown also will be the new home for the University's Grand Rapids master of business administration program and will be WMU's second full-service conference center in the city.

The new center's degree programs will complement more than 20 other graduate offerings already available at the University's Grand Rapids Regional Center, 2333 E. Beltline Ave., S.E. WMU now operates eight regional centers and one regional office in eight Michigan communities.
"I was aware of the excellence of the musical theatre program, the national reputation of the sculpture tour, the outstanding jazz program, and the size and quality of the eclectic dance department. Those were very attractive. The Kalamazoo community was another big strength. But probably the turning point was President Floyd’s leadership."
It's Tuesday morning and Margaret Merrion, the new dean of the College of Fine Arts, has hit her stride. It's a good thing she's wearing her running shoes.

On any given day it's not unusual to see Merrion, who officially started on the job July 1, 2000, striding around campus in a pair of Adidas or Nikes. Every day is a race to the finish line for the 51-year-old, who oversees the School of Music and the departments of Art, Dance, and Theatre.

The tennis shoes come in handy because Merrion has a lot of ground to cover. As the fine arts dean, she must keep pace with four very busy and well-established entities.

But Merrion isn't complaining. In fact, it's what attracted her to WMU in the first place and is a pillar in her vision of the college as a "College of Distinction."

"Most people don't know that we are one of only 14 colleges of fine arts in the nation that have all programs accredited and meet or exceed all national standards of excellence," Merrion says. "That's how I define a College of Distinction and that's why I make that assertion with confidence."

WMU was breaking new ground in Michigan on July 1, 1972, when it merged the departments of Art and Music from the College of Arts and Sciences and Dance from the College of Education to create the first College of Fine Arts in the state. The Department of Theatre, also part of the College of Arts and Sciences, joined the College of Fine Arts in 1976.

Today, more than 1,800 students major or minor in the fine arts and nearly 4,000 additional students take courses through the college each year. Faculty and students offer more than 1,200 performances and exhibitions annually, reaching audiences in excess of 300,000.

Merrion gratefully acknowledges the work of her predecessors, Robert Holmes, who served as the college's dean until 1980, and Robert Luscombe, who succeeded Holmes, retiring in 1999. She also credits "superb leadership" within the college's individual units. But it's time to push the yardstick a little further, she says.

Merrion, with help from an advisory board made up of a wide cross-section of faculty, staff and community arts enthusiasts, has created a vision for the college for the next 10 years. The strategic plan is by no means set in stone. Already it has been revised several times.

"We have charted this course very carefully," Merrion says. "But we are ready to incorporate things that happen serendipitously. We're light on our feet. We're not going to be gridlocked by committees that are going to impede our progress."

An artful life

Merrion has let little impede her own progress toward crafting a considerable imprint on the arts. She was only 39 when she was named acting dean for the College of Fine Arts at Ball State University. She officially became dean less than a year later.

From her earliest remembrances as a child growing up in Chicago, the arts have always tugged at her heartstrings. Her father was a pianist by avocation, and the family always had opera and other forms of serious music playing in the home.

At age 4, she decided she wanted to be a ballet dancer, and her elementary school education further nurtured her interest in the arts in general. Little by little, piano lessons and a growing interest in choral music supplanted her early fascination with ballet.

Merrion earned a music education degree in 1971 at Chicago State University with a major in choral music and minor in piano. She worked as a music educator and choral director in the Chicago public and parochial schools and earned master's and doctoral degrees in music education in 1976 and 1979, respectively, from the University of Missouri at Columbia.

She started her career in higher education at the University of Northern Iowa, where she was on the faculty from 1978 to 1986, then joined the faculty at Ball State in 1986 as associate dean and associate professor of music. Over the years she has written or co-written five books.

Merrion decided early in her career that she could accomplish more on an administrative level than as a teacher.

"I realized that I would have the opportunity to effect change on a larger scale," she says. "I knew I could lift the human condition of my choral group, but if I taught choral directors, I could potentially impact many choirs." Merrion has carried that philosophy forward into the administrative ranks of higher education.

Continued on page 24
The secret to reversing brain damage or preventing hearing loss could be swimming in your fish bowl.

The zebrafish, a common "starter fish" for many household aquariums, may not have the glamour of a neon tetra or the charm of a goldfish, but to two Western Michigan University researchers, this iridescent little black and silver striped fish swims in a league none of those other flashy fins do.

That's because zebrafish DNA looks a lot like our DNA.

Possessing a genetic blueprint similar to humans has made the two-inch fish a popular subject with researchers around the globe who are seeking to improve human life and health. With the sequencing of its genome nearly complete, zebrafish are leading a new wave of life sciences research that is not only groundbreaking, but breaks down borders between disparate disciplines as well.

Take WMU's Christine Byrd and Bharti Katbamna, for example. Byrd, a biological scientist, is examining the zebrafish's brain for clues to reversing brain damage in humans and finding her work crossing into the realms of molecular biology and neuroscience. Across campus, Katbamna leaves her work as a hearing clinician, dons a lab coat and becomes a cellular and molecular biologist studying the fish for ways of preventing human hearing loss.

Along the way, the two researchers deepen the interdisciplinary nature of their work by sharing knowledge, methods and discoveries, as well as specimens, with one another.

Cell regeneration spurs human brain research

Byrd, an assistant professor of biological sciences, is fascinated by the zebrafish's ability to continuously regenerate new cells in its nose and the olfactory bulb of its brain—a behavior that mimics that of humans—and is seeking to discover what makes these new cells grow. Finding the answer to that question could make it possible to stimulate new cell growth in other, damaged parts of the human brain.

"You know the theory that you're born with a certain amount of brain cells and they die off and that's it? Well forget that," she says. "In zebrafish and in humans, as well
as other animals, the cells in the nose are constantly dying off and being replaced with new cells. New cells and neural connections are constantly being added to the olfactory bulb of the brain. I want to know what, whether it's a gene or protein, turns on that development and how it can be replicated elsewhere.”

Karbamna, an associate professor of speech pathology and audiology, is interested in a different zebrafish sense—hearing. Her research on the fish's miniscule ear, which is a white speck the size of a breadcrumb, will help determine how to protect human ears from the toxicity of some chemotherapy and antibiotic drugs that cause hearing loss.

“Humans only get 16,000 hair cells in their ears and since they do not regenerate, it is critical to protect them from damage,” she explains. “My research looks at ways to rescue these cells from damage in the presence of toxic drugs.”

Karbamna's work has been groundbreaking in a number of ways. She was the first to establish zebrafish as a model for hearing research, which tends to rely on guinea pigs, mice and chickens. In addition, the fields of speech

**Researchers on the front lines of finding a healthier future**

Plastics. In 1967, “The Graduate” Benjamin Braddock was told that’s where the future lies. For today’s students, two words set the direction: life sciences.

Life sciences research aimed at improving human health is a driving force in the current era’s technological innovations and economic development. In fact, the life sciences comprise one major area of research and development for the University's new Business Technology and Research Park. Encompassing all areas of science, the cross-disciplinary research is being spurred to new levels of growth by an increasingly older population, rising health costs and supportive funding on the federal and state levels. The conclusion last year of the Human Genome Project, which gave science the complete genetic code for humans, has further spurred life sciences research. WMU is on the leading edge of those efforts, having recently acquired a DNA microray, which can screen samples against chips embedded with the human genome sequence. University researchers across the disciplines—from chemistry and computer science to psychology and statistics—are on the front lines of the effort to create a healthier future for humans.

**Happy nerves, healthy muscle—**

**John Spitsbergen**

Dr. John Spitsbergen is hoping that putting a rat on a treadmill will give the rodent a good case of nerves.

Actually, a good dose of neurotrophic factor would be more precise. Neurotrophic factor is the element that keeps human nerves alive and thriving, which in turns keeps muscle tissue healthy.

In an attempt to discover ways to keep humans from losing neurotrophic factor and, ultimately, healthy muscle tissue as they age, Spitsbergen, a neuroscientist in WMU's Department of Biological Sciences, is giving rats a workout.

“We would like this research to show the benefits of exercise in maintaining good communication between nerves and skeletal muscles,” he says of the project he is conducting with the help of graduate and undergraduate
students. "With age, humans become less active and the nerves lose contact with the muscles. As a result, people become weaker, which makes them less likely to exercise, which makes them even more likely to lose more neurotrophic factor. "We believe that exercise keeps those nerves alive."

To conduct their experiments, the researchers have rats walk on treadmills using boxes to create lanes so they don't fall off. The research project is being conducted in two phases that will compare the nerve growth factor of young rats to that of older rats.

The first phase of the project on the younger animals has been completed with positive results. "We found that the walk-trained animals made more nerve growth factor, which keeps the neurons alive and happy, and there was an increase of neurotrophic factor in the skeletal muscle," says Spitsbergen. "We hope that the results would be similar in humans and that if they exercise it will keep their nerves alive and happy."

Such happy neurons could be a key in treating nerve diseases or paralysis. "It could mean restoring function for people who suffer from Lou Gehrig's disease or other diseases or injuries that have damaged the neurons and muscles," he says.

Closing in on new ways to treat diabetes, obesity—Susan Stapleton
Looking for a better way to treat diabetes and, ultimately, obesity, is the focus of research using gene expression techniques being conducted by Dr. Susan Stapleton, a biochemist who combines the disciplines of biology and chemistry in her work.

Stapleton is trying to determine what genes are needed to make the proteins that break down glucose in the human body.

"High concentrations of glucose are what cause the long-term problems of diabetes," she explains. "Once glucose is taken up by a cell, it needs to be broken down properly to make energy. We are trying to figure out how the genes that are necessary to make the proteins that are required to break down the glucose are regulated."

Stapleton has received nearly $200,000 from the National Institutes of Health to conduct her research. Her ultimate goal is to determine if other compounds besides insulin...
College of Arts and Sciences

China invites WMU professors to conference on Sino-U.S. relations

Tension between the United States and China didn't stop two faculty members from accepting an invitation from the Chinese government to participate in an international conference on U.S-Sino relations.

Drs. Katherine Joslin, director of WMU's American studies program and a professor of English, and Thomas C. Bailey, associate vice president for academic affairs and a professor of English, traveled to Shenyang, China, to speak at a conference on "Globalization and Sino-U.S. Relations at the Turn of the Century." Held at Northeastern University, the May 18-20 conference was sponsored by the China Academy of Social Sciences, the U.S. Embassy in China and the Institute of American Studies at NEU.

Bailey and Joslin were among 40 speakers and 12 foreign scholars participating in the program. The keynote speaker was the director of one of China's top foreign policy think tanks for studying the United States. Other scholars were from high-ranking Chinese academic institutions.

After the conference, Bailey and Joslin served as guest lecturers at NEU and explored the possibility of developing a reciprocal relationship between that university and WMU.

Researcher finds customers want much more than they're getting

Despite all the emphasis on customer service today, most people say they aren't getting enough of it.

Dr. Wendy Zabava Ford, associate professor of communication and an expert on customer service, has found that most people expect better service than they are getting from their doctor, dentist, hairdresser, auto mechanic and other service providers.

In a study published in February in the Journal of Applied Communication Research, Ford compared customers' expectations of service across a variety of jobs from cashiers to nurses. She found that the more professional the occupation, the more customers expect personalized service. She also found that customers have higher expectations of service providers with whom they expect to do repeat business.

Unfortunately, corporate America isn't paying attention, Ford says. "Research has shown that organizations are moving toward processing as many customers as possible, as quickly as possible," she says. "Customers have very high expectations for personalized service that goes beyond smiles and greetings, while the trend in corporations is to streamline the process and make customer interactions faster and more efficient."

Changing face of Eastern Europe subject of new symposium

An international scholar joined by young scholars at the center of political and social upheaval in Eastern Europe were on campus in January to participate in the first George Klein Symposium.

www.wmich.edu/cas

Shoreline erosion project to share $2 million in new federal funds

A WMU research project aimed at "de-watering" eroding shoreline bluffs on Lake Michigan is one of three projects to receive $2 million in federal appropriations.

Dr. Ronald B. Chase, professor of geosciences, and Dr. Alan Kehew, chairman of the Department of Geosciences, are receiving funding set aside for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in an energy and water appropriations bill for 2001. The bill allocates $2 million for the Corps' national Shoreline Erosion Control Development and Demonstration Program.

WMU's project will attempt to stop the movement of existing landslides between South Haven and Saugatuck. Because some of the most unstable soil slopes in the nation lie along the Great Lakes shoreline, the WMU project was one of three designated by the Corps as having "Priority 1" status.

Title "Transitions in Process: Social, Political and Cultural Dimensions of Change in Eastern Europe," the event was sponsored by the Departments of Political Science, Anthropology and Sociology and the Diether H. Haenicke Institute for International and Area Studies and featured researchers who have experienced the changes in Eastern Europe firsthand.

The symposium featured internationally known scholar Dr. Stephen Fischer-Galati as keynote speaker. Galati is Distinguished Professor of History Emeritus at the University of Colorado and the editor of the journal East European Monographs.
College of Aviation

Accelerated pilot training brings in cadets for U.S. industry
The college's International Pilot Training Centre has been recruiting a few good students to train alongside its first classes of Delta Air Lines-sponsored cadets.

With $1.65 million in scholarship funding from Delta, the University and airline announced last winter that they are joining forces to increase the representation of women and underrepresented minorities in the nation's cockpits.

The college's first class of cadets sponsored by Delta began ground school in June. Cadets taking the 14-month, professional pilot course are expected to receive preferred consideration for employment in the Delta Connection system following successful completion of the course. A second Delta cadre is slated to begin studying in October.

Each intensive ab initio or "from the beginning" course will have up to 18 students enrolled, a portion of whom will receive scholarships funded by Delta. The remaining positions in each course are for students who are self-sponsored or who can find alternative scholarship funding. The courses are designed for students who already have earned a bachelor's degree.

The course was approved last fall by the Federal Aviation Administration.

First Aviation Job Fair brings aviation companies to town
Aviation firms from around the nation gathered in Battle Creek for the College of Aviation's first job fair on April 11.

Aviation Job Fair 2001 was held in the main hangar of WMU's Aircraft Maintenance Center. Among organizations recruiting at the event were AirNet Express, Continental Express, United Airlines, Duncan Aviation, Flight Safety International, U.S. Airways, Philadelphia International Airport and Landrum and Brown, an airport planning firm. The event was sponsored by the college and WMU's Career and Student Employment Services.

Flight safety International representative talks to aviation students.

The event was geared to students in business and engineering disciplines as well as those enrolled in aviation programs. Even students several years from graduation benefited from the experience.

"As a college, we feel it's important to have industry representatives here to talk to our students," says Tony Dennis, director of recruitment for the college. "It's important for students early on to know what the airlines are looking for."

Summer aviation camp offers high-flying choices for teens
A weeklong aviation camp for Southwest Michigan teens in June got students from a variety of backgrounds off to a flying start with possible careers in the aviation industry.

The College of Aviation, in conjunction with Battle Creek Unlimited and the Organization of Black Airline Pilots, acted as host to the camp, which was targeted at students ages 14 to 18. Those attending used the college's state-of-the-art facilities at W.K. Kellogg Airport in Battle Creek.

Students flew both simulators and actual aircraft and attended lectures on aerodynamics, the parts of an airplane, flight maneuvers and aviation regulations. They also heard about careers in the aviation industry from a variety of speakers and toured companies involved in the industry.

BA chooses college to provide jet orientation training
The college has just signed a two-year contract extension with British Airways to continue providing jet orientation coursework for the airline's cadet pilots.

The contract will bring 30 to 40 cadets to the college in classes of six to eight students for a course that provides cadets with a bridge between completion of their basic training on light aircraft and the start of jet conversion training the airline uses to orient them to the specific type of aircraft they will fly. Upon completion of both of those courses, cadets begin flying as training first officers on the airline's passenger routes.

WMU is one of only two locations in the world that BA has chosen for such advanced training. The other is located in the United Kingdom. The University began training BA cadets in 1998 and added the jet orientation course last year.
Advertising students take top honors in national competition

Senior business students recently won top honors in a nationwide advertising competition. The senior advertising majors in a creative strategy course taught by Dr. Deborah Spake, assistant professor of marketing, entered the competition as a class project. Working individually or in teams, the students created public service announcements for Cleaner and Greener, a program of the Leonardo Academy, a nonprofit environmental organization. They competed in three categories: radio, television and print.

Jason Meyer of Saginaw, Mich., won first place in the television category for his ad and was also part of a group that took third place in the television category along with Alexandre Giglio of Midland, Mich., and Tsz Lok Yu of Hong Kong. A WMU team made up of Michiganders Jason Mengel of Brighton, Brandy Davis of Allegan and David Stine of Madison Heights took second place in the radio category.

Food for thought served at annual food marketing conference

Food industry executives from around the nation stocked up on food for thought in March as the 36th annual Food Marketing Conference was held on campus.

With the title "2001: A Food Industry Odyssey," the conference explored such topics as continued consolidation in the industry and the future of e-commerce in food marketing. More than 500 food executives attended the event, which featured speakers from such industry heavyweights as Proctor & Gamble, Meijer, Unilever/Best Foods and Kroger.

College cultivates global outlook, puts emphasis on study abroad

No doubt about it, it's a global economy. To keep pace with that reality, the HCOB has launched a plan to increase the number of its students studying abroad.

The "Dean's Initiative on Study Abroad" aims to send at least 10 percent of the college's students overseas by the 2003-04 academic year. To achieve that goal, the college is collaborating with the Office of Study Abroad, part of the Diether H. Haenicke Institute for International and Area Studies.

"They're not just buzzwords—we are indeed a global economy," says Dean James W. Schmotter. "Any serious business school must encourage its students to take advantage of the opportunity afforded by study abroad to learn about the international marketplace first hand."

The HCOB is the first of WMU's seven academic colleges to undertake such an initiative.

Former GM exec, Pharmacia chief are distinguished speakers

Claude A. Verbal, chief operating officer of Wesley Industries, and Fred Hassan, chairman and chief executive officer of Pharmacia Corp., closed out the fifth year of the Haworth College of Business Distinguished Speaker Series.

In a January presentation titled "Culture Shock: An Ex-General Motors Executive Becomes an Entrepreneur," Verbal shared his experiences as an entrepreneur at Wesley Industries, a small minority-owned auto parts manufacturer. He joined the firm after working for 35 years with General Motors Corp., where he served as director of operations for Service Parts Operations and product engineer in the Buick Motor Division.

Hassan, who has served as chairman and CEO of Pharmacia since January, discussed "Behavior-Based Management in Global Business: Building Trust, Building Growth" in March. Hassan joined the former Pharmacia & Upjohn in 1997 as president and CEO, retaining that position when the company merged with Monsanto last year.
College of Education

University, KPS join forces to improve teaching, learning

The University has joined forces with Kalamazoo Public Schools in a broad effort to find new, innovative ways to improve education district wide.

The partnership, announced jointly in February by school district and University officials, is called CITE - the Collaborative for Innovation and Teaching Excellence. By combining University and school district resources, administrators and educators hope to improve teaching and learning in area schools and in the University's professional education programs.

"Since our beginning as a teachers college, public education and the role it plays in building a better society has been a cornerstone of our institution," said President Elson S. Floyd of the development. "So it is with great pleasure that our University expands on the partnerships it has already forged with our public schools and in so doing, helps teachers become the very best educators they can be while helping all students become better learners."

The University will contribute three tenure-track positions, doctoral-level research assistants and appropriate University-based administrative support, while KPS will contribute a physical facility, a full-time coordinator of professional development, secretarial staff, technology and "teachers in residence."

"The partnership will let WMU faculty researchers and KPS teachers apply theory and test the latest innovations in learning," says Dr. David England, dean of the College of Education. "Both groups will be seeking new ways to improve the education of future teachers."

Professor appointed to key national foundation post

Dr. Jianping Shen, associate professor of teaching, learning and leadership, has been appointed to the National Commission on Service-Learning, the critical leadership component of the W.K. Kellogg Foundation’s Learning in Deed Initiative.


The W.K. Kellogg Foundation has long been concerned with youth and community development and has a history of supporting service-learning programs. Service learning is a teaching strategy that links community service with classroom instruction.

The Kellogg Foundation launched the $13 million Learning in Deed Initiative to promote service learning as an integral part of K-12 education.

National Girls and Women in Sport Day celebrated at WMU

The University recognized the progress of girls and women in athletics with special events last winter during its ninth annual observation of National Girls and Women in Sport Day.

The day, observed nationally on Feb. 9, brings attention to the achievements and leadership of women athletes and to the challenges and issues facing females in sports.

The Women’s Sports Foundation began the national observance in 1987 in remembrance of Olympic volleyball star Flo Hyman, a crusader for equality in women’s sports who died in January 1986.

Events staged this year at WMU included an awards reception for 24 area high school seniors and other honorees. Tracy Hanson, a member of the Ladies Pro Golf Association, addressed the group and gave her thoughts on making the transition from high school to college athletics.

In addition to high school students, the HPER department honored Inge Botts Longpre, who graduated from WMU in 1970, was a starter in field hockey and participated in volleyball and track. She went on to a long and successful career at Stevensville-Lakeshore High School as a track and cross country coach. The department also honored Norma Stafford, associate professor emerita, who was instrumental in the growth and maintenance of aquatic programs at WMU and in Southwest Michigan.
Anonymous donor funds new computer-aided design center

A $1 million anonymous gift will fund a new Center for Integrated Design in the college—one of five new centers proposed for the college’s new facilities being built on WMU’s Parkview Campus.

The new center will be a collegewide resource housing cutting-edge computer hardware and software that will be used to explore the bridge between engineering and design functions. The center will allow students to go from design and prototype creation to production, all in the same location. The center also will allow students and faculty to perform reverse engineering, which can be used to analyze and reengineer already-created products.

With all of the college’s departments using the new center and applications available for all types of industry, the center is expected to become a test resource for area industry and a clearinghouse for design development.

“The biggest strength of the center will be its ability to combine conceptual design tools with engineering analysis capabilities, resulting in process design for manufacturing,” says Dr. Michael Atkins, chairperson of the Department of Industrial and Manufacturing Engineering.

NSF grant will fund new online electronics lab connections

The National Science Foundation is so keen on WMU’s new engineering initiative that, after reviewing a funding request for the project, agency officials urged faculty members leading the effort to increase the amount requested and speed the pace of their research.

The result is a new $139,045 award to WMU to be used to develop a teaching laboratory that will offer students online access to an actual working laboratory. Dr. Johnson Asumadu and Dr. Ralph Tanner, both faculty members in the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, are using the funding to develop a Remote Wiring and Measurement Laboratory that will allow students to physically build electrical circuits and perform real measurement of outputs through Internet access. The result could be a Web-based electrical engineering course that will allow students to benefit from the same hands-on experimentation they would experience if they were physically on campus.

“This is not a simulation or virtual lab,” says Tanner, professor of electrical and computer engineering. “This is a real lab that will allow people to try their hand at wiring. They will build a circuit online and our software will physically make the connections in a real lab.”

Daimler-Chrysler gift lets future engineers “Cruise” into research

A new PT Cruiser is now part of the college’s engineering teaching and research equipment, thanks to a donation of the popular vehicle from DaimlerChrysler AG and Kalamazoo’s Maple Hill Auto Center, a DaimlerChrysler dealer.

The taupe, 2001 vehicle, which arrived on campus in May, will support Department of Industrial and Manufacturing Engineering research on brake hose modeling for the automaker’s Small Car Division and will be used in master’s-level classes and for senior design projects.

Consortium focuses on barrier-coated paper, paperboard

Paper science researchers at the Center for Coating Development have organized a research and development consortium aimed at the barrier-coated paper and paperboard products industry, launching the initiative with an April symposium on campus.

Leading the new Barrier-Coatings Research and Development Consortium are Dr. Margaret Joyce, assistant professor of paper and printing science and a researcher with the Center for Coating Development, and Charles P. Klass, adjunct professor and president of Klass Associates of Radnor, Pa.

According to Joyce, the market for recyclable, barrier-coated paper and paperboard is growing rapidly and includes paper-based products that need to be water or grease resistant and include many types of consumer food packaging. The new consortium is designed to bring together University and industry scientists interested in the development of such products.

At the April symposium, 55 researchers representing 40 different companies developed a list of 10 research topics for the group to focus on.

www.wmich.edu/engineer
World premiere of play about Rosa Parks takes stage at WMU
The first authorized dramatization of the life of civil rights pioneer Rosa Parks had its world premiere on campus in February.

Titled simply “Rosa Parks,” the dramatic and musical tribute was written by Dr. Von Washington, professor of theatre, with Gregory Reed, Parks’ legal representative. The show is a powerful stage adaptation of Parks’ life and examines her role in the nation’s history and as a catalyst in the civil rights movement.

For years, Washington had been interested in writing a play about Parks, in part because he thought his wife, local actress Fran Washington, would be well suited for the lead role. Fran Washington played Parks in the production.

Being picked to write the only stage production about Parks that she has authorized was like a dream come true for Washington.

“I wanted to tell children the story of the day Rosa Parks sat down and stopped the world because I felt that that was a moment that had motivated me in the things that I did in my life,” he says. “She was an example for me and I had been living that life example. And to have an opportunity to put that on stage was just gravy, just pure gravy.”

Student takes top honors in international recording competition
Rachel Flanigan, a recently graduated music major, was named first place winner in the Audio Engineering Society Student Recording Competition, which is considered to be the most prestigious competition for student audio engineers.

The announcement was made at the society’s convention in Los Angeles. The competition is open to all students in recording programs worldwide and is judged by an international panel of studio owners, producers and engineers. Her award was in the pop/rock category.

Flanigan’s award-winning effort was gleaned from a two-song demo she put together for a local nonprofit organization. The recording consisted of music from a motivational presentation the organization stages for children.

Professor chalks up Barlow Endowment, Van Cliburn honors
Professor of music Dr. Curtis-Smith continues to garner awards.

Curtis-Smith recently was awarded a coveted commission from the Barlow Endowment for Music Composition to complete a 20-minute work for horn, string quartet and piano. The piece is titled “A Farewell … (Les adieux).”

The work is being offered as a memorial gesture to late musician friends of Curtis-Smith’s, including Herbert Butler, Donald Bullock, Neill Sander, William Albright and Yoshimi Takeda. The project also is receiving financial support from the Meir Rimon Commissioning Assistance Program of the International Horn Society and from the Fontana Concert Society in conjunction with the Irving S. Gilmore International Keyboard Festival. It premiered on June 6 at the 33rd International Horn Symposium and also will be performed in August at the Fontana summer concert series’ “Salute to Neill” concert.

The Van Cliburn International Piano Competition also selected Curtis-Smith’s “Twelve Etudes for Piano” as one of the works to be performed by competitors in this year’s competition.

Over a year ago, the Van Cliburn invited about 40 composers, who had been named by a nominating committee, to submit works for consideration to be performed at the 11th Van Cliburn Competition. The group of 40 works was eventually narrowed down to five, one of them Curtis-Smith’s.

Department of Art begins new application process
The Department of Art will have something new for 2002—a new undergraduate application process for admission.

Starting in the fall of that year, students must submit an application form, letter of recommendation, a personal statement and drawing or design exercises. All students accepted in the program receive studio space and are eligible for a share of the $40,000 in scholarships and merit awards the department awards annually.

www.wmich.edu/cfa
College of Health and Human Services

College gears up for quarter-century birthday bash
The College of Health and Human Services turns 25 years old this fall and is planning a celebration befitting such a milestone.

A yearlong slate of activities will begin with a picnic on the site of its new building and culminate with a banquet and guest speaker. Other events will include a homecoming gathering and a research forum.

The anniversary celebration will examine the college's achievements over the past 25 years, as well as the college's mission in the future. The college's alumni, who have represented the college and the University with honor and distinction, will be a major focus of the celebration.

As the college celebrates its past, its future prospects hold great promise. A major turning point will come with construction of a new $45 million Oakland Drive Campus just south of the historic East Campus. The new campus will be on beautifully wooded property the state transferred to the University in 1998 from the Kalamazoo Psychiatric Hospital, allowing the college to pull together all its programs in one central location.

Continual information about the anniversary will be distributed throughout the year.

Visually impaired athletes hone skills at camps at WMU, Flint
Blind and visually impaired athletes from across Michigan and neighboring states worked on their skills at sports camps in Flint and at WMU in late April and early May.

Close to 100 students took part in the 14th Annual Sports Education Camps for Students with Visual Impairments. Athletes 10 to 12 years old attended the Junior SEC at the Michigan Schools for the Deaf and Blind in Flint April 29-May 1, while 13- to 16-year-old athletes participated in the Senior SEC at WMU May 2-5.

Issues surrounding migrant workers examined at institute
Staff members with the Rural Health Education Program are busy putting on the fourth Summer Institute on Migrant Farmworker Health in cooperation with InterCare Community Health Network Inc. and Telemon Head Start.

The institute, held during the summer session June 20-Aug. 10, is an immersion experience for rural health students into the issues and way of life of migrant farmworkers. In a related event, the three organizations sponsoring the institute, along with the Women, Infants and Children program, are co-sponsoring presentations by Dr. Marion Moses in July. Moses is an expert on pesticides and their effects on humans. She worked for several years with Cesar Chavez and the United Farmworkers union to eradicate the use of targeted toxic pesticides in agriculture.

Moses will be on campus to speak with faculty and students and will make two presentations to InterCare staff. She also will speak to migrant farmworker families whose children attend Telemon Head Start programs.

Head of gerontology program is elected to statewide post
Dr. Donna Weinreich, director of the gerontology program, was recently elected to a two-year term on the board of directors of the Michigan Society of Gerontology.

The Michigan Society of Gerontology was founded in 1956 to support education and professional development and to promote the exchange of information between academia, service providers and practitioners and to improve the well-being of older people.
Lee Honors College

Four LHC students snag first place in state competition

Four honors college students who belong to the WMU chapter of Business Professionals of America brought home first place honors in a statewide competition promoting business professionalism in secondary and post secondary education.

In March, Danielle Hildalgo, an accounting major and chapter president; Michael Worden, a computer information systems major; Tammy Paruch, a public relations major; and Hillary Molenegraff, an accounting and Spanish major, competed against 12 other Michigan colleges in a number of business skills events. Respectively, they won first place in application/interview skills, network concepts, prepared and extemporaneous speech, and keyboarding. They all qualified for the national conference in Anaheim, Calif., which was held in May.

Competitions were held in 19 states, with students competing in 30 different events.

The Business Professionals of America is an organization that traces its roots back to the Vocational Education Act of 1963.

Honors college students attend Bush inauguration in D.C.

Two honors college students traveled to Washington for two weeks to study the historic presidential transition.

Heather Gott, a senior from Elwell, Mich., and Mercedes Varasteh, a sophomore from Martin, Mich., took part in a seminar sponsored by The Washington Center. Their visit was sponsored by the LHC and the Office of the Provost.

Offered by the Washington Center since 1985, the program gives students the chance to be part of history in the making. During the first week, students studied “Politics and the Media,” and in the second week they took in the “Presidency in Transition.” According to the center, more than 400 students were on hand.

Great European cities subject of new spring course cluster

The honors college offered its first-ever spring cluster to honors students this year.

Two classes were created and coordinated to concentrate on the artists, writers, history, and cultural trends that have played a significant role in the formation of the modern Western world. The courses were given for credit in the LHC and the College of Arts and Sciences and shared the same title, “Great Cities: The Birth of the Modern Age in London, Paris and Amsterdam.”

One section, taught by Dean Joseph G. Reish, covered the enlightenment and romanticism of early modern Europe. The other, taught by Interim Associate Dean Larry tenHarmsel, concentrated on artistic development in Western Europe from Rembrandt to Picasso. What was new about the cluster was that after a three-week academic preparation on campus, the class then spent 17 days in those three great European capitals.

www.wmich.edu/honors
5K Run, 5K and 1K Fun Walks and 1K Kids’ Fun Run on the WMU campus Homecoming weekend. Brunch and an awards ceremony follow the race for participants, guests and race volunteers.

October 13, 2001
Open to individuals, families and three-person teams of all ages

- 5K Run open to all ages and teams
- 5K and 1K Fun Walk open to all ages
- 1K Fun Run is open only to kids 14 and under
  (parents may run with children at no charge)

When and where

- All races begin in front of the Bernhard Center on West Michigan Avenue
- 1K Fun Walk and 1K Kids' Fun Run start at 8:30 a.m.
- 5K Run and Fun Walk start at 9:15 a.m.
- ChampionChips will be used for timing
- 5K course is certified

Fees

Individual fees
- Adult ($18)
- Student ($9)
- Child 14 & under ($7)
- Family ($36)

Team fees (5K Run only)
- WMU Student teams ($20)
- K-12 School teams ($20)
- Non-Student teams ($45)

Late fee
- $10 will be added to each individual and team registration postmarked after Oct. 1, 2001.

Football game tickets
Tickets for Bronco football game against Bowling Green, $10 per ticket

NO REFUNDS NO PETS

Prizes, awards and gifts

Each participant will receive a long-sleeve T-shirt and complimentary brunch and snacks under the tent in front of Kanley Chapel.

Awards

- Top overall individual finishers, male and female
- Top finishers in each of the three team divisions
- Top finishers in each of the age divisions (listed below) male and female
  7 & under 8-11 12-14 15-19 20-24
  25-29 30-34 35-39 40-44 45-49
  50-54 55-59 60-64 65-69 70-74
  75-79 80 +
- Kids' 1K runners and walkers 14 and under — each will receive a participant's medal

Food and drinks

There will be a brunch and an awards ceremony following the 5K race for participants, guests and race volunteers.

Registration

Participants can use the attached form to register and pay by check, money order or credit card — Discover, MasterCard or Visa. Fax entries to (616) 387-8422 or register online at <www.wmich.edu/race>.

Early registration
All entries must be postmarked no later than Oct. 1, 2001.

Late registration
Beginning Oct. 2, a late registration fee of $10 will be charged for individuals and teams.

Packet pick-up and registration

New this year: Thursday, Oct. 11 Gazelle Sports on the mall in downtown Kalamazoo, 4 to 8 p.m. Join the fun in downtown Kalamazoo. Enjoy food, prizes, raffle and discounts. Late registration fee will be waived for this event only.

Friday, Oct. 12 Bernhard Center Ballroom, 2nd floor of the Bernhard Center from 4 to 8 p.m. Late fee will be charged.

Saturday, Oct. 13 Bernhard Center Ballroom, 2nd floor of the Bernhard Center from 7 to 8:30 a.m. Late fee will be charged. Registration will close at 9 a.m.

Homecoming events

Sunday, Oct. 7
7 p.m. Gold Company, Center Stage, Bernhard Center

Monday, Oct. 8
6 p.m. Battle of the Bands, Goldsworth Valley Pond
  Sponsored by RHA/NRHH

Tuesday, Oct. 9
9 p.m. Andrew Kennedy, Bernie's After Hours, Bernhard Center

Thursday, Oct. 11
1 p.m. Chalk It Up, Miller Plaza

Friday, Oct. 12
noon Bronco luncheon, Fetzer Center
noon Soap Box Derby, W. Michigan Ave. in front of Bernhard Center
1 p.m. Fritter Fest, Goldsworth Valley Pond
2:30 p.m. Western Olympics, Goldsworth Valley Pond
6:30 p.m. Distinguished Alumni Awards dinner, West Ballroom, Bernhard Center
7 p.m. Hockey vs. Alaska-Fairbanks, Lawson Ice Arena
8 p.m. Concert, Artist TBA, Miller Auditorium

Saturday, Oct. 13
8:30 a.m. Campus Classic, W. Michigan Ave.
10:30 a.m. Pepfest, sponsored by the WMU Alumni Association, Hyames Field
12:45 p.m. Parade of Nations, Waldo Stadium
12:50 p.m. Student Organization Flag Run, Waldo Stadium
1 p.m. Football vs. Bowling Green
7 p.m. Hockey vs. Alaska-Fairbanks, Lawson Ice Arena
7 p.m. Marchdown, Miller Auditorium
8 p.m. Concert, Artist TBA, University Arena
9 p.m. Onyx Society Dance, East Ballroom, Bernhard Center

Events and times are subject to change.
Run the beautiful WMU campus

Questions
Check out our Web site at <www.wmich.edu/race>; call (616) 387-8402; or e-mail us at <univ-rel@wmich.edu>.
Registration forms must be completed for each person participating in a run or walk.

Early registration forms must be postmarked on or before Oct. 1, 2001

Age_______ (must be filled in)
___Male    ___Female
___Student  ___Faculty  ___Staff
___Alumni   ___Friend

NAME________________________

ADDRESS________________________

CITY_________ STATE_________ ZIP

PHONE________________________

Shirt size
___M  ___L  ___XL  ___XXL  ___Youth L

Race participation (Check one)
___5K Run    ___1K Kids' Fun Run
___5K Fun Walk  ___1K Fun Walk

5K Run team participation
(Check one)
___WMU student  ___Non-student
___K-12 school team

Team name________________________
(Include name of college, residence hall, Greek organization, corporation/business or other group, e.g., College of Fine Arts, Davis Hall, Sigma Alpha Epsilon, etc.) Note: all three team members must submit registration forms together.

ChampionChips being used
Race management will provide ChampionChips for timing all 5K Run participants. Failure to return the chip following the race will result in a $30 fee assessed to the registered runner.

If you own a ChampionChip and intend to use it for the Campus Classic, record your chip number here. ________

Mail registration to:
WMU, University Relations, 300 E Walwood Hall, Kalamazoo, MI 49008 or Fax (credit card registrations only) to (616) 387-8422. Register online through our Web site: <www.wmich.edu/race>.

Fees
#___ $____Adult ($18)
#___ $____Student ($9)
#___ $____Child 14 & under ($7)
#___ $____Family ($36)
#___ $____WMU student team ($20 per team)
#___ $____K-12 school team ($20 per team)
#___ $____Non-student team ($45 per team)
#___ $____Football game tickets ($10 per person)
#___ $____LATE FEE ($10 AFTER OCT. 1)
#___ $____Grand total

Method of payment
___Check  ___Money order  ___Credit Card

Make check payable to Western Michigan University
___Discover  ___Visa  ___MasterCard

ACCOUNT#________________________ EXPIRATION DATE

SIGNATURE________________________

NOTE: MUST BE SIGNED TO PARTICIPATE. PARENT MUST SIGN IF PARTICIPANT IS UNDER 18.

Football game tickets are available for all participants and family members at a cost of $10 per ticket.

Waiver
Registration not valid without signed waiver(s): In consideration of your accepting this entry form, I hereby for myself, my heirs, executors and administrators waive and release all rights and claims for damages I may have against Western Michigan University, its Board of Trustees and the sponsors of the WMU Homecoming Campus Classic, its agents, representatives, successors and assigns for any and all injuries suffered by me at said run, or which may arise out of participation in the WMU Homecoming Campus Classic.

NOTE: MUST BE SIGNED TO PARTICIPATE. PARENT MUST SIGN IF PARTICIPANT IS UNDER 18.
Alumni Association elects leaders
The WMU Alumni Association Board of Directors selected new leaders for 2001-02 during its April meeting.

Elected president was Nolan W. Fischer, BBA '69, a senior consultant with Franklin Covey in Stamford, Conn. Fischer was first elected to the board in 1998 and served as vice president last year.

"It's a great honor for me to have been elected president. Jeanne Carlson and Bill Higley, our two past presidents, have been excellent role models," Fischer says.

"There's a great deal of enthusiasm, energy and talent among the current board members," he adds, "and I look forward to working with them to enhance the association's outreach to alumni as well as assisting the University in achieving its goals."

The other one-year officer posts filled were: vice president, Julie Harris Brej, B.S. '86, a partner with Chicago-based DiamondCluster International Inc.; treasurer, Ken Miller, BBA '69, MBA '70, a Kalamazoo businessman and entrepreneur; and immediate past president, Jeanne Carlson, BBA '68, vice president at Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Michigan.

Joining the officers on the association's 2001-02 Executive Committee are Robert Doud, Ed.D. '77, of Kalamazoo; Jennifer Virisk Miller, BBA '85, of Grand Rapids, Mich.; Todd Regis, BBA '89, of Chelsea, Mich.; and Julie Shroyer, BSW '87, of Washington, D.C.

Additionally, two new directors were elected to the board: Richard J. Annen, BBA '74, of San Diego, Calif., and Kirk A. Hoffman, BBA '86, of Jackson, Mich. Their three-year terms began July 1.

Class of 1951 comes home
Reunion Weekend 2001 proved that you not only can go home again, but you can enjoy the visit as well.

Organized by the WMU Alumni Association, the reunion brought members of the Class of 1951 back to campus to celebrate their 50th anniversary.

A highlight of the event was the induction of new members into the association's Golden Associates group of alumni who earned their degrees 50 or more years ago. Other activities included a breakfast program featuring WMU President Elson S. Floyd, a bus tour of the University's expanding campus and a class dinner.

Two staff changes announced
The Office of Alumni Relations has gained two new staff members, Gregory Moorehead, B.A. '89, M.A. '93, and Erin Stiglitz, BBA '97.

Moorehead joined the office this past March as assistant director for constituent relations, replacing Sharon Seabrook Russell, who now works in WMU's Division of Student Affairs.

A staff member at the University since 1996, he directs the association's constituent-based outreach and programming activities, primarily focusing on enhancing WMU's alumni societies and developing new ones. He also plans and directs the association's Homecoming and reunion weekend events.

Previously, Moorehead held positions in the Division of Multicultural Affairs, Division of Student Affairs and Center for Academic Support Programs. Both of his WMU degrees are in communication. He will receive a doctor of education in educational leadership from the University this December.

"Having known Greg as a member of the Student Alumni Association, I'm thrilled he has joined our staff," says Jamie Jeremy, executive director of the alumni relations office. "His academic and previous work experiences will serve him well as he works in partnership with our academic deans to expand the Alumni Association's outreach through collegiate-based academic societies."

Stiglitz joined the office this past August. She is responsible for developing and implementing the Alumni Association's marketing and communication strategies and initiatives.

While an undergraduate marketing major, Stiglitz was a student assistant in the alumni relations office as well as a member of the Student Alumni Association.

Prior to returning to the office as assistant director of marketing, she was the marketing coordinator for PHP of Southwest Michigan and IBA, a Kalamazoo-based provider of employer-sponsored group health plans.

"Having Erin back as a full-time employee has been terrific," Jeremy says. "Her marketing experience in a service industry has been most valuable, and during her first year with us, she has laid some important groundwork for future initiatives."
Alumni are listed under their preferred class years.
Names printed in gold denote membership in the WMU Alumni Association.

Don't hesitate to contact us when you have news to share in our classnotes or obituaries sections. For classnotes, make sure to include your name (first, middle, last, maiden), address, degree(s), year(s) graduated and phone number. We will publish your photo as space permits.

Write: Classnotes/Obituaries
WMU Magazine
1903 West Michigan Ave.
Kalamazoo MI 49008-5403
Fax: (616) 387-8770
E-mail: dev-alumnote@wmich.edu

1957 - 1970

Max Wilcox
BMUS '51, co-produced the classical album "Shostakovich's 15 String Quartets," which was awarded a 2000 Grammy for Classical Album of The Year. He was also nominated for Classical Producer of the Year.

William L. Garzelloni
BS '57, MA '59, recently retired as chief operating officer at Tower Pinkster Titus Associates Inc. in Kalamazoo.

William C. Francis
BS '62, has retired from Western Illinois University in Macomb, IL, after 28 years as a teacher, clinical supervisor and graduate advisor in the communications sciences and disorders program.

Duane R. Dunham
BS '64, has recently been elected chairman of the board of directors of the American Iron and Steel Institute, the largest steel trade association in North America. He is president and chief operating officer of Bethlehem Steel Corp.

David P. Vermeesch
BS '65, recently retired from Mobil Oil Corp. He owns and operates a bed and breakfast in Petoskey, MI.

Marinus VanOoyen
BA '66, was recently elected to the Board of Trustees at Siena Heights University in Adrian, MI. He is president of Adrian Radiology PC and chief of radiology for Lenawee Health Alliance Systems.

Peter Schweitzer
MBA '67, was recently named president and chief operating officer of J. Walter Thompson Co., the second largest advertising agency in the United States. He will work in Detroit and New York.

Roger B. Burrows
BBA '69, was recently appointed global sales director of the Engine Systems Division at IMPCO Technologies Inc. in Cerritos, CA.

William R. Davis
BBA '70, has retired from active duty at Hickam Air Force Base in Hawaii, after 30 years of service as a C-30 pilot, B-52 command pilot, and logistics planner. He now resides in Whitehall, MI.

William P. Eichstaedt
BA '70, has been named president of the Battle Creek (MI) Unlimited Loan Fund, which helps new and existing Battle Creek businesses grow.

1971 - 1980

Daniel J. Wollsclhager
BBA '72, has been promoted to executive vice president and chief credit officer for the Southeast Michigan region of National City.

Theodore A. Ferris
BA '74, MA '75, has been selected to be the executive director of Arizona's Tourism and Sports Authority.

Charles James Drury
BS '75, was awarded tenure and promoted to associate professor in theatre at Beloit (WI) College.

Theodore D. Apking
BS '77, MA '78, PhD '82, is the president of Triad Performance Technologies Inc., a learning and performance improvement firm in Farmington Hills, MI.

Kathleen Maly
BBA '77, MBA '80, was recently named corporate director of accounting for Oakwood Healthcare System in Dearborn, MI.

1981 - 1990

Charles B. Greene
BS '81, has been named to the United States Maccabiah Track and Field Team, which will compete at the 16th World Maccabiah Games in Israel in July.

Julie Sikorski
BBA '82, recently received the Press Award and the Franchise Advisory Council Award from COMPUTER TOTS/COMPUTER EXPLORERS, a children's computer educational company.

Christopher A. Gill
BS '83, MPA '92, serves as the vice president of human resources at Greencroft Inc. in Goshen, IN.

Linda Metzler
BSW '83, is a registered nurse at Greencroft Inc. in Goshen, IN.
David A. Golladay Jr.
BS ’83, was recently named vice president and
director of client services at Sprecher Bertalot &
Co., a full-service marketing communications
firm in Milwaukee.

Jack A. Gregory
BBA ’83, was recently named managing director
and senior vice president of Moody’s Risk
Management Services in South Bend, IN.

J. David Mince
BS ’84, has been appointed assistant general
manager of corporate planning for Toyota Motor
Manufacturing in Indiana.

Perry M. Adkins
BS ’85, has been promoted to senior diem/server
systems specialist for Nestlé USA in Glendale,
CA.

Kevin F. Kelley
MPA ’86, was recently appointed as the chairman
of the Conference of Western Wayne, an
association of elected officials from 18 communi-
ties in western Wayne County, MI.

Timothy R. Kennedy
BBA ’86, has been named vice president/strategy
and development at Tribune Publishing Co., a
national media company operating businesses in
broadcasting, publishing and on the Internet.

Henry N. Peabody III
BS ’86, has recently joined Wolgast Corp.,
Saginaw Township, MI, as a project manager in
the construction management division.

Bonnie J. Price
BBA ’86, has been named by Automotive News as
one of the 100 leading women in the North
American auto industry. She is vice president for
customer service with Federal-Mogul Corp.

Christopher D. Skory
BS ’86, MS ’96, was named an “Early Career
Research Scientist of 2000” for his innovative
biotechnological research by the Agricultural
Research Service in Peoria, IL, the USDA’s chief
research agency.

Hilary S. Lorenz
BS ’87, was recently awarded a Fulbright grant to
pursue her work in printmaking and photography
in Taipei, Taiwan.

Michael T. Jager
BBA ’90, was recently appointed city manager of
Wayland in Allegan County, MI.

1991 - 1997

Matthew D. Lyons
BA ’91, has recently joined the Biotechnology
Industry Organization in Washington, D.C., as
director of government relations for food and
agriculture.

Charles C. Zhang
MA ’91, recently received WMU’s College of Arts
and Sciences Alumni Achievement award. He is a
certified financial planner at American Express
Financial Advisors offices in Kalamazoo and
Battle Creek, MI.

Steven W. Haas
BBA ’92 has been appointed business strategic
analyst for Marconi Data Systems Inc. in
Chicago.

Margarita Silva-Potts
BS ’88, MA ’92, was recently awarded the
Oneness of Humankind Leadership Award and
the Human Rights Award from the Michigan
Counseling Association. She resides in Hanover,
MI.

M. Dee Velkoff
BS ’83, MBA ’92, was recently appointed vice
president, commercial lending with Michigan
National. The Kalamazoo resident will focus on
small business lending in Southwest Michigan.

Lynne M. Everhart
BBA ’93, is an associate at Dykema Gossett PLLC
in Detroit, working in the Taxation and Estates
Practice Group.

Mary Z. Lindow
MS ’94, has become one of three Michigan
teachers to be certified in science by the National
Board for Professional Teaching Standards. She
teaches genetics at the Battle Creek (MI)
Mathematics and Science Center.

Patrick T. Pucher
BBA ’94, has been appointed as an account
manager at Avon Automotive in Farmington
Hills, MI.

Members for Life
We at the WMU Alumni Association
would like to take this opportunity to
welcome our newest life members. We
thank you and commend you for your
interest in your University through life
membership in our association.

Beatrice I. Clawson
Kalamazoo

Marilyn L. (Hamilton) Conlan
B.A. ’56, South Pasadena, CA

Janet Schick Corbin
M.A. ’89, Kalamazoo

David C. Cushnie
B.S. ’88, Glenview, IL

Susan C. Denison
B.B.A. ’96, Kalamazoo

Elizabeth Sneed Ethridge
Alpharetta, GA

Robert W. Ethridge
B.A. ’62, M.A. ’70, Alpharetta, GA

Charles H. Hightower
B.S. ’61, Detroit

James W. Richmond
B.B.A. ’61, Kalamazoo

Lois Hoyt Richmond
B.S. ’68, Kalamazoo

John R. Schmidt
BMUS ’67, Fort Wayne, IN

Robert K. Schmidt
Fort Wayne, IN

Joyce Randolph Swanson
B.S. ’49, Gurnee, IL

Richard T. Swift
B.S. ’70, Kalamazoo

Linda Lawrence Thibodeau
B.A. ’69, Haslett, MI

Michael Thibodeau
Haslett, MI

Terry J. Vronko
Kalamazoo
Teaching through history

A one-time request to bring a historical figure to life has turned into a second career for teacher Donna Collier-Turner, B.S. '91. She sees it as a chance to tell the whole "Truth."

A universally acknowledged 'Truth'

Sojourner Truth lives—at least she does every time Donna L. Collier-Turner, a Battle Creek, Mich., schoolteacher and WMU alumna, appears in public in the persona of the famed African American social activist who died in 1883.

Collier-Turner, who performs dozens of times each year throughout Michigan as Truth, admits she didn't know much about Truth before moving to the Cereal City from Hannibal, Mo., in the 1980s. An escaped slave, Truth became an outspoken activist in the late 19th century, speaking around the nation on women's suffrage, slavery and race relations. She spent the last quarter of her life living in Battle Creek.

Asked by the local chapter of the National Association of Negro Business and Professional Women Inc. to perform as Truth at the organization's banquet, Collier-Turner soon learned much more about the woman.

"Growing up, I didn't know very much about Sojourner, so she seemed gigantic. Not just in stature because she was nearly six feet tall, but in what she accomplished in her life. How would I begin to catch a glimpse of her life?" she says she wondered.

That banquet led Collier-Turner to a new sideline, performing as Truth for community groups, schools and at special events. In her performances, Collier-Turner captures Truth in her later years, describing herself and her experiences as a young woman, and then transforming into a Truth who discusses such contemporary societal issues as teen pregnancy and absentee fathers.

Collier-Turner found her new avocation so appealing that she formed her own production company and added other educational programs on the women's suffrage movement, slavery and African American history to her repertoire. One of her two "reader's theatres" incorporates monologues, historical background and text readings into a program for elementary schoolchildren on African American history and culture. A second reader's theatre focuses on a variety of other popular figures, including civil rights activist Rosa Parks, writer and poet Phyllis Wheatley, and actress, director and talk show host Oprah Winfrey.

"I see myself as a modern day Sojourner and I feel very close to her spirit," Collier-Turner says. "I feel like I am a translator who is spreading the truth not only about Sojourner, but also about African American history and culture."

Collier is also the mother of two children. Her son Mark is a student at Eastern Michigan University, while daughter Maggie attends Michigan State University as a graduate student. Mom may soon join her daughter as a graduate student, pursuing advanced course work in women's studies, gender relations, African American studies and theatre.
Obituaries

1929-1949

Josephine Kostner
TC ’39, April 7, 2000, in Salem, SC.

Marie Ryno
TC ’25, BA ’30, Oct. 30, 2000, in Tucson, AZ.

Emil Schmaltz
TC ’30, Aug. 11, 2000, in Galien, MI.

Sister M. Jeannine Rosemeier
BA ’31, April 13, 2000, in Berwyn, IL.

William Arthur W. Lower
BS ’35, Aug. 15, 2000, in Kalamazoo.

Arthur W. Lower
TC ’34, BA ’35, June 22, 2000, in Battle Creek, MI.

William F. Brown

Reverend Dwight E. Faust
BA ’38, Oct. 3, 2000, in Lancaster, PA.

Marigail Smith
BA ’39, Oct. 1, 2000, in East Lansing, MI.

Alyce B. Squibb
BS ’39, Aug. 24, 2000, in Wheeling, WV.

Vivian I. Evans
BA ’40, MLS ’69, Oct. 19, 2000, in Portage, MI.

Miriam Kathryn Baehr
BS ’41, Oct. 18, 2000, in Sparta, MI.

John VanderMeiden, Jr.
BS ’41, Aug. 13, 2000, in Spring Lake, MI.

Mary Louise Snyder
BS ’41, Aug. 28, 2000, in Kalamazoo.

Robinette Orene Freeman
BS ’42, Oct. 15, 2000, in Kalamazoo.

Bruce W. Ambrose
BA ’44, Dec. 31, 1999, in Okemos, MI.

Dorothea R. Barnes
BS ’46, April 26, 2000, in Winter Park, FL.

Don J. Bittenbender
BA ’47, Sept. 25, 2000, in Sun City, AZ.

Valray F. Bleech
BS ’48, Aug. 14, 2000, in Brevard, NC.

Jack B. Frank
BA ’49, Jan. 6, 2000, in St. Joseph, MI.

1950-1969

Raymond J. Sherpitis
BA ’51, Oct. 28, 2000, in Jupiter, FL.

Roger Allen Hawkins
BA ’54, Sept. 14, 2000, in Greenville, PA.

Margaret M. Emry
BS ’55, Dec. 3, 1999, in Belding, MI.

William Hessel

Mary C. Buesing
BS ’56, MA ’63, Sept. 19, 2000, in St. Joseph, MI.

Evelyn I. Campbell
TC ’54, BA ’58, Sept. 6, 2000, in Plainwell, MI.

Rex A. Treece
BS ’61, Oct. 18, 2000, in Summerville, SC.

Marion Mouw Hartgernik
TC ’26, BA ’62, Oct. 6, 2000, in Lansing, MI.

Joseph C. McMullen
BS ’62, Oct. 1, 2000, in Paw Paw, MI.

Calvin W. Rosine

Herbert W. Wertman

Ethel M. Desaults
MA ’64, Aug. 29, 2000, in Wichita Falls, TX.

Julian M. Dugger

Marion Arlene Oswalt
BA ’64, Oct. 5, 2000, in Vicksburg, MI.

Rosemary Fitzpatrick
MA ’65, Sept. 11, 2000, in Kalamazoo.

Franklin J. Gratkowski
BBA ’65, Oct. 4, 2000, in Ann Arbor, MI.

Donald N. VanDalen
BS ’65, MA ’67, PhD ’81, July 25, 1999, in Seminole, FL.

Dorothy J. Christensen
MA ’66, Aug. 11, 2000, in Kalamazoo.

Mary Jane Mayne

David L. Totzke
BBA ’68, Sept. 16, 2000, in Oconomowoc, WI.

Beverly J. Gallagher
BA ’69, Aug. 9, 2000, in Kalamazoo.

Darwin H. Stanley
BBA ’69, Aug. 31, 2000, in Portage, MI.

1970-1999

James E. Humpal
BS ’71, July 19, 2000, in Seminole, FL.

George John Pluta
BS ’74, Aug. 25, 2000, in Fowlerville, MI.

James M. Thorne
MBA ’74, Oct. 27, 2000, in Kalamazoo.

Dale C. Florida
BA ’76, Jan. 28, 2000, in Mt. Hood Parkdale, OR.

Richard E. Snyder
BBA ’77, Sept. 5, 2000, in Mexico.

Douglas R. Ewing
BA ’80, Oct. 31, 2000, in Kalamazoo.

David C. Doubleday
MA ’82, Sept. 17, 2000, in Portage, MI.

William B. Lower
BBA ’85, Aug. 8, 2000, in Galesburg, MI.

Darrell L. Trent
BS ’92, Sept. 19, 2000, in Kalamazoo.

Elaine M. Tylicki
BS ’92, Oct. 15, 2000, in Kalamazoo.

Randall M. Heckman
BA ’94, Aug. 8, 2000, in Ada, MI.

Marian L. Patterson
BS ’95, Aug. 8, 2000, in Ada, MI.

Laura Mendiola Stommen
BA ’98, Sept. 8, 2000, in Kalamazoo, MI.

Joyce C. Leuty
BA ’99, Aug. 29, 2000, in Stevensville, MI.

Faculty

John L. Feirer
professor emeritus in industrial technology and education, Dec. 23, 2000, in Kalamazoo.

Thelma M. Urbick
professor emerita in counselor education and counseling psychology, March 13, 2001, in Kalamazoo.
Athletic News

Tennis teams continue to command respect in MAC

Both the men's and women's tennis teams ended the 2001 season on high notes.

The men's squad, 4-1 in the Mid-American Conference and 14-11 overall, finished the league's regular season in second place, but won the MAC Tournament to earn an automatic berth in the NCAA Tournament.

The women's squad, 8-0 in the MAC and 14-7 overall, finished the year with the league's best regular season record to capture a third consecutive MAC title.

Beginning this year, the league championship went to the team with the best regular season record and the NCAA berth went to the MAC Tournament winner. The women's loss in the MAC Tournament's semifinal round kept them from making a third straight NCAA Tournament appearance.

The men's 2001 performance earned the team its second postseason appearance in the past three years. The Broncos, who lost to Pepperdine in the NCAA Tournament's first round, also saw four players win MAC honors.

Senior Fernando Garcia of Cali, Colombia, was named to the All-MAC First Team for the third straight season and selected as "Player of the Year." Second team picks were freshman "Newcomer of the Year" Ravishankar Pathanjali of Tamilnadu, India, and seniors Steve Pillon of Port Huron, Mich., and Ryan Tomlinson of Three Rivers, Mich., both of whom received second team honors for the second consecutive season.

The women's 2001 performance earned coach Betsy Kuhle her seventh MAC title as a Bronco coach. This mark ties her with former volleyball mentor Rob Buck for the most conference titles among WMU women's sports coaches and places her fifth overall among the University's coaches.

Two squad members were named to the All-MAC First Team, junior Larissa Chinwah of Sydney, Australia, and freshman Frederika Girsang of Jakarta, Indonesia. Chinwah earned first team honors for the third straight season and Girsang received the additional honor of being selected MAC "Newcomer of the Year."

Icers finish successful season

The hockey team had a remarkable turnaround season in 2000-01. After being tagged for an 11th-place finish in the Central Collegiate Hockey Association, the squad rose as high as fifth in the national rankings during its 15-week stay on the Top 15 list of U.S. teams.

The Broncos ended the year with a first-round loss in CCHA Tournament play for a fifth-place league showing and an overall 20-13-6 record.

Junior Mike Bishai and senior captain David Gove were All-CCHA Second Team selections and shared the league scoring title with 43 points in 28 conference games.

Bishai, who achieved all-conference accolades for the first time, was the CCHA's top scorer with 61 points and became WMU's ninth All-American, being named to the JOFA/AHCA West Second Team. He also finished as the NCAA's leading scorer, averaging 1.84 points per game.

Gove, a CCHA All-Academic Team pick, placed second in league scoring with 57 points and made the all-conference second team for the second straight year.

Other Broncos earning CCHA honors were: freshman Jeff Campbell, right wing, All-Rookie Team; freshman Mike Jarmuth, defenseman, All-Rookie Team Honorable Mention; and sophomore David Cousineau and senior Mark Wilkinson, All-Academic Team.

In addition, senior Steve Rymsha was a first-round, seventh overall selection by the Kalamazoo Wings in the United Hockey League North American Amateur Draft.

Gymnastics team keeps its cool

Any season has its ups and downs, but the gymnastics team proved steady on its feet even through the 6.8-magnitude earthquake that hit the Seattle area Feb. 28.

Eleven gymnasts and support staff were sightseeing in Seattle's Space Needle when the tremor hit. The Broncos were unhurt and back on the ground about 30 minutes after the quake and following a safety inspection of the tower's elevator system.

That evening, the WMU squad proceeded to shake up the competition in its non-conference meet with Seattle-Pacific, coming from behind to claim victory in the final two events. The team finished the season with a
sixth-place showing at the Mid-American Conference Championships and a record of 3-3 in the MAC and 9-9 overall.

2001 scholar-athletes named

WMU's most prestigious intercollegiate athletics honor, the female and male Scholar-Athlete of the Year awards, went to junior Connie Lee, a member of both the senior and collegiate synchronized skating teams, and senior hockey forward Mark Wilkinson.

Lee, a two-year letter winner, is a member of the Lee Honors College and carries a 3.96 grade point average as an occupational therapy major. Wilkinson, a four-year letter winner, is a 2000-01 Academic All-District IV Second Team selection and carries a 3.85 grade point average as a public law and criminal justice major.

Skaters second best in nation

The synchronized skating team finished second in the nation at the U.S. Team National Championships in Colorado Springs, Colo. Miami (Ohio) took home first place and Michigan State took third.

The team ended its second varsity season under first-year head coach Jillian Janik in solid fashion at the National Collegiate Conference Championships in Boston.

WMU, which finished fifth in the event, only had 11 skaters competing but turned in several strong performances, including gold medal finishes for sophomore Margaux Cory in the senior dance competition and freshman Jennifer Murray in the novice long program.

Additional season summaries

- Cross country, men's—league championship, fourth/12 teams; NCAA Region IV championship, 11/39 teams; All MAC First Team, sophomore Chris Stine; MAC Cross Country Honor Roll, juniors Matt Mayer and Tim Morehouse; NCAA Great Lakes Regional, senior Damian Sherck, 22nd.

- Cross country, women's—league championship, eighth/13 teams; NCAA Great Lakes Regional, 18/31 teams; MAC Cross Country Honor Roll, junior Allison Langworthy, senior Jessica Decvoe, senior Kristin Maine, junior Gwen Ottenweller, senior Kyle Schultz, senior Megan Sullivan, senior Aimee Tow.

- Basketball, men's—MAC, 7-11; overall, 7-21; West Division league finish, fourth/six teams; league tournament, lost in first round; All-MAC Honorable Mention, senior Jon Powell, forward, first in league in three point field goals per game (2.32) and leading Bronco scorer (15.9 points per game).

- Basketball, women's—MAC, 6-10; overall, 9-19; West Division league finish, fifth/six teams; All-MAC Second Team, junior Karen Deurloo, forward; MAC All-Freshman team, Emily Samuelson, guard.

- Track, men's indoor—overall dual, 1-1; league championships, 3/11 teams; All-America Team, junior Dale Cowper, 35-pound weight throw, 18th in world, All-MAC First Team, MAC Championship and WMU record holder; All-MAC First Team, junior Jeka Luhahi, long jump; All-MAC Second Team, sophomore Chris Stine, 3,000 meters.

- Track, women's indoor—overall dual, 0-5; league championships, 9/13 teams.

2001 Bronco Football

Aug. 30 Illinois State (Fan UniverCity)
Sept. 8 at Virginia Tech
Sept. 15 at Michigan
Sept. 22 Ball State* (Southwest Fest)
Sept. 29 at Eastern Michigan*
Oct. 6 Akron* (Family Fest)
Oct. 13 Bowling Green* (Homecoming)
Oct. 20 at Northern Illinois*
Oct. 27 at Miami*
Nov. 6 at Toledo*
Nov. 10 open date
Nov. 17 Central Michigan* (Hall of Fame)

*Mid-American Conference match

Bronco Football Radio Network

WFAT 96.5 FM Kalamazoo/Portage (flagship)
WZUU 92.3 FM Allegan/Kalamazoo
WWKN 104.9 FM Battle Creek/Jackson/Marshall
WTVB AM 1590 Coldwater
WDOW 92.1 FM Dowagiac/Niles/South Bend
WTKG AM 1230 Grand Rapids
WBCH 100.1 FM Hastings
WBCH AM 1220 Hastings

2001 Bronco Volleyball

Aug. 31 vs. Auburn
Aug. 31 vs. Denver
Sept. 1 vs. Dayton
Sept. 1 vs. Michigan State
WMU Radisson Invitational, Kalamazoo
Sept. 7 vs. Valparaiso
Sept. 7 vs. Kentucky
Sept. 8 vs. James Madison
OSU Invitational, Columbus, Ohio
Sept. 14 vs. San Diego State
Sept. 15 vs. Ohio State or West Virginia
Sept. 21 at Bowling Green*
Sept. 22 at Akron*
Sept. 26 Central Michigan*
Sept. 29 Miami*
Oct. 5 Eastern Michigan*
Oct. 6 at Ball State*
Oct. 12 at Buffalo*
Oct. 13 at Kent State*
Oct. 19 Toledo*
Oct. 20 Ohio*
Oct. 23 at Eastern Michigan*
Oct. 26 Akron*
Oct. 27 Marshall
Nov. 3 at Northern Illinois*
Nov. 9 at Central Michigan*
Nov. 10 at Toledo*
Nov. 16 Ball State* (Parents Night)
Nov. 17 Northern Illinois* (Seniors Night)
Nov. 20 MAC Tournament Quarterfinals
Nov. 23 MAC Tournament Semifinals
Nov. 24 MAC Tournament Finals
Nov. 30 NCAA Tournament begins

For tickets and event information: Toll free 888 4-WMU-TIX www.wmubroncos.com
Margaret Merrion
Continued from page 5

Work begins at WMU
Merrion hasn't let any moss grow under her tennis shoes since joining the administrative ranks at WMU. Through extensive meetings with University administrators, including those at the University's other colleges, and with the help and guidance of her advisory board, she has honed a vision for the college. Among many things, the blueprint calls for the completion of an "arts village" which will include a new 60,000-square-foot art center adjacent to the theatre, music and dance facilities and renovated space in Kohrman Hall. In the next decade, the Department of Art is expected to evolve into a School of Art, possibly encompassing the sub-disciplines of art education, art history, graphic design, allied design units and all studio areas.

"I believe in (President Floyd's) vision that we can excel as a student-centered research institution, and he knows the role and the importance of the arts in that vision."

Much of Merrion's vision is sculpted around the concept of community collaboration and partnership. She hopes to increase the sharing of faculty expertise and ingenuity, giving professors the time and resources needed to develop stronger community projects with local schools and arts organizations. She also sees the opportunity to strike up public partnerships with a variety of institutions to achieve high goals that examine how the arts elevate the human condition, such as conducting new, creative research into the connection between exposure to the arts and cognitive development.

"We want to be very focused in our research," she says. "This is hard science, not feel-good stuff."

Community ties also will be strengthened by bolstering public programming in such places as Chenery Auditorium and the University's Little Theatre to bring experiences to audiences beyond traditional campus locations and establishing Emerging Artist-in-Residence appointments in cooperation with local arts organizations.

Other elements in the strategic plan call for creating a Distinguished Scholars and Artists Program that would designate exceptional faculty as distinguished scholars and artists to bolster their research efforts and expand their work outside the University. The plan also calls for establishment of a Distinguished Students Scholarship Program, offering "students of distinction" full-ride tuition scholarships to attract the best students nationally and internationally.

Merrion also has an eye on establishing new programs. Perhaps foremost in that regard is a master of fine arts in arts administration. The degree program, which is awaiting state approval, is designed to educate dance, music and theatre undergraduates in the area of arts administration: management of volunteers, fund raising, public relations, financial management, civic leadership and other related areas. Students would serve two practica: an internship within the local area and an externship at a national arts organization. Merrion hopes to debut the new program in fall 2002.

Asked what she thinks the College of Fine Arts will look like in 10 years, Merrion pauses for a few seconds, then answers, "There will be a greater sense of 'college.' Disciplines will be fused appropriately; technology will have worked its way seamlessly into the instructional program; and the College of Fine Arts will be recognized as a national Center of Distinction."

The right choice
Merrion has no second thoughts about her decision to come to WMU. But if truth be told, she hasn't really thought much about it.

"I'm very, very pleased," she says. "But I've not had time to even second-guess my inclinations."

Merrion was aware of the college's high stature and many accomplishments before taking her new job. Having served recently as president of the International Council of Fine Arts Deans, she had a sense for major issues confronting art academies, conservatories and fine arts schools. WMU, with the high caliber of its faculty and facilities, measures very favorably against that yardstick. After visiting the WMU campus and Kalamazoo, she was even more certain that this University was where she belonged.

"I was aware of the excellence of the musical theatre program, the national reputation of the sculpture tour, the outstanding jazz program, and the size and quality of the eclectic dance department," she says. "Those were very attractive. The Kalamazoo community was another big strength. But probably the turning point was President Floyd's leadership. I believe in his vision that we can excel as a student-centered research institution, and he knows the role and the importance of the arts in that vision."

STORY BY MARK SCHWERIN—MARK.SCHWERIN@WMICH.EDU
IMAGES BY JOHN LACKO AND JOHN GILROY

24 Arts in the Spotlight
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Editor's note: Gwen Frostic, '29, one of Western Michigan University's most celebrated alumni, died April 25. This article and photograph, reprinted by permission of the Detroit Free Press, appeared the day after her death. Sheryl James, who wrote the obituary, previously profiled Frostic for the Free Press and is the author of "The Life and Wisdom of Gwen Frostic," published in 1999 by Sleeping Bear Press. The photo is by Alan Kamuda.

Frostic, a distinguished artist, poet and naturalist, maintained a close relationship with her alma mater all of her life. She was the recipient of a 1965 WMU Distinguished Alumni Award and an honorary doctor of humanities degree from the University in 1971. Frostic's artwork is part of the University's Permanent Collection and a reading lounge in Waldo Library was named in her honor in 1993.

A memorial service for Frostic was held June 16 on the campus of Interlochen (Mich.) Center for the Arts, with former WMU President Diether H. Haenicke presiding. Also speaking at the service was Helen Flaspohler, retired WMU development officer.

Farewell to a treasure

Years ago, Frostic chose her own epitaph: "Here lies one doubly blessed
...she was happy ...and she knew it."

Gwen Frostic, 1906-2001

Gwen Frostic died the way she would have wanted, just a few feet from a large balcony she dedicated to feeding birds. Listening to the music of the birds outside her windows, she once told a friend, "was cheaper than going to the opera."

Frostic, a Michigan artist widely known since the 1950s for her block print art, her spunk and her unusual shop in Benzonia, died early Wednesday, April 25, at her apartment above the shop. She would have been 95 the following day.

Frostic was considered a Michigan institution by thousands of her fans, primarily women. For more than 50 years, they have bought Frostic's unique Michigan-themed stationery products decorated with her unmistakable animal and nature designs.

Frostic's death followed by just six days that of her sister, Helen Warren of Dearborn, who was 93. Only one of the original nine Frostic children, Margaret Schweitzer of Rockville, Md., survives. All of the children, and their parents, Fred and Sara Frostic, were born and raised in Michigan.

According to Frostic's niece, Janet Cashin of Wyandotte, her aunt had been in poor health for months and in and out of a hospital for weeks for various health problems, largely related to her age. She also had been receiving 24-hour home care.

Born in Sandusky in Michigan's Thumb in 1906, Frostic had what she always said was polio when she was 9 months old. As a result, she had a permanent slight limp and her speech was slurred. Throughout her life, she often was referred to as "crippled" or "handicapped," two labels she refused to accept.
"I never knew I couldn't do something," Frostic told the Free Press for a profile in 1999.

Frostic was a singular character, stubbornly independent and verbally sharp in her humor and, at times, her insults. She also was a successful businesswoman in an age when few women worked outside of their homes.

She created her business, Presscraft Papers, in the 1950s in Wyandotte, where her father was school superintendent for more than 30 years. She operated the business with only part-time help from her nephew, Bill Frostic, who still works for the company.

By 1960, Gwen Frostic was believed to be a millionaire, but she characteristically refused to elaborate on her personal affairs. In 1964, after having moved her business to Fort Worth, she built her now-famous shop out of giant boulders and other natural materials. Inside was a natural flowing well.

Frostic attended Eastern Michigan University and Western Michigan University in the mid-1920s. From the 1960s on, she received honorary degrees from five Michigan universities and awards from groups ranging from the Girl Scouts to the Women's National Farm and Garden Association. Gov. William Milliken proclaimed May 23, 1978, as Gwen Frostic Day. In 1986, she was inducted into the Michigan Women's Hall of Fame.

Frostic, who never married, went to her death without revealing her plans for her shop and business—the subject of much rumor in the past 10 years. Her nephew and surviving sister could not be reached Wednesday [the day of her death].

Years ago, Frostic chose her own epitaph: "Here lies one doubly blessed ...she was happy ...and she knew it."

Her remains will be cremated and a memorial service will be held later this year. [See editor's note.]

"Some who knew her described her as mean, snappy, insulting and 'with the disposition of a rattlesnake.' I only remember her as witty, highly intelligent, generous, charming, and brilliant and amusing in her conversation. Most likely, she was all of the above and more—an unusual woman, rich in accomplishments and with a character complex beyond description."

—Diether H. Haenick
WMU president emeritus

"A highly intelligent woman with a marvelous sense of humor, Gwen traveled for many years at her own expense, speaking to gatherings of all ages. She often told her audiences that she had gone to Eastern Michigan University to receive a degree but came to Western Michigan University to receive an education. Gwen had a lifelong love and understanding of nature and wildlife, and she used her creative talents not only as a successful businesswoman but also to influence and teach others about living within our environment."

—Helen Flaspohler
retired WMU executive
director of development
"When I see how much goes into arranging a presidential visit, it surprises me that I'm welcome anywhere."

President George W. Bush

CBS' "The Early Show," 4/28/01
What does it take to act as host to an American president?

It takes lights, cameras, security checkpoints, a temporary White House press office, presidential blue carpeting, a regal red background, hundreds of hours of staff time, and the cooperation of the entire community, for starters. Then, there's the installation of hundreds of telephone lines and broadcast cable, parking for satellite trucks, revised class schedules, food for more than 1,000 people, and a sound system to handle the traditional presidential "Ruffles and Flourishes" and "Hail to the Chief."

Western Michigan University learned that lesson quickly this spring when, with just six days of advanced warning, President George W. Bush came to speak about the nation's economy to Kalamazoo business leaders. Coordinated by the office of U.S. Rep. Fred Upton, Bush's March 27 visit was sponsored by the Kalamazoo County Chamber of Commerce and economic development organization Southwest Michigan First.

Word of the visit—the first to WMU by a sitting president since William Howard Taft's visit in 1911—came when representatives from key campus offices and the sponsoring community organizations gathered to discuss the feasibility of acting as host. In a conference call with White House staff, WMU Catering Manager Shari Glaser and Chef Paul Choker, Building Services Manager Peter Strazdas and a host of others answered with a resounding "yes," when asked if the community could pull off a luncheon for 1,000 guests in WMU's Student Recreation Center with just a few days notice.

Within hours, members of the Secret Service and a White House advance team arrived and preparations moved into high gear. By the time the presidential seal was placed on the podium just moments before the president was introduced, WMU and Kalamazoo had become the temporary focus of the national press and the seat of power in Michigan, with literally all of the state's major government officials in attendance.

The president spoke for just 20 minutes, focusing on economic prospects and urging support for his tax cut. Then he was off to Air Force One and his next stop. The University enjoyed a few more hours in the spotlight as network news shows featured live feeds from the campus.

By noon the next day, WMU was back to normal—with memories and hundreds of news clippings to add to the University's archives.
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<td><strong>Oct 31 - Nov 4</strong></td>
<td><strong>Mar 10</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Les Misérables</td>
<td>Buddy - The Buddy Holly Story</td>
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<td><strong>Nov 9</strong></td>
<td><strong>Mar 15</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Smokey Robinson</td>
<td>Penn &amp; Teller</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Dec 1</strong></td>
<td><strong>Mar 16</strong></td>
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<td>Canadian Brass Christmas</td>
<td>José Limón Dance Company</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Dec 5</strong></td>
<td><strong>Mar 24</strong></td>
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<td>Anne Murray's Christmas comes to Kalamazoo</td>
<td>The Magic and Illusions of Terry Evanswood Buster Bronco Family Series</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Dec 15-16</strong></td>
<td><strong>Apr 2-7</strong></td>
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<td>The Nutcracker on Ice with the Kalamazoo Symphony Orchestra</td>
<td>Theodore Bikel in Fiddler on the Roof</td>
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<td><strong>Apr 13</strong></td>
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<td>Peter, Paul &amp; Mary</td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>Apr 16</strong></td>
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<td>Royal Winnipeg Ballet: Sleeping Beauty</td>
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Programs and shows are subject to change without notice depending upon artist's availability.

**For Tickets Call:**

or visit The Epic Center Box Office-downtown Kalamazoo 387.2300

800.228.9858
to cut it into razor-thin cross sections to be examined under a microscope.

Katbamna's process is similar, but much more time consuming. Because the aural organs, which are housed in a bony capsule, are very soft when removed, they must undergo a one- to two-week-long processing regimen to be made rigid enough to study under a microscope. Katbamna says that process is cumbersome but vital for preservation of the structures and data analysis.

"I don't know for weeks whether or not I even have a viable specimen," she says. "But when I do, what I can see and learn from it is amazing."

Katbamna is now focusing on the use of retinoic acids—derivatives of Vitamin A—to prevent hearing loss caused by certain drugs used to fight cancer and infections. Her preliminary data indicates that retinoic acids can help minimize damage when administered concurrently with the toxic drugs.

"Whether the protection from cell death is triggered merely by antioxidant properties of retinoic acids or by its ability to turn on survival factors or genes is the next mystery to solve," she says.

**Researchers on the front lines...**

Continued from page 8

and independent of the insulin receptor can increase glucose uptake and metabolism in humans.

"We are looking for a better understanding of glucose utilization and to potentially devise new ways of treatment of diabetes," she says, "but there are also long-range ramifications for the treatment of obesity as well."

**Putting a “lab on a chip” to produce drugs faster—Subra Muralidharan**

"A lab on a chip." That's what Dr. Subra Muralidharan calls his efforts to use nanotechnology to embed the capabilities of a state-of-the-art laboratory onto a microchip with the potential to speed the process of scientific discoveries by a factor of 100.

It's an idea that has not only been awarded $750,000 in funding from the state's Life Sciences Initiative, but also attracted the collaboration and support of Pharmacia Corp. and Argonne National Laboratory.

Muralidharan, an associate professor of chemistry, is developing "chip-based chemistry," creating a microchip or an array of chips that can perform a complex sequence of tasks that are normally conducted in a laboratory. Specifically, the project is aimed at designing a chip that, through the use of centrifugal force, will separate, synthesize and perform high throughput screening of molecules in extremely small volumes.

"Essentially it will be a faster, cheaper and better way to do what takes a lot more time and effort now," he says.

Pharmacia Corp.'s involvement in the project stems from its interest in using the technology for the research and development of new pharmaceuticals. The chips also will have the potential for making speedy medical diagnoses and help scale down and speed up the current gene-mapping and sequencing technology.

"Through gene mapping, we could determine whether or not someone has the propensity for a gene-related illness, like Parkinson's or Lou Gehrig's disease, years before it manifests itself," he says. "And in cases where that knowledge can't be used to prevent the onset of the disease, we can hopefully minimize its impact and greatly improve the future quality of life."
HOMECOMING

ROCK
RETURNS!

Two special concerts featuring big name rock acts

Friday,
Oct. 12, 8 p.m.
Miller Auditorium

Saturday,
Oct. 13, 8 p.m.
University Arena

Watch the Homecoming Web site at www.wmich.edu/homecoming for more details and ticket information!

For more information about Homecoming 2001 events and activities, visit WMU's official Homecoming Web site at www.wmich.edu/homecoming
Sunday, Oct. 7
Gold Company, Center Stage,
Bernhard Center, 6 p.m.

Monday, Oct. 8
Battle of the Bands,
Goldsworth Valley Pond, 6 p.m.
Sponsored by RHA/NRHH

Tuesday, Oct. 9
Andrew Kennedy,
Bernie's After Hours,
Bernhard Center, 9 p.m.

Wednesday, Oct. 10
Miller Movie,
Miller Auditorium, 7 and 9:30 p.m.

Thursday, Oct. 11
Chalk It Up,
Miller Plaza, 1 p.m.

Friday, Oct. 12
Bronco luncheon,
Fetzer Center, noon

Soap Box Derby,
West Michigan Avenue in front of
Bernhard Center, noon

Fritter Fest,
Goldsworth Valley Pond, 1 p.m.

Western Olympics,
Goldsworth Valley Pond, 2:30 p.m.

Distinguished Alumni Awards dinner,
West Ballroom, Bernhard Center, 6:30 p.m.

Hockey vs. Alaska-Fairbanks,
Lawson Ice Arena, 7 p.m.

Concert,
Miller Auditorium, Artist TBA, 8 p.m.

Saturday, Oct. 13
Campus Classic,
West Michigan Avenue, 8:30 a.m.

Pepfest,
Hyames Field, 10:30 a.m.
Sponsored by the WMU Alumni Association

Parade of Nations,
Waldo Stadium, 12:45 p.m.

Student Organization Flag Run,
Waldo Stadium, 12:50 p.m.

Football vs. Bowling Green, 1 p.m.

Marchdown,
Miller Auditorium, 7 p.m.

Hockey vs. Alaska-Fairbanks,
Lawson Ice Arena, 7 p.m.

Concert,
University Arena, Artist TBA, 8 p.m.

Onyx Society Dance,
East Ballroom, Bernhard Center, 9 p.m.

Post-Marchdown Dance,
Recreation Center, 10 p.m.

Come on back and rustle up fun and old friends at Homecoming 2001!
Gwen Frostic design from her legendary Presscraft Papers product line. Frostic, '29, a celebrated artist, poet and naturalist, died April 25 at her home in Benzonia, Mich. For more about her accomplishments and lifelong connection to WMU, see page 26 in this issue of the WMU Magazine.