Dear Friends:

Periodically, we examine every aspect of our work and compare what we do on a daily basis with our mission and goals. It is a healthy exercise for any organization; for a university community, it is vital. I am pleased to report our mission and daily operations are in perfect sync.

There are five key points to our vision for WMU. Everything we do reinforces this bold, but simple vision, which is summarized as follows:

- Western Michigan University—a nationally recognized research university
- Students—the center of everything we do
- Strong undergraduate education—our core
- Research and graduate education—our cornerstones
- Quality—our hallmark.

As you read this issue of the Western Michigan University Magazine, please think about how each story illustrates some part of the WMU vision. You’ll read about our longest-serving faculty member, who has the devotion of his students and the ear of the national press. A photo essay on our beautiful new College of Health and Human Services building will give you a sense for the academic environment we have built to educate the next generation of health care professionals. And a feature on poetry—a mainstay of our creative writing program—illustrates our commitment to strong graduate and undergraduate education.

Enjoy this issue. It is about your University.

Best regards,

Judith I. Bailey, President
2. Home at last
After nearly 30 years, all of the College of Health and Human Services is together under one spectacular roof.

Cover photo by Mike Lanka

10. Faith in history
Historian Paul Maier has spent more than half a century bridging the divide between faith and fact.

18. Poetic license
Poetry is enjoying popularity nationwide, but at WMU it never stopped thriving.

16. College news

24. Campus places

27. Classnotes/Obituaries
Home at last

High-tech health care and hospitality drove design of new HHQ college facility

In its nearly 30 years of existence, the College of Health and Human Services has never had a home of its own—until this fall.

Now, the college has a high-tech home in a new building designed to exude both a welcoming atmosphere and a touch of class.

Stepping inside the college’s new building is to see both the expected and unexpected. As most would suspect, there are some

Continued on page 4
of the most sophisticated labs and classroom facilities in the nation. But there's another side. There's the inviting Bella Vita Café, the greenhouse-like lounge area complete with a "wintergarden" of lush vegetation and the babbling fountain nestled beneath a four-story sandstone-lined stairway. Added together, the two sides reflect the college's key values—learning, teaching and research on one hand and sharing, warmth, communication and hospitality on the other.

The shining, new 200,000-square-foot building, officially dedicated in a ceremony on Sept. 15, weaves together the tech-heavy health field with the human element it also embraces. The result is a $48.2 million facility that puts under one roof all of the college's nationally recognized programs, which will foster collaboration between students and faculty members across the disciplines that is sure to pay big dividends in research and learning for many years to come. Above all, collaboration was the key element in the building's design.

The gently curved, glass, brick and stone structure opened with the fall semester and houses several state-of-the-art laboratories, including bio-feedback and motion analysis labs, and four computer labs, as well as multi-media and distance learning equipped classrooms, a 100-seat lecture hall and faculty offices. But there's much more. The college's emphasis on sustainable and renewable materials is reflected in its rich, brown cork flooring and motion-activated lights, heating and cooling, while rice paper between sheets of glass provides artful, translucent windows along hallways.

An "activities for daily living room" lets students prepare for helping patients work on daily skills, and a nursing suite with hospital beds donated by Stryker Medical allows students to work in a hospital-like setting. A physician assistant skills area comes complete with a $300,000 simulated patient and examination room.

Designed by the architectural firm SmithGroup of Detroit, the four-story building is perched atop a hill along Oakland Drive on land formerly used by the Kalamazoo Psychiatric Hospital. The building provides a panoramic view of the University's West Campus and establishes a modern presence on what has become the University's Oakland Drive Campus. Yet it was designed to honor the traditional architecture of the old hospital and WMU's East Campus, preserving the area's park-like setting.

Of its more than $50 million total cost, about $4 million involved external work, including demolition, parking lot construction, roadwork and landscaping. About $36 million—75 percent of the original building cost—came from the state, while the University raised $17 million in matching funds through a combination of bonding and gifts from alumni, supporters and businesses.
WMU libraries land grant to go digital with Civil War writings

A grant to University Libraries will not only keep the diaries of eight Civil War soldiers alive, but also will help share these treasures with the world through the technological innovation of digitization.

The $95,619 grant from the Library of Michigan is one of only 10 Digitization for Preservation and Access grants made in 2005. The funds will be used to digitize the Civil War diaries of eight men who served in several Midwestern Union regiments. The diary entries represent a wide variety of experiences and perspectives, ranging from that of musician to a prisoner of war.

Using the new Digitization Center in Waldo Library, University Libraries will be able "to bring rare and unique resources in our archives—Michigan Civil War diary manuscripts—to larger groups of users in a readily accessible electronic format," says Dr. Joseph Reish, dean of University Libraries. "Eventually our patrons will be able to access these diaries 24/7 from anywhere in the world through the Internet."

The project will tap the talents of Dr. Sharon Carlson, director of the WMU University Archives and Regional History Collections; Bettina Meyer, University Libraries assistant dean for resources; Paul Howell, manager of the WMU Libraries Digitization Center; and Lou Ann Morgan, who will serve as coordinator of the grant project.

Sunseeker car claims sixth place in solar race covering 2,500 miles in United States and Canada

Western Michigan University’s solar car, Sunseeker, crossed the Calgary finish line of the North American Solar Challenge in sixth place July 27 and was welcomed to the city by thousands of Canadian citizens who turned out for the final hours of the 2,500-mile race.

Steve Yurk, an aeronautical engineering major from Portage, Mich., was at the wheel when Sunseeker finished the race in front of a crowd estimated at one point in the day to number more than 10,000. The final 188-mile leg of the race saw throngs of spectators lining the roads from Medicine Hat, Alberta, to Calgary.

“It was unbelievable,” Yurk said.

“Momentum,” the University of Michigan’s solar car, was first across the finish line at the University of Calgary and was the overall winner of the race that began July 17 in Austin, Texas. The race began with 20 teams from the top engineering schools in North America competing in cars powered solely by energy from the sun. Coming in a close second was the University of Minnesota, followed by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, University of Missouri-Rolla, University of Waterloo and WMU.

The 2005 race, the longest of eight collegiate solar races held since 1990, was also the fastest ever, with the winning team completing the 2,500 miles of the race at a speed of 46 miles per hour. Early solar races were won with speeds as low as 24 and 27 miles per hour.

WMU has had an entry in all eight collegiate races, and this year’s car performed flawlessly, according to team advisor Abraham Poot. The 2005 race came down to consistency, strategy and luck as teams battled patchy storms early in the race and fought to find the optimal speed that would allow them to progress along the course and still keep their batteries charged. At one point, MIT was in first place before it was pounded by a hail storm that the other teams missed.

“We spent one day trying to beat a weather front that put us under a cloud,” Poot says. “We tried all afternoon to pass the edge and get some sun, before finally having to stop for the day.”

The race followed U.S. Route 75 and the Trans-Canada Highway, with checkpoints in Texas, Oklahoma, Kansas, Nebraska, South Dakota, North Dakota, Manitoba and Alberta. Sponsors of the event this year were the U.S. Department of Energy and its National Renewable Energy Laboratory and Natural Resources Canada.
Aviation techniques used to tackle health care problems

How is flying a commercial aircraft like running a hospital trauma team?

That's a question WMU researchers are out to answer as they apply training techniques long used in the aviation industry to the issue of safety in health care fields.

Nearly $2.8 million in research funds awarded by Michigan's Technology Tri-Corridor and matching funds totaling an additional $1.4 million from Battle Creek (Mich.) Unlimited and the Forest Park Foundation of Peoria, Ill., are being used by two researchers who share a set of unique qualifications—they're medical doctors with pilot licenses and lengthy careers helping the aviation industry develop its ability to train cohesive and effective flight crews.

Working in the College of Aviation's Center of Excellence for Simulation Research, Drs. William R. Hamman and William Rutherford will use the funds to take the simulation strategies developed to train commercial flight crews and apply them to the health care arena to improve training for medical personnel.

"Simulation technology has been used to reduce the instance of human error in the aviation industry for 50 years," Rutherford says. "The medical community is being encouraged to begin doing this, but there is no system in place. We plan to draw from the lessons we've learned in aviation to develop the simulation tools that are effective and lead to higher levels of patient safety."

Better patient care, reduced health care costs and the possibility of developing spin-off companies that produce simulation hardware and simulation software and courseware packages are among the long-term outcomes Rutherford and Hamman see as a result of their work. The center will also develop processes and standards for the industry and could eventually evolve into a private service-based organization for the health care industry that has an employee base of more than 25 and makes a significant impact on the West Michigan economy.

Rutherford says the medical community nationwide has been urged to use simulation technology to train personnel as a way of reducing the human error factor that leads to injury or death in health care settings. In 1999, the Institute of Medicine confirmed that patient injuries due to human error are common, and the figure for deaths caused by such errors is approaching 200,000 annually. A recent three-year study of patient safety in the nation's hospitals identified 1.14 million patient-safety incidents among the 37 million hospitalizations tallied.

The WMU center will work with Michigan State University's Kalamazoo Center for Medical Studies to develop simulation scenarios for medical teams that are based on solid research. The work also will involve several departments in WMU's College of Health and Human Services, the Department of Psychology and the University's Evaluation Center. Simulation labs will be located at MSU's Kalamazoo facility, WMU's new College of Health and Human Services building and a center located in Battle Creek.

"The science at the heart of the airline simulation system was developed through meticulous, detailed analysis of crew performance in scenarios developed from real-life events," says Hamman. "We're aware of no equivalent work being done in health care simulation, and without that groundwork, there's no guarantee that simulation training will be done in a way that will benefit the health care industry."

The flying doctors

"The two Bills," as they've come to be known on campus, bring unique qualifications to their task of putting the lessons of simulation technology to work for the medical community. Although new to WMU, they've been collaborating for a decade in this field.

Rutherford came to WMU from the University of Miami School of Medicine, where he taught and was director of simulation science in the anesthesiology department. Prior to that, he was with United Airlines for 31 years, retiring as vice president for flight standards and training. He earned a bachelor's degree from Stanford University and his medical degree from Cornell University Medical College.

Hamman also came to WMU from United, where he is a senior international captain and was a leader in the airline industry for applying risk analysis processes in airline operations. Additionally, he was instrumental in developing the team training and assessment of flight crews in the Advanced Qualification Program, which has changed airline crew training and certification in the United States. Hamman has done extensive work for the FAA and was involved in NASA space program research on the long-term effects of weightlessness. Hamman earned a bachelor's degree from Purdue University and both a medical degree and a Ph.D. in medicine from the University of Wisconsin.
2005

NOVEMBER
5  KSO Pops @ Miller presents: Bernadette Peters
12  Blast!
19  Comedy Central Presents: Drew Carey & The Improv All Stars "Green Screen Tour"

DECEMBER
3  The Lettermen Christmas Show
6  Salzburg Marionettes: The Magic Flute
11  Boys Choir of Harlem Christmas
17  KSO Pops @ Miller presents: Holiday Pops with Empire Brass

2006

JANUARY
22  Russian National Ballet: Sleeping Beauty
29  Sarakasi African Acrobats

FEBRUARY
11  Gold Company

MARCH
4  KSO Pops @ Miller presents: Jennifer Holliday
7–12  The Male Intellect: an oxymoron? Performed at Sway Theatre inside the Gilmore Theatre Complex
17  Will the Real Rich Little Please Stand Up?
19  David Copperfield: An Intimate Evening of Grand Illusion
25  Bowfire

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Federal funds to sharpen focus on doing business in South Asia and China

The growing economies of China and South Asia are not a threat to U.S. jobs and business but a real opportunity, say three WMU business professors who will spend the next two years building relationships between the business community in those nations and southwest Michigan businesses.

The Haworth College of Business’ “South Asia and China Education Program” will receive more than $160,000 from the U.S. Department of Education’s Business and International Education Program. The project is designed to increase faculty expertise and student awareness of business conditions in the region as those economies grow, they’ll become larger markets for the United States. Our focus will be on preparing students, faculty and area businesses to take advantage of the new opportunities.”

Directing the project with Quraeshi are Dr. Roger Tang, professor of accountancy and the Upjohn Chair in Business Administration, and Dr. Mushtaq Luqmani, professor of marketing. In addition to leading activities on campus, the three will be guiding intensive study trips to countries in which they have particular expertise. The trips are expected to attract other faculty, students and business representatives from across southwest Michigan. The first of the trips will be to China and will include stops in Shanghai, Beijing and Hong Kong. Tang will lead that effort, which is scheduled for summer 2006. Quraeshi and Luqmani will lead a summer 2007 journey to India and Pakistan.

Family visits campus to find sites connected with WMU’s first president

The granddaughter of founding WMU President Dwight B. Waldo returned to campus in August with members of her own family to reconnect with WMU and the Waldo legacy.

Nancy Handwerk, daughter of Waldo’s eldest offspring, Mary Elizabeth Waldo, visited WMU Aug. 2. She had lunch with President Judith I. Bailey at the Oaklands and toured sites across the campus that have a special connection to her grandfather. Those included Waldo Library, Waldo Stadium and East Hall, where Waldo’s office looked out over the city of Kalamazoo and where his ashes are interred.

Handwerk, who lives in Marietta, Ga., was accompanied by her husband Russ, and her daughter and son-in-law, Sally and Corey McPherrin of Chicago, as well as the McPherrins’ four children—who are Waldo’s great-great grandchildren. It was the first trip to Kalamazoo for the third- and fourth-generation descendents.

Nancy Handwerk visited Kalamazoo often as a child, returned in 1957 for the Waldo Library dedication and came again in 2000 to find sites she saw as a child.

Waldo granddaughter Nancy Handwerk, center, her family and WMU's President Bailey

“I thought, for years, that the fountain at Bronson Park really did have colored water coming out of it,” she remembers.
Faith in history

History teachers tend to love a good story, and Paul Maier is no exception. One of his favorites is the tale of his first, inauspicious visit to Kalamazoo.

It was late in fall 1953. Maier and a fellow graduate student named Hans were hitchhiking 850 miles from Newark, N.Y., to St. Louis. It was late at night, there was a horrible blizzard, and Maier, standing on the shoulder of Stadium Drive with his thumb out, didn't know exactly where he was. No one was stopping. Disgusted, he turned to his buddy and asked, "What's the name of this town again?"

"Hans said, 'If you can believe it, it's Kalamazoo,'" recalls Maier, laughing. "And I said 'Mark my words. I will never set foot in this place again as long as I live!'"

God apparently has a sense of humor, Maier likes to note. While the young graduate student managed to get out of town that night, he returned five years later when he landed a job at WMU. He's lived in Kalamazoo ever since.

A professor of history, Maier has been at the University for 47 years—longer than any other faculty member. In that time, he has published nearly 20 books, given countless lectures, made numerous television appearances and traveled extensively. And he's not about to stop now, with at least two more books in the works and a full teaching schedule on his plate once again this fall.

"There are times that I still feel like a new kid on the block," says Maier, 75. "I figure, when you're having fun, why mess it up?"

Building bridges

English aside, Maier reads six languages. He holds degrees from Harvard and the University of Basel, in Switzerland, and he is an ordained Lutheran minister. So, officially, it's the Rev. Dr. Paul L. Maier, and his full University title—The Russell H. Seibert Professor of Ancient History—is a mouthful.

He won the WMU Alumni Association's Teaching Excellence Award and WMU's Distinguished Faculty Scholar designation in 1974 and 1981, respectively. Just three years after the latter honor, Maier was named one of the nation's leading 25 educators by the Washington D.C.-based Council for the Advancement and Support of Education.

A prolific writer, he has penned both scholarly books and works for more general audiences, including some for children. His forays into fiction, the theological thrillers "A Skeleton in God's Closet" and the follow up "More than a Skeleton," each found their way onto best seller lists in the religious fiction category.

Maier's particular specialty in history is the first century and the early church. He has made a career of comparing the biblical record to secular, non-religious documents, piecing together details of the fledgling days of Christianity.

With one foot rooted in faith and the other in academia, it's tempting to say Maier has successfully mixed
oil and water, though he has not. He explains it this way: "If a psychologist were examining the situation, he'd say 'Well, it's obvious what Maier is doing. On one hand, he's secular, on the other, he's interested in sacred materials. And so to keep from doing a personal split, he's building bridges between the two."

He is well-known enough that his name beside a prerequisite, 100-level class in the course catalogue is enough to quickly fill the class, says Dr. Marion Gray, chairperson of WMUs Department of History.

Maier teaches at least one freshman-level class each fall and spring semester.

"I believe that this is the first crack we have to introduce students to history and all of its color and drama and glory," he says.

Students get introduced to all of that, but they also learn how to take difficult tests. Maier is famous for them.

“All of the students say the same thing. They really like him as a lecturer, but they hate his tests," says Karl Baughman, a graduate student who studied under Maier and has worked with him as a teaching assistant.

WMU President Emeritus Diether Haenicke—one of six presidents Maier has worked under—describes Maier as a “brilliant lecturer and a devoted and inspiring teacher.”

Maier's lectures are full of anecdotes and humor. His enthusiasm for his subject is contagious, says Mark Veldt, another grad student.

"With most professors, students look for a variety of method. They want some lecture, some discussion, some group study and so on. But with Dr. Maier, if you had all lecture all the time, you'd be tickled," Veldt says. "He's entertaining. He's passionate."

Continued on page 12
Enthusiasm is the key, Maier says.

"I think the secret of good teaching is to be enthusiastic about your subject. If the professor is bored, the students will be bored," Maier says. "I just love the material, and the students notice it."

Not slowing down

Maier fell in love with history via his faith. The younger of two boys, he grew up in St. Louis, at the Concordia Seminary, an 80-acre campus run by the Lutheran Church's Missouri Synod. His father, Dr. Walter A. Maier, founded "The Lutheran Hour" radio broadcast. It is still on every Sunday, the longest-running religious program in the history of radio.

"The reason I became interested in the first century really goes back to my Sunday school days," Maier says. "I was always asking my teacher things like, 'Who was the Virgin Mary's grandfather on her mother's side?' The poor woman would throw her hands up and say, 'Ask your father!'"

The elder Maier had a big influence on his son's life, but Maier says he never felt pressured to follow in his father's footsteps.

"My dad never held a gun to my head and said you've got to be a minister, but he was such a preeminent success in his field that I wanted to either teach or preach," Maier notes.

After earning his master's degree at Harvard—the famed hitchhiking trip was during this period—and a doctorate in philosophy from Basel in 1957, Maier landed a job as campus chaplain to Lutheran students at WMU. The year was 1958. In 1959, his duties expanded to include teaching a history class. Two years later, he was teaching and preaching full time—his dream job.

Maier spent four decades lecturing weekdays in the classroom and then giving Sunday sermons at WMU's Kanley Chapel. He retired as chaplain in 1999 and now travels extensively on weekends, giving seminars all over the country. In the past six months alone, he has been to Arizona, Oregon, Hawaii, Texas, Alaska and Ohio, to name a few states. He also spent time in Germany last summer, doing research for an upcoming book about Martin Luther. And he's getting ready to write the third installment in his "Skeleton" series.

"Yeah, I've got two or three fuses burning right now," he says.

After nearly 50 years, Maier likes that he's planning books and projects, rather than his retirement party.

"I love the active life. I love teaching. I love the material," he says. "One of these days I'll have to hang it up, I know. But I've just enjoyed my career so much, and I hate to abandon it."

Story by Craig McCool, B.A. '00
Images by Mike Lanka

Tough tests have a history

History professor Paul Maier's students complain about the difficulty of his exams, but they should know Maier has been in their shoes, too. His toughest exam was also the most memorable. It was the oral examination for his doctorate at the University of Basel, in Switzerland.

The first questions were easy ones, Maier recalls, and he answered quickly. Too quickly, maybe, because the panel of professors proctoring the exam seemed to get annoyed. So one asked an impossibly obscure question: What is the name of the last valley in Switzerland where the Anabaptists were persecuted?

"Of course, a detailed question like that, I had no idea at all," Maier says. But at breakfast that morning he had eaten some bread and a bit of Emmental cheese, named for a region of Switzerland. "So, just to have something to say, I said 'Emmental, professor?'

Correct.

"It was like swishing a basketball shot from half court," Maier says. "I really lucked out that morning." He passed the exam and graduated summa cum laude.
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Student, two faculty members win prestigious Fulbright awards

A graduate student and two WMU faculty members have been traveling in recent months, after being named winners of prestigious Fulbright awards.

- Dr. Sisay Asefa, professor of economics and director of WMU's Center for African Development Policy Research, spent six weeks in Ethiopia during May and June as a Fulbright Senior Specialist. Based at the University of Ethiopia in Addis Ababa during his stay, Asefa offered seminars and conducted a needs assessment of the nation's economic development challenges. He also co-directed the Third International Research Symposium on Development Studies in Africa, a biennial event launched at WMU in 2001.

- Dr. Matthew Mingus, associate professor and doctoral director in the School of Public Affairs and Administration, was awarded the Fulbright Research Chair in Public Policy, Governance and Public Administration at the University of Ottawa's Centre on Governance. Mingus will be in Ottawa through December, researching similarities and differences in the Canadian and American systems of government. He is focusing on Prime Minister Paul Martin's Democratic Action Plan, which could Americanize Canada's parliamentary system.

- Graduate student Brian Becker is in Italy for the 2005-06 academic year after winning a Fulbright-Hays Doctoral Dissertation Research Abroad Fellowship. Becker, whose area of study is medieval Mediterranean history, will focus on the Genoese State Archives to uncover information for a dissertation that will detail Genoese colonialism and the Aegean island of Chios. He is the second doctoral history student to win a Fulbright fellowship in as many years.

Communications professionals earn 2005 Distinguished Alumni awards

Two prominent communication professionals have been selected by the Western Michigan University Alumni Association to receive its 2005 Distinguished Alumni Award.

The recipients are Roz Abrams, co-anchor for WCBS-TV (Channel 2) in New York City, and Jack Clifford, a semi-retired media consultant and mass communications pioneer from Scottsdale, Ariz.

The Distinguished Alumni Award was initiated in 1963 and is the alumni association's most prestigious honor. It recognizes graduates who have achieved a high level of success in their respective professions. To date, only 124 alumni have received one of these awards.

This year's recipients were honored at an on-campus dinner Friday, Oct. 28, held in conjunction with WMU's Homecoming.

Clifford earned a bachelor of arts degree from WMU in 1956 and helped found the University's two radio stations: student-run WIDR and public radio's WMUK. During his 49-year career, he has been a pioneer in developing television programming and in the cable-TV, cellular-phone, paging, broadcast-cable and satellite-network industries.

In addition to working as an advertising sales representative and general manager in both TV and radio, he founded and was chairman of the Television Food Network and Northwest Cable News, a five-state, 24-hour news and information cable channel. He also assisted in the development of ZDTV, later named Tech TV, which has been sold and now is the G4 video game channel.

Clifford is an active community volunteer and philanthropist, particularly in the areas of educational programming and the arts.

Abraams earned a bachelor of science degree from WMU in 1970. She has been a reporter and anchor for almost 30 years and in April 2004, was named co-anchor for New York City's WCBS-TV (Channel 2), the flagship station of the CBS Television Network.

She previously spent 18 years at WABC, also in New York, taking part in award-winning coverage of some of the biggest stories of our time, including 9/11 as well as the end of Apartheid in South Africa, Chernobyl nuclear disaster and Blackout of 2003.

Abraams also has been a news anchor with Turner Broadcasting and helped launch CNN. She serves as co-chairperson of NY READS TOGETHER and is active in numerous community and charitable organizations.
Charter school research finds wide disparity among states

A comparison of charter schools in six states completed this spring by WMU researchers reveals a wide disparity in how well the schools are functioning, with Michigan charter schools faring especially poorly overall.

The findings were summarized in a paper presented at the American Educational Research Association's annual meeting in April. The paper, "Strong Charter School Laws are Those That Result in Positive Outcomes," was written by Dr. Gary Miron, chief of staff of the WMU Evaluation Center.

The six states hired the center to examine how their charter schools are performing. Three recently released studies examined charter schools in Ohio, Connecticut and Delaware. Earlier studies were conducted on charter schools in Michigan, Illinois and Pennsylvania.

Among the findings:

• The comparison shows that charter schools in Michigan and Ohio are performing poorly overall, while schools in Connecticut and Delaware consistently outperform traditional public schools.

• Results for Illinois and Pennsylvania were mixed, with Pennsylvania charter schools showing a very small advantage over traditional public schools.

Miron concluded that a significant contributor to the success or failure of each state's charter school initiatives stems from the laws passed that allow them and the political environment in which those laws were created.

"That's a big lesson for both Michigan and Ohio," Miron says. "Ohio started later, but they scaled up their reform very rapidly and now they've had to impose a moratorium for a bit. When you rush into a reform the way Michigan did, there isn't time for charter school authorizers to get the tools or the mechanisms in place to do effective oversight."

Recently released Evaluation Center studies of charter school movements in Delaware and Connecticut paint a different picture. Both Delaware and Connecticut have been highly selective in approving charter applications. Delaware now has 13 charter schools. By contrast, the number of charter schools in Michigan exploded in the late 1990s until a cap of 150 university-authorized charter schools was reached in 1999.

Miron says other problems plaguing states where charters are not faring well include: a highly charged political atmosphere, lack of accountability and a heavy reliance on EMOs—education management organizations.

"There's nothing wrong with private entrepreneurship in public education, but they need to be reined in by the public school boards," Miron says. "The way contracts are set up in Michigan, that often is not the case.

"Michigan needs to close poor performing schools," he adds. "And by doing that, they would make room for new schools to open. We don't need to lift the cap. We need more charter schools, but we do that by closing poor performing ones."

Sky Broncos place third at national championship

The University's precision flight team, the Sky Broncos, captured third place in the National Intercollegiate Flying Association’s 2005 championship, held last spring at Kansas State University.

The third-place finish marks the Sky Broncos' 14th consecutive top-three finish in national competition. The run has included two national championships.

Embry Riddle Aeronautical University-Prescott won the championship this year, and the University of North Dakota placed second. Both teams are longtime rivals of the Sky Broncos and also have long track records in the top-three placings.

First-year head coach James Whittles guided the team in 2005 and will lead the Sky Broncos on the competitive trail for the 2005-06 academic year.
College of Arts and Sciences
Student spends summer in governor’s office as Granholm program intern

A WMU junior got a head start on life in the public arena by spending her summer working closely with Michigan’s top official.

Delal Pektas of East Grand Rapids, Mich., a political science student majoring in international and comparative politics, was selected to take part in Michigan Gov. Jennifer Granholm’s Michigan Leadership Development Program. Starting in early June, she spent 10 weeks working with Granholm’s personal assistant.

Pektas was one of 36 interns chosen statewide to take part last summer in a highly competitive program Granholm launched in 2003. Students serve in a wide range of capacities, from the Appointments Division, which recommends candidates for gubernatorial appointments, to the Communications Division, which works with the news media to inform the public about the governor’s plans.

“Such internships are not only great learning experiences, but they also give law schools, graduate programs and potential employers confidence that they are looking at a high-caliber recruit with practical experience,” says Dr. James Butterfield, professor of political science and Pektas’ faculty advisor.

College of Aviation
Camp participants had their heads in the clouds

Seventy high school students from around the country spread their wings at WMU last summer, participating in a free Summer Flight Academy.

A week-long residential camp, primarily for 11th- and 12th-graders, attracted 50 students from around the nation, while a four-day junior day camp for ninth- and 10th-graders brought another 30 students from West Michigan to the college. Each day began and ended at the college’s W.K. Kellogg Airport facility in Battle Creek, Mich.

The college began serving as host for the free camps more than a decade ago to increase awareness of aviation careers among groups of people who are not well represented in the industry, such as women and minorities.

Both of the 2005 camps were co-sponsored by WMU’s King/Chavez/Parks College Day Program and offered in conjunction with the Organization of Black Airline Pilots.

Summer Flight Academy participants flew actual aircraft, explored career options, toured companies involved in the industry and took aviation classes.

College of Engineering and Applied Sciences
VandenBrink lauded by students as outstanding faculty member for 2004-05

Dr. Dennis J. VandenBrink, associate professor of mechanical and aeronautical engineering, was the recipient of the Theta Tau Outstanding Faculty Award for the 2004-05 academic year.

The award is given annually by the graduating seniors of the Pi Beta Chapter at WMU to a faculty member who “presents engineering concepts clearly, provides extraordinary assistance, motivates students to excel and teaches with enthusiasm.”

VandenBrink, a faculty member since 1984, is an expert in the areas of finite element analysis, stress analysis and system dynamics. He has served as a mentor to students working with undergraduate research awards and as an advisor to student organizations.

VandenBrink, who also has been active in a number of statewide and national engineering organizations and academic honoraries, earned his bachelor’s degree from Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology and his master’s and doctoral degrees from Virginia Tech. He was a Virginia Tech faculty member before coming to WMU.
Haworth College of Business

Business student earns top national supply-chain award

A Haworth senior has been awarded a prestigious R. Gene Richter Scholarship, named for a leading force in the supply chain management profession.

Andrea Brown of Waterford, Mich., is one of six students nationwide to receive the honor for 2005. Brown is an integrated supply matrix management (ISM2) major and is scheduled to graduate in December.

The Richter Scholarship program was established to develop high-potential undergraduates into tomorrow’s procurement leaders. The program is named for a longtime procurement professional whose award-winning career included top-level positions with Ford Motor Co., Black & Decker, Hewlett Packard and IBM.

Scholarship winners receive $5,000 in tuition assistance for 2005-06 and are eligible for mentoring programs and sponsorship at industry conferences.

One year after graduation, they also will be invited to attend the annual ISM Power Conference, an exclusive, by-invitation-only gathering for chief procurement officers from across the country.

College of Education

Current, former faculty members support FCS students

Students in the Department of Family and Consumer Sciences saw new scholarship opportunities this year, thanks to some people with a real interest in their disciplines—current and former faculty members.

- Dr. Maija Petersons, professor of dietetics, has funded a graduate fellowship for full-time graduate students pursuing degrees in dietetics. The first recipient of the endowed scholarship will be announced this fall.
- Dr. Carl Woloszyk, who retired from the department in 2004 after nearly 18 years of service, has endowed a special scholarship for students preparing to work in the career and technical education field. The scholarship is intended to support and recognize a professional who is pursuing a master's degree.
- Also, agricultural alumni have joined Dr. Max Benne and his wife, Beverly Benne, to establish a scholarship in memory of Dr. Lee O. Baker, who headed WMU’s Agriculture Department from 1959 to 1982. Benne was the last faculty member in that department, and he retired in 1998.

College of Health and Human Services

Thompson goes to India with maternal health message

Dr. Joyce Thompson, the Bernardine Lacey Professor of Community Health in WMU’s Bronson School of Nursing, traveled to India recently to take part in a high-profile summit on global health issues.

Thompson presented a brief report during an annual meeting of the World Health Organization. Each year, the WHO delivers a report on World Health Day. This year’s report dealt with maternal and child health, a topic of great concern to Thompson.

As director of the International Confederation of Midwives’ Board of Management, Thompson serves in the highest elected post for a midwife in the world, a position she has held for the past six years.

She is also the co-chair of the Partnership for Safe Motherhood and Newborn Health.

“My mantra for the past 20 years has been ‘Healthy women lead to healthy children, and healthy children lead to healthy nations. So without healthy women, there will be no healthy nations,’” Thompson says.

College of Fine Arts

New Play Project showcases talents of numerous theatre, English students

Budding WMU playwrights were able to see their work performed recently through a two-year-old collaboration involving the departments of Theatre and English.

Staged readings of new one-act plays by student-playwrights were performed and directed by theatre students on three evenings. New Play Project productions in York Arena Theatre offered four or five one-act plays in weekly productions of about 90 minutes each.

Through the New Play Project, students had the opportunity to write, perform, direct, stage-manage and dramaturge for a wide range of scripts. The plays ran the theatrical gamut from the story of a comic professional wrestler to a docudrama based on the arrest of Zsa Zsa Gabor.

The project is a collaboration between the WMU departments of Theatre and English and is team-taught by Dr. Joan Herrington, chairperson and professor of theatre, and by Dr. Steve Feffer, assistant professor of English.
Poetic license

Poetry is alive and thriving at WMU

"The poet doesn't invent. He listens." —Jean Cocteau

In a time when high-tech, state-of-the-art facilities and technology-based studies are the norm and colleges race to apply technology, commercialize new products and foster economic development, there's also a lot of listening going on—especially on the Western Michigan University campus.

The gentle art of poetry is not just holding its own. It's thriving on campuses across the nation, as students rediscover "the innovative art form known as the spoken word." At WMU, a campus atmosphere has evolved in which verse is elevated to the status of high art and students revere both poets who have built their careers at the University and those who are passing through to share their words.

Poetry maintained a strong foothold at WMU, even during the 1970s and 1980s when, as one journalist describes it, "rhyme, meter and free verse languished while students stuck with prose" and "only English majors ventured into assonance, free verse and tones. And even they came grudgingly."

From an ivory tower pastime to part of popular culture, poetry and the spoken word have made a comeback. Some of the developments, like performance poetry and the poetry slams that have become popular with students bear little resemblance to the traditions developed in academe.

But those developments "reassuringly demonstrate the abiding human need for poetry," says Dana Gioia, chairman of the National Endowment for the Humanities and author of "Can Poetry Matter?".

On the WMU campus, the past decade of growth on the academic scene has coincided with the growing popularity of verse among the general populace. Consider these items.

• New Issues Poetry & Prose, founded at WMU in 1996 with a goal of publishing the first books of promising, mostly Michigan poets, now attracts some 800 submissions from new poets hoping to break into print. New Issues has a prize and publishing offer for authors' submitting first books of poetry. A similar and more recent prize was developed for established poets, and it's attracting submissions from some of the nation's finest writers of verse.

• A core group of creative writing faculty members who specialize in poetry is pulling down some of the top writing awards in the nation. And their work is routinely published by the top tier of the country's literary magazines.

• Poets from across the nation annually read to standing-room-only audiences as part of WMU's Gwen Frostic Reading Series, named in memory of a WMU alumna who was a well-known Michigan poet and artist.
The Prague Summer Program, an intensive creative writing program, moved under WMU's auspices in 2002 and offers poetry as one if its main tracks as students study under some of the top writers in the United States and central Europe. Students and faculty members from elite schools across the nation are drawn to what poet and National Public Radio commentator Andre Codrescu calls "a splendid hatchery for apprentice writers." The 2005 session drew 135 participants.

The nation's premier prize for a new poet's first book of poetry was won last year by rising poetry star Anthony Butts, who earned his master's degree from WMU and who credits the University with turning him into a writer.

Edited by WMU graduate students and published entirely by the University's Department of English, the Third Coast literary magazine is widely regarded as one of the premier student-run university literary journals. Called "a lively new literary magazine on the rise" by Ronald Spatz, editor of Alaska Quarterly Review, Third Coast has been well received since its inaugural publication in 1994. Each issue typically includes a wide range of poems and interviews with leading poets as well as writing from other genres.

These are welcome developments for a university with a rich tradition in creative writing. WMU's highly regarded graduate program in creative writing is unusual because it has four distinct strengths—poetry, fiction, creative nonfiction and playwriting. Students of each genre, though, are required to take courses in the other three genres and to learn the basics of each type of writing.

The poetry sections are popular today, as students search for ways to use their natural creative instincts.

"Literary poetry is a minority interest—like live drama," says Dr. Arnie Johnston, chairperson of the Department of English and an accomplished playwright. "There are so many mass forms of entertainment and communication that anything that makes people work a little harder is hard pressed to find a following. But even students who take a poetry class out of curiosity as an undergrad elective quickly learn the pleasures that can be found in poetry and the oral tradition of the spoken word."

Precious time to write

One of WMU’s most lauded poets recently won an opportunity to focus exclusively on the creative process for the current academic year by winning a prestigious Guggenheim Fellowship.

Dr. William Olsen, professor of English, is one of 186 artists, scholars and scientists awarded 2005 Guggenheim Fellowships out of the more than 3,000 who applied. Decisions are based on recommendations from hundreds of expert advisors and are approved by the foundation's board of trustees.

"I’m delighted with receiving this honor," Olsen says. "It’s what every writer wants the most—free time to write. Beyond that, recognitions of this sort are few and far between. It’s a little humbling, actually."

The fellowship and $50,000 cash award that it carries will let Olsen concentrate on writing for up to a year.

"The idea is that you get funding to create a block of time to better concentrate on the creative process," Olsen says.

Guggenheim Fellowships are awarded based on past achievement and exceptional promise for future accomplishment. The fellowships are grants to selected individuals to help provide them with blocks of time in which they can work with as much creative freedom as possible. They represent some of the most competitive awards made in the arts and humanities. Past winners include Joyce Carol Oates, Ansel Adams, Henry Kissinger, Eudora Welty, Vladimir Nabokov and Langston Hughes.
Five notable WMU poets

Poetry is a one major focus of WMU's Creative Writing Program, which has tracks in fiction, creative nonfiction and playwriting as well. Among the faculty members building WMU's reputation in creative writing circles are the following:

Stuart Dybek—Best known for his short stories, Dybek's fiction and poetry have been published in the nation's leading literary magazines and anthologies. This year, he published his second book of poetry, "Streets in Their Own Ink." He's been a WMU faculty member since 1973 and has won a Lannan Award, Whiting Writers Award, a Guggenheim Fellowship, two National Endowment for the Arts fellowships and a residency at the Rockefeller Foundation's Bellagio Center.

Nancy Eimers—Eimers is the author of three collections of poetry, including this year's "A Grammar to Walking." Her work has appeared widely in the nation's literary magazines as well as in "Best American Poetry of 1996." A faculty member since 1990, Eimers is the winner of two NEA Creative Writing fellowships, a Whiting Writers Award and a Nation/Discovery Award.

Richard Katrovas—Recipient of numerous grants and awards, Katrovas is the founding academic director of the Prague Summer Program. He is the author of six books of poetry as well as a book of short stories, a memoir and a novel. Katrovas came to WMU in 2002 from the University of New Orleans. His book, "Prague Winter" is a reflection of time he spent as a Fulbright Scholar in Prague during the Velvet Revolution.

William Olsen—Olsen, who first came to WMU in 1988, is the author of three collections of poetry, and his work has been published in a number of anthologies and magazines. He is the winner of an NEA Creative Writing Fellowship, a Nation/Discovery award and, this year, a Guggenheim Fellowship.

Herbert Scott—Scott is the founding editor of New Issues Poetry & Prose and the Gwen Frostic Professor of Creative Writing. The author of numerous books and chapbooks, his most recent collection of poems is "Sleeping Woman," published earlier this year. His work has appeared in some three dozen anthologies and scores of magazines. Scott has been the recipient of two National Endowment for the Humanities fellowships and was poet in residence for the American Wind Symphony's Bicentennial Tour.

Faculty members, he notes, appreciate the growing popularity poetry enjoys among students as well as the growing reputation of the creative writing program, which now attracts high caliber applicants from across the nation—and many more top-notch graduate students than the department can support.

Faculty member Herbert Scott came to WMU in 1968—toward the end of the last great period of poetic popularity. He came to Kalamazoo intending to stay for a couple of years before returning to his native California. Instead, he stayed, finding a community conducive to creativity. Over the past three decades, he's become the dean of poetic initiatives at WMU. He's the founding editor of New Issues Press Poetry and Prose and a national figure in the highly interconnected world of academic poetry.

"When I first came to Western, there was already a wonderful undergraduate creative writing program in place with a strong poetry focus and lots of interest from students," Scott says. "I really think we built on that over the years and never faltered. Poetry has always been strong at Western and that's partly because Kalamazoo has always had a civic interest in poetry. We've always been able to draw large audiences for poetry readings."

Today, Scott is the recently retired Gwen Frostic Professor of Creative Writing and a legend among scores of admiring past and current graduate students. His students have included Anthony Butts of Carnegie Mellon University, who won the Poetry Society of America's 2004 William Carlos Williams Award for the best book of poetry published by a small press. Butts' book, "Little Low Heaven," was published by New Issues and was one of more than 100 books nominated for the coveted prize last year.

Shortly after winning the prize, Butts visited the WMU campus for a reading and to meet with current poetry students. In a radio interview during that visit, he recounted the significance of his studies at WMU, where he earned a master's degree in 1995.

"I didn't become a poet until I came to Western Michigan University," Butts said, acknowledging Scott and other faculty members for their influence on him. "Western is the place that really turned me into a writer."

Such praise is welcome, but Department Chairperson Johnston says the role of faculty in the creative process is focused more on coaching than creating writers.

"The way we all feel is that we are guides and coaches," Johnston says. "We don't turn anyone into a writer. Students who are successful have the talent, drive and inspiration to become writers. We just give them the tools of the trade that help them sharpen their vision and learn to look at things a little differently."
Slamming in Kalamazoo

(Editors note: In recent years, the spoken word in verse has enjoyed growing popularity as a student activity on campuses across the country. Poetry slams are now what beat coffee houses were in the 1950s and early 1960s. There’s even a national slam competition. The WMU Magazine sent writer Craig McCool, B.A., ’00, to a Kalamazoo event to report on the local scene.)

Tracey Smith begins each poetry slam by going over the rules. There aren’t many:
• Applause is encouraged. Booping is not discouraged—though generally the only people who get booted are the judges, when the scores are considered too low.
• As far as the poems themselves, there is a three-minute time limit.

Beyond that, in terms of subject matter and form, there are no rules. Some performers sing, some shout and some rhyme.

“I don’t think of it as a poetry slam, as much a sort of variety show,” says Smith, who hosts a biweekly slam at the Kraftbrau brewery in Kalamazoo. One recent slam found Smith choosing the performance order by plucking from a hospital bedpan scraps of paper with the poets’ names. The first place winner, he told the crowd, would receive $10. Second place would get to choose a prize from “a bag of fabulous crap I didn’t want laying around my house.”

It really is an anything-goes attitude. “There’s really no rules. You can say anything,” said WMU student Leigh Fryling at a recent slam. “That doesn’t mean that the audience is going to like what you have to say.”

Fryling won second place. She got a can of Silly Putty for a poem that began with a four-letter word and contained the line, “Something slapped me in the face with the beveled edge of reason.”

Not sure what that means? Other contributions are far less subtle and many would earn an “R” rating on the screen.

Not everyone competes. An open mike reading precedes each slam event. John Chapman, a three-time graduate of WMU and a part-time computer technology instructor there, read a parody he’d written of Glenn Miller’s “I’ve Got a Gal in Kalamazoo.” The crowd liked the chorus, which began with “You said something about having a girl in the Zoo. I can tell you my friend, she’s not waiting for you...”

It was Chapman’s first time reading at Kraftbrau, after attending a slam earlier in the summer and just watching.

“People were really friendly and really supportive. I figured, I could do this.”

What’s the academic take on pop poetry?

WMU English department Chairperson Arnie Johnston is nonplussed and admits once lending his voice to the Kraftbrau fun.

“My attitude is if people are gathering together to spend time, energy and talent on poetry, how bad can that be?” he asks. “Some of the material can be really exciting.”

www.wmich.edu/magazine 21
WMU GEAR UP wins new federal money to boost college aspirations

A WMU-led initiative that prepares at-risk students for college is achieving great success, both in the school districts it serves and in the halls of Congress.

The first phase of GEAR UP—Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs—has been extended from five to six years with the help of a $4.5 million grant from the U.S. Department of Education. In addition, GEAR UP is now entering a second, six-year initiative with the help of close to $2.8 million in annual funding from the Department of Education. The total is expected to reach $16.8 million over the course of the program.

Launched in 2000, GEAR UP is a partnership involving universities, school districts, communities, businesses, cultural centers and social service agencies from three Midwestern states—Michigan, Illinois and Ohio. Its goal is to restructure public schools, provide extensive professional development, and support students and families with the ultimate goal of increasing the number of students attending college.

The one-year extension and additional six-year funding for GEAR UP’s second phase reflect the strides the program has made in member school districts, says Dr. Joseph Kretovics, a WMU professor of teaching, learning and leadership and the project’s director.

“The success has been enormous,” Kretovics says. “In my estimation, it is one of the most, if not the most, successful school restructuring programs in the country.”

Two Kalamazoo schools—Milwood Middle School and Maple Street Magnet School for the Arts—will be added to GEAR UP’s new initiative. The program will continue serving students in Battle Creek and Bangor, Mich., as well as students in Toledo, Ohio, through a partnership with Bowling Green State University. Students in Harvey, Ill., were part of the first GEAR UP program through a partnership with the Small Schools Workshop, formerly housed at the University of Illinois at Chicago.

Twenty students win $32,000 Medallion Scholarships to attend WMU

Twenty incoming freshmen won coveted Medallion Scholarships to begin their studies at WMU this fall.

This year’s recipients included 18 students from Michigan and one each from Illinois and Ohio. The 2005 awards bring the total of Medallion Scholarships awarded to 364 since the program began in 1984.

Medallion Scholarships are among the highest honors WMU can give to an incoming freshman. Valued at $32,000 over four years, they constitute one of the largest merit-based award programs in American higher education.

Each Medallion bears the name of its donor or the person for whom the prize was established. Recipients are selected based on a daylong competition held at WMU in February that includes an interview with faculty members and informational sessions for participants and their parents.

The 2005 recipients were announced in July, after competing in the 21st annual Medallion Scholarship Program Competition with more than 700 seniors from 345 high schools in 14 states. To be invited to compete, students had to apply to WMU by Dec. 31 and have an American College Test score of at least 25 and a high school grade point average of at least 3.80 (4.00 scale).

This year’s Medallion Scholars have an average ACT score of 30 and when honors courses are weighted by WMU, a collective GPA of 4.22. They began their studies at WMU this fall and are scheduled to graduate during the 2008-09 academic year.

Participating in the 2005 competition were 170 students who scored 30 or higher on the ACT and 367 students with 4.00 or higher high school GPAs. Participants who did not win a Medallion Scholarship were awarded a WMU Academic Scholarship worth $4,800.
New program helps students succeed during first year of college

A pilot group of about 500 WMU freshmen are getting extra help adjusting to college through a new program launched this year called First-Year Experience.

FYE is a voluntary program that focuses on strengthening participants' academic performance during their first two semesters at WMU while at the same time easing their transition from high school to life and learning on a college campus.

Dr. Toni Woolfork-Barnes, FYE director, says research shows that first-year programs are central to retaining students, sustaining individual learning, reducing time-to-degree completion rates, and contributing to meaningful and productive individual lives beyond college.

“Our program is a collaborative effort across the University,” Woolfork-Barnes adds. “It recognizes we’re all in this together—we all want our students to have wonderful opportunities and a successful experience.”

In late spring, those enrolling in FYE were assigned to small student groups. The members of each individual group are progressing together in their studies during their first academic year. Leading each group is a faculty facilitator and an upper-class student assistant, both of whom also serve as mentors to their assigned students.

Since school started, facilitators have been meeting with their students on a weekly basis, guiding the freshmen through their FYE-required classes and co-curricular activities. They officially first met their charges in August during Fall Welcome, WMU's comprehensive week-long orientation program. But some enterprising faculty members began connecting with FYE students and their parents early on—even before the incoming freshmen came to campus in June for WMU's one-day orientation program. Among them is Larry Ahleman, a master faculty specialist in the Department of Paper Engineering, Chemical Engineering and Imaging.

When asked in August whether he had been enjoying his new role, Ahleman did not hesitate: "Does the sun rise in the East?" he asked. "This activity has made my summer."

Women's tennis team brings home 2005 MAC championship trophy

Entering the season finale ranked 55th nationally, WMU's women's tennis team clinched sole ownership of the 2004-05 Mid-American Conference Championship last spring with a 6-1 victory at Eastern Michigan University.

WMU concluded the regular season with a perfect 9-0 record. The undefeated conference campaign is the first for the Broncos since 2001 and the eighth under head coach Betsy Kuhle.

“It's a great feeling,” Kuhle said. “We still have some work to do, but this group really deserves it.”

The Broncos have never finished lower than third in the league during Kuhle's 23-year tenure.

Newcomer Noriko Saruta, already the winningest freshman in school history, wrapped up her first season in the MAC undefeated in both singles and doubles competition. She now owns 57 total wins on the year, just four away from breaking the school record of 60 set by Frederika Girsang in 2002-03.
Writing well is target of University's Third Coast project

With recent reports noting that writing is not receiving enough attention in the nation's schools, WMU's Third Coast Writing Project devoted its summer to providing some of the "write" answers for West Michigan teachers and children trying to address the issue.

During June and July, the project offered a series of programs, some free, to give teachers much-needed help with teaching writing, while also helping to build writing skills in 35 children ages 8-13.

This was the 12th year Third Coast has offered its Invitational Summer Institutes to area teachers and students. Seven programs were offered this year, with some focusing on teachers new to the classroom and others on new technology or trends in the field, such as digital storytelling and the growing challenge of teaching students for whom English is a second language.

In addition to helping children hone their writing skills and helping teachers become better at teaching writing, Third Coast Writing Project's summer programs have built a community of writing professionals, says Dr. Ellen Brinkley, WMU professor of English and director of Third Coast's summer programs.

"Many participants stay connected to the project and build on the friendships they develop during the summer. They keep reading professional articles and become classroom researchers so they can identify strategies that work well, or don't, for their students," Brinkley says. "We invite some to provide school-year inservice for teachers in southwest Michigan schools. So we've created a network of teachers who are passionate about the power of writing, and they know how to pass that power and the joy of literacy on to their students."

A major emphasis of recent summer programs has been helping new teachers, and more than 100 have been involved over the past three years in the New Teacher Institute. The free, six-month program for teachers in their first, second and third years has received national recognition as a model for effective new teacher support and professional development. The program is part of the three-year New Teacher Initiative Program within the National Writing Project and focuses on teachers as researchers.

The Oaklands, now a campus guest house, was built in 1869 as the home of merchant Robert S. Babcock. The 23-room, Italian Revival style mansion became part of a nationally known horse farm in the 1890s that gave birth to one of Standardbred racing's foundation stallions, Peter the Great. The house eventually became part of a community golf course before coming to WMU through a 1944 land purchase. After serving as a home to WMU presidents Sangren and Miller, the Oaklands' interior was renovated in 1982 as the focal point of Kalamazoo's first Designer Showhouse, and in 1988, the exterior was restored to its original glory in an extensive renovation effort. The Oaklands now houses visitors to campus and is the site of small receptions and campus gatherings. The large circle of old oak trees in front of the house, from which its name came, is carefully tended, with trees being replaced when age and disease claim them.
WMU women lead college teams participating in national air race

WMU aviators Sarah Tower and Erica Ebenhoeh, the University's team for the 2005 Air Race Classic, captured the collegiate title in an all-women's race that traces its roots to the days of Amelia Earhart.

Five of the 40 teams in the race were entered in the collegiate competition, including teams from Purdue University and Ohio University, which had won the previous two races.

Ebenhoeh and Tower also piloted their Cessna 172 to WMU's highest overall finish in six tries at the high-profile air race. The women finished eighth among the 40 teams, for which they received a $500 prize.

"It was a fantastic experience," says Ebenhoeh, a first-time participant in the event. "This [Air Race Classic] is something I want to be involved with for many years. If I'm not flying in the race, I want to help as a volunteer."

During this year's contest, held June 21-24, Ebenhoeh and Tower were in the air 20.5 hours, covering a total distance of 2,436.3 miles. The round-robin race course began and ended at Purdue University in Indiana and included stops in Minnesota, Nebraska, Oklahoma, Louisiana, Arkansas, Tennessee and Ohio.

"Experience and ability are big factors in the race, but there's also a lot of luck involved," says Tower, now a veteran of two races. "Planes depart the checkpoints at different times and may face different weather and wind conditions, and that's not something you can accurately predict or control."

Ebenhoeh of New Lothrop, Mich., is a 2004 graduate of WMU's College of Aviation. Tower, who is from Brighton, Mich., is a WMU flight instructor and a 2003 graduate of the University's aviation flight science program.

Women's air racing traces its origins to 1929, and the first Women's Air Derby, which was sponsored by the Ninety-Nines International Organization of Women Pilots. The Ninety-Nines was founded that year by 99 licensed women pilots, and famed aviator Amelia Earhart was the group's first president.

Tiffany draws on Shakespeare again for two new novels

A WMU English professor is carving out a name for herself as someone who puts her knowledge of the Bard to work in crafting entertaining story lines.

Dr. Grace C. Tiffany, professor of English, recently published her third and fourth novels, "The Turquoise Ring" and "Ariel." Both novels are adaptations of Shakespearian plays.

"The Turquoise Ring" is a retelling of "The Merchant of Venice" from the point of view of the female characters in the play. "Ariel," which is slated for a young teen audience, is centered on the fairy in Shakespeare's comedy "The Tempest."

Tiffany is best known for her 2003 novel "My Father Had A Daughter," which received critical acclaim and was chosen as an alternate selection for both the Literary Guild and the Book-of-the-Month Club. The story's main character is the youngest daughter of William Shakespeare. Her second novel, "Will," dealt more directly with Shakespeare and the relationship between him and his wife.

Tiffany has published a number of scholarly works on Shakespeare and hopes that her novels lead uninitiated readers to be intrigued enough to proceed on to his works. She also has written a screenplay for "My Father Had A Daughter," which has been optioned by producer James Burke.

Both books are available through all major bookstores.

Tiffany has been a faculty member at WMU since 1995. She earned her bachelor's degree from Duke University in 1979 and her master's and doctoral degrees from the University of Notre Dame in 1985 and 1989, respectively. Prior to joining the WMU faculty, she taught at Fordham University and the University of New Orleans.
WMU Branch Campuses offer the benefits of Western Michigan University... Wherever you are.

Here are just a few of the programs available at WMU's Branch Campuses:

**Manufacturing Engineering (BSE)**
This Bachelor degree program is designed to prepare an engineer to apply solutions to manufacturing problems in automotive, metalworking, plastics, paper and other industries.

**Public Administration (MPA)**
This program is designed to enhance leadership skills, administrative capabilities, and management practices in health care, government, nonprofit and private sectors.

**Social Work (MSW)**
Projected to be among the top growth fields this decade, the MSW program prepares students for direct service and leadership positions in social work and social welfare, and offers specialized concentrations of study in Interpersonal Practice or Policy, Planning and Administration.

WMU branch campuses offer a variety of graduate and undergraduate programs in the following locations:

- **Battle Creek**
  www.bc.wmich.edu
  269.965.5380

- **Grand Rapids**
  www.gr.wmich.edu
  616.771.9470

- **Kalamazoo & Statewide Programs**
  www.kz.wmich.edu
  269.387.4167

- **Lansing**
  www.lg.wmich.edu
  517.327.1480

- **Muskegon**
  www.mu.wmich.edu
  231.777.0500

- **Southwest**
  www.sw.wmich.edu
  269.934.1500

- **Traverse City**
  www.tc.wmich.edu
  231.995.1846

For complete program offerings and availability visit our website:

www.eup.wmich.edu
Alumni are listed under their preferred class years. Names preceded by a circle (*) 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: (269) 387-8770
E-mail: dev-alumnnote@wmich.edu

---1948 to 1974---

• Lucile E. (Thompson) Decker, BS ‘48, was named to the Bellevue (MI) High School Hall of Fame.

Eugene Wallace, BA '57, MA '60, is completing his first term as mayor of Coldwater, MI.

Edward W. Wheeler Jr., BS ’58, has retired after 30 years in the U.S. Army. He is also retired from LexisNexis, where he worked for 16 years.

• James W. Richmond, BBA '61, was inducted into WMU’s Marketing Hall of Fame. He is retired from Stryker Corp., where he was vice president of global marketing and development.

• James Hawkins, BS ’63, was chosen as interim superintendent for the Ypsilanti (MI) Public Schools District. He is currently the president and chief executive officer of JHV & Associates.

Percy Clark, BA ’64, MA ’69, is superintendent of Unified School District in Pasadena, CA.

Louis R. Hooker, BS ’64, MA ’70, is the author of a new book, “The Year of the Fire.” He is a retired teacher and lives in Fremont, MI.

Richard A. Conley, BS ’65, TC ’65, has been appointed to the Fremont, MI, city council.

Carol Ann (Gillespie) Strip, BS ’66, has published a new book titled “Helping Gifted Children Soar.” She is a gifted education specialist with Olentangy Schools in Lewis Center, OH.

Jonathan B. Gamm, BS ’66, MA ’68, is a clinician at Newaygo County (MI) Mental Health.

Diane L. Middleton, BA ’68, is the community programs coordinator for the Midland (MI) Area Chamber of Commerce.

Christina K. (Champion) Siwik, BA ’69, MA ’97, was recently named superintendent of Mio (MI) AuSable Schools.

Alton T. Davis, BS ’69, has been appointed to the Michigan Court of Appeals by Gov. Jennifer Granholm.

John A. Fallon III, BS ’69, was appointed president of Eastern Michigan University.

• Larry L. Leatherwood, BS ’69, MPA ’82, has been appointed by Gov. Jennifer Granholm to the Michigan Broadband Development Board of Directors. He also has been selected to receive the WMU School of Public Affairs and Administration’s George James Award for outstanding community service.

• Leon F. Mazurek, BBA ’69, has joined Premier Properties of the Lakeshore in Muskegon, MI, as a licensed real estate associate broker.

• Steven L. Michael, BBA ’69, is the 2005 president of the Grand Rapids, MI, chapter of the Knights of the Round Table, an international service organization that serves numerous charitable organizations.

• Kenneth V. Miller, BBA ’69, MBA ’70, was inducted into the WMU Marketing Hall of Fame. He is president and chief executive officer of Havircro in Kalamazoo.

Dennis A. Swan, BBA ’69, is interim president and chief executive officer of Sparrow Health System in Lansing, MI.

Judy Thurston, BA ’69, is a fourth grade teacher at H.T. Burt Elementary School in Ortonville, MI.

• Donald C. Nitz, BA ’70, MPA ’76, has been chosen director of the Macomb County (MI) Juvenile Justice Center.

• Ethan Vinson, BA ’70, has been made partner at Cummings, McLorey, Davis & Acho PLC in their Livonia, MI, office.

Susan L. (Mangiarcina) Dinse, BA ’71, is retiring from Tomsk-Eastern Elementary school in Fenton, MI, where she has been the principal for 12 years.

• Kathleen Miller Eichfeld, BA ’71, has retired after 34 years of library work, most recently as reference coordinator for Calvert Library, Chesapeake Bay, MD.

• Elizabeth, A. (Hoffman) Thomas, BS ’72, MA ’80, has been appointed to the Adult Home Care Community Advisory Committee by the Guilford (NC) Board of Commissioners.

Roy E. Gerritsen, BS ’72, MA ’76, is the general manager of the Red River Radio Network, the National Public Radio affiliate at Louisiana State University at Shreveport.

Robert P. Harrison, BA ’72, has been named interim president of Lake Michigan College.

Harold F. Hoelzle, BS ’72, a science teacher at Freeland (MI) Middle School is retiring after 33 years with the school district.

• Barbara E. Mieras, BA ’72, MA ’74, MA ’84, was honored by the Michigan Women’s Foundation for her accomplishments, dedication and vision to significantly improve the lives of women and girls in the state. She is president of the Davenport University Foundation and executive vice president for advancement.

Barbara J. (Hanson) Randall, BS ’72, is head teller and account representative at the Sebewaing, MI, branch of Signature Bank.

Gloria J. (Vaughns) Robertson, MA ’72, is chairperson of the School of Education at Robert B. Miller College in Battle Creek, MI.

Peggy J. (Devendorf) Yates, BA ’72, is the new superintendent of Fenton (MI) School District.

• Gregg Balko, BS ’73, has been selected as the executive director of the Society for the Advancement of Material and Process Engineering (SAMPE) in Covina, CA.

Richard W. Doyle, BS ’73, MA ’75, MA ’96, is the principal at Jacobson Elementary School in Chandler, AZ.

Sally A. Vaughn, BA ’73, is the superintendent of Livingston (MI) Educational Service Agency.

Cheryl J. Wabeke, BS ’73, MA ’79, has opened a law office in Muskegon, MI, that specializes in Social Security and SSI disability appeals.

Cynthia A. (Young) Stull, BS ’74, MA ’76, MA ’97, is the principal at Schoolcraft (MI) Early Elementary School.

---1975 to 1985---

• Karyl L. Kramer, BS ’75, MA ’00, is a business teacher at Lee High School in Wyoming, MI.

Steven J. LaGrow, BS ’75, MA ’76, has been inducted into the Crawford AuSable (MI) School District Hall of Fame.

James A. Leja, BS ’76, MA ’79, has been named chairperson of WMU’s Department of Blindness and Low Vision Studies.

Kristine Bowman Szczesulski, BA ’76, is a school social worker at Midland (MI) Public Schools.

Martha D. Burkett, BA ’77, MPA ’01, MA ’04, is employed by the State Bar of Michigan as an assistant program administrator and recently attained certification as a National Certified Counselor through the National Board of Certified Counselors Inc.

www.wmich.edu/magazine 27
• Laurie J. St. Laurent, BA '77, MSL '78, is the new library director at the Marshall (MI) District Library.

Clayton J. Dunn, BBA '78, has been named president of Huhtamake Americas, a global packaging company in DeSoto, KS.

• Robert J. Ackerman, PhD '79, recently penned the latest addition to the "Chicken Soup" series titled "Chicken Soup for the Recovering Soul," along with other experts in the field of addiction and recovery. He is a sociology professor at Indiana University of Pennsylvania.

Vicki (Reynolds) Holsworth, BM '79, is the superintendent and principal of Republic-Michigamme Schools in Republic, MI.

Susan A. Lackey, MPA '79, is executive director of Washenaw Land Trust, which works to protect farmland, natural areas, and open spaces in and around Washtenaw County, MI.

Chuck G. O'Donnell, BS '79, has been named the president of North American Lubricants Co., a manufacturer and supplier of bulk automotive lubricants to the quick lube industry in San Juan Capistrano, CA.

• Nanette M. Keiser, BS '80, MA '96, PhD '00, is president of the Bernien Community Foundation in St. Joseph, MI.

Damell Earley, MPA '81, deputy city manager and interim finance director of the city of Saginaw, has been appointed to a four-year term on the Michigan Natural Resources Commission by Gov. Jennifer Granholm.

James J. Hahnenberg, MS '81, is a geologist with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

Steve Horvath, BS '81, is a marketing/proposal manager for Duratek, a commercial low-level radioactive waste processor in Oak Ridge, TN.

George E. Mazzotta, BBA '81, MBA '84, has been appointed chief financial officer for CNET Networks, a leading worldwide interactive media company in San Francisco.

Joe L. Mejaly, BBA '82, has been appointed vice president and general manager of AvinnMeritor, which produces a wide range of products and services for the automotive industry and is based in Troy, MI.

Laurie Neumann Nafziger, MSW '82, has been named executive vice president and chief operating officer at Oaklawn Psychiatric Center in Elkhart, IN.

Richard D. Rice, BBA '83, MBA '91, is vice president and controller of Firstbank Corp., which is based in Alma, MI.

Robin L. (Schmid) Koutchak, BS '84, is an environmental and planning attorney with North Slope Borough legal department in Barrow, AK.

LeAnne E. Silvey, MSW '84, recently published a book titled "Ordinal Position and Role Development of the Firstborn American Indian Daughter Within her Family Origin" published by Edwin Mellen Press. She is an assistant professor at Michigan State University.

Paul E. Stutesman, BA '84, has been appointed 45th District Court judge for St. Joseph County, MI.

William Bowerman, BA '85, is an associate professor of wildlife ecology and toxicology at Clemson (SC) University.

• Karen K. (Reinhold) Rees, BBA '85, has been promoted to accounting and benefits manager at the Rehmann Group, an accounting firm in Saginaw, MI.

—1986 to 1999—

Paul R. Pioszak, BA '86, is a teacher of literature and civics at Sault Area High School in Sault Ste. Marie, MI.

Debra M. Kollar, MSW '87, a school social worker at Bellevue (MI) Elementary School, has been named the 2004 Region B School Social Worker of the Year by the Michigan Association of School Social Workers.

Tim L. Peterson, BS '87, MA '04, was awarded the Conservation Award by the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution, Abiel Fellows chapter. He is the soil erosion officer and the ground water technician for the St. Joseph County (MI) Conservation District.

Douglas R. Morgenstern, BBA '99, has been named the market executive for National City Bank in Traverse City, MI.

Christopher R. Royce, BBA '99, has joined Howard & Howard, an Ann Arbor, MI-based law firm, where his practice will focus on litigation and transactional work in securities, real estate and corporate law.

Tammy M. Wilson, BS '89, MA '95, is the new principal at Lawton (MI) High School.

Heather Ballien, MA '90, is the principal at St. Charles High School in Saginaw, MI.

Michelle M. Cherveny, BS '90, has been promoted to regional vice president of marketing at the New Jersey based Lightstone Group, owner of Prime Outlets in Birch Run, MI.

• Carlton A. Richie III, BS '90, was recently named one of the team physicians for the Milwaukee Brewers and was also promoted to assistant associate professor at Midwestern University in Glendale, AZ.

Patrick G. Barrese, MS '91, a senior project consultant with Soil and Materials Engineers Inc. in Plymouth, MI, has been approved by the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality as a certified underground storage tank professional.

Karl E. Boehler, MA '91, was awarded the 2004 Distinguished Teaching Award for teaching excellence, service, professional commitment and scholarly growth at the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh.

Anna M. (Heileman) Murphy, BS '91, is the new chief professional officer and president of the United Way of Southwest Michigan.

• Amy S. Kaczanowski, BS '92, has joined Stryker Corp., a leader in the worldwide orthopedic market, as a buyer.

• Kevin A Kelly, MPA '92, has been named executive director of the Michigan State Medical Society in Lansing, MI.

Stephanie Rae (Fisher) Setterington, BA '92, has attained partner status at Varnum, Riddering, Schmidt & Howlett PC in Grand Rapids, MI.

Brian D. Tindall, BS '92, is a character technical director at Pixar Animation Studios in Emeryville, CA.

Randy S. DeBruine, MBA '93, is the city manager of Belding, MI.

Meaghan Hubbard, BBA '93, has joined the Chicago firm of Wildman Harrold Allen & Dixon LLP as an associate in the litigation practice.

Kevin A.S. Fanning, BA '94, has joined the Birmingham, MI, office of Clark Hill PLC as an associate in the litigation practice group.

James H. Schultz, BS '94, is a detective with the Fruitport (MI) Township Police Department.

Angela D. (Jones) Wiseley, MSW '94, is the new executive director at Burnham Brook, a non-profit organization that is committed to supporting the dignity and independence of older adults headquartered in Battle Creek, MI.

• Randy E. McMullin, BSW '95, MA '98, is assistant director for residence life for First-Year Experience at Drake University in Des Moines, IA.

Stacy M. Taylor, BS '95, is the owner and operator of three AppleTree Christian Learning Centers in Holland, MI.

Amy S. Flannery, BA '96, has joined Ortans Associates PC as a real estate litigation attorney.

• Amanda N. Herp, BBA '96, is the controller for Venture Out RV Center in Bakersfield, CA.
Phillip J. Miller, BS ’96, is president of MVP Solutions LLC in Belleville, MI.

Ryan Sedlow, BS ’96, airmen first class with the Air National Guard has graduated from basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio.

• Patrick Alspaugh, BS ’98, MPA ’03, was recently hired as lieutenant for the Paw Paw (MI) Village Police Department.

New Life Members

Linda W. Baird
MBA ’85, Syracuse, IN
Paul J. Buckel
BS ’92, Kotzebue, AK
Nancy J. Bufkin
BA ’82, Mary Esther, FL
Angela B. Caswell-Lapierre
BBA ’95, MA ’02, MBA ’03, Battle Creek, MI
Anthony E. Clark
BS ’96, Plainwell, MI
Lesley A. Clark
Plainwell, MI
Karl Dinse
BBA ’68, MBA ’69, Carmichael, CA
Ethelyn L. Haworth
BS ’64, Holland, MI
Richard G. Haworth
BBA ’64, Holland, MI
Patricia A. Heftler
MSW ’79, Grosse Pointe, MI
Anne E. Lloyd
BS ’74, Deerfield Beach, FL
Steven D. Miller
BS ’88, MA ’94, Portage, MI
Linda L. Neal
BS ’76, Bradenton, FL
Edward V. O’Reilly
BBA ’71, Shrewsbury, MA
Mary L. Perez
BSW ’82, MSW ’84, Paris, CA
Patricia K. Peters
BA ’93, Livonia, MI
Lee P. Reno
BS ’63, Washington, DC
Roger L. Scheffler
BBA ’71, Grand Rapids, MI
Robert Walter Taylor
BA ’66, MA ’67, PhD ’70, Las Vegas, NV
Larry F. Tolbert
BA ’75, Kalamazoo
Robert P. Walsh
BBA ’78, Battle Creek, MI
Rodney J. Wellman
BBA ’71, Akron, OH
Elizabeth Betsy L. White
BA ’85, Ocala, FL

Angelique Biehl, MA ’98, was named High School Science Teacher of the Year by the Michigan Science Teachers Association. She teaches at Portage (MI) Northern High School.

Gretchen Eichberger-Kudlack, BS ’98, is the director of the Manistee Benzie Area Children’s Chorus and is also a first grade teacher in Onekama, MI.

Zachary D. Gordon, BBA ’98, has been promoted to vice president of finance at SPX Fluid Power based in Rockford, IL.

J. Courtney Goss, BA ’98, is the director of development at UMass Hillel in Amherst, MA.

Liza Lee Keckler, BA ’98, is a producer at Screaming Flea Productions in Seattle.

Jeffrey M. Lauer, BA ’98, has been promoted to assistant principal at Dow High School in Midland, MI.

Stephanie D. Blair, BS ’99, MA ’03, is an occupational therapist at Texas County Memorial Hospital in Houston.

Danielle T. Kronk, BA ’99, is the new deputy editor of the Concord (NH) Monitor.

Brandon P. Sutkowski, BBA ’99, has joined the sales staff at Meadowbrook Insurance Agency in Saginaw, MI.

Ronald R. Zant Jr., BS ’99, is the managing partner and owner of Physician Management Partners LLC, a healthcare consulting business in Muskegon, MI.

—2000 to 2004—

Ingo M. Kaufman, BA ’00, has been promoted to the rank of first lieutenant in the U.S. Army. He was awarded the Bronze Star in August 2004 for meritorious service in combat.

John M. Khoury Jr., BS ’00, has opened Khoury Dental Center in Oxford, MI.

Tim A. Ruffini, MBA ’00, has been named to the 2005 “Business Leaders Under 40” list by Western Michigan Business Review. He is a product manager at iZyDesign, a furniture design company based in Spring Lake, MI.

• Leland K. Shea, BS ’00, was awarded the Bronze Star for Operation Iraqi Freedom. Until recently, he was a captain in the active duty Army.

• Pamela K. Stants, BS ’00, was recognized for serving on the Clinton-Eaton-Ingham (MI) Community Mental Health Authority Board of Directors.

• Daniel R. Bursch, BBA ’01, is the assistant director of admissions operations at Hamline University in St. Paul, Minnesota.

Madeline L. Davis, BA ’01, MA ’04, is an English teacher at Lincoln High School in Ypsilanti, MI.

Darrell Johnson, MA ’01, PhD ’04, has been appointed director of WMU’s Battle Creek campus in addition to being director of the Lansing campus.

Kelli J. Talicska, BS ’01, MA ’04, former Miss Michigan, recently accepted a job as a speech-language pathologist in a private California practice.

Scott R. Hughey, BS ’02, is a soil conservationist with the U.S. Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service’s Oceana County field office in Shelby, MI.

Rahul Laxman Iyer, MSE ’02, is a quality engineer at Askin Seiki Co. Ltd. in Marion, IL.

• Jennifer A. Lipson, BA ’03, is an eighth grade teacher with Plymouth-Canton (MI) Schools.

Stefanie O. Porolniczak, BA ’03, is the promotion director for the three stations of Entercom Radio Group in Indianapolis.

Stacy L. Putnam, BS ’03, is an environmental and energy policy consultant with ICF Consulting, a leading management, technology and policy consulting firm in Fairfax, VA.

David P. Rasak, BA ’03, is a residential sales associate and realtor at Bruce G. Pollock & Associates Inc. in Grand Blanc, MI.

Ryan P. Findlay, BA ’04, has been named the regional representative for Michigan Farm Bureau’s northeast region, based in Lansing, MI.

Dustin A. Lucius, BS ’04, recently joined the Fenton Fire Department. He is a land surveyor with Allied Land Surveying in Linden, MI.

Kyle W. Mayer, MA ’04, is the elementary principal for the Bronson (MI) School District.

Megan N. Rutherford, BBA ’04, is a national education specialist for the Fort Wayne office of Eye Pro, a company that sells eye protection for tanning salons.

• Steve A. Siebelink, BBA ’04, is a financial representative for Northwestern Mutual Financial Network in Holland, MI.

Jason C. Tebedo, BA ’04, a second lieutenant in the U.S. Army, has graduated from the armor officer basic course at Fort Knox, KY.

www.wmich.edu/magazine 29
Marjorie (Chaplin) Snively, TC '27, March 2, 2005, in Marshall, MI
Charlotte R. (Strabbing) Corrow, BS '32, Feb. 20, 2005, in Seal Beach, CA
Isadore A. Robbins, BA '35, Feb. 11, 2005, in Grand Rapids, MI
James C. Stewart, BS '35, Aug. 4, 2003, in Seal Beach, CA
Edith M. (Milton) Noble, BS '37, June 21, 2005, in Byron Center, MI
Elizabeth M. (Harris) Willard, BS '38, May 21, 2005, in Florence, TX
Alberdeen W. (Frick) Humphrey, BS '39, Feb. 11, 2003, in Kokomo, IN
Deborah V. (Dart) Powers, BS '40, MA '65, Sept. 18, 2004, in Fremont, MI
Floyd B. Haremski, BS '43, April 3, 2005, in Grand Rapids, MI
Hannah M. Lundy, BS '43, MA '68, June 19, 2005, in Niles, MI
Eileen M. Yates, BS '44, June 20, 2005, in Los Alamos, CA
Ardelle R. (McConnell) Boettcher, BA '46, March 6, 2005, in Lansing, MI
Arvila L. Dyer, BS '46, Sept. 23, 2004, in Plainfield, MA
Eletha A. (Welcher) Martelle, BS '46, May 3, 2005, in Marshall, CA
Jeanne L. (Primeau) Brown, BA '47, Feb. 5, 2003, in Light House Point, FL
Edwin A. Leak, BS '48, June 10, 2005, in Portage, MI
Ralph L. Wells, BM '49, June 3, 2005, in Grand Rapids, MI
Grant H. Eldred, BA '50, MA '64, May 25, 2005, in Portage, MI
Robert A. Schultz, BS '51, Feb. 21, 2005, in Bonita Springs, FL
Roland G. Vashaw, BM '51, MA '57, June 9, 2005, in Venice, FL
Roger Weiher, BS '51, June 26, 2005, in Toledo, OH
Alice L. Racine, BS '52, April 12, 2004, in Grand Rapids, MI
Cleveland G. Butler, BA '53, Nov. 6, 2004, in Baldwin Hills, CA
Jack W. Hunt, TC '53, BS '53, May 12, 2005, in Portage, MI
Nancy E. VanEpps, TC '53, June 20, 2005, in Pensacola, FL
Gary G. Graham, BS '55, March 30, 2005, in Battle Creek, MI
Alfred B. Worde, BS '55, MA '62, March 6, 2005, in Marshall, MI
Eileen B. (Schmerm) Boss, BA '56, MA '59, May 13, 2005, in Zeeland, MI
James W. Nycum, TC '50, BS '56, MA '56, July 8, 2005, in Kalamazoo
Clare A. Poilons, BA '56, MA '60, May 6, 2005, in Portage, MI
James F. Starr, BA '56, Feb. 16, 2005, in Grand Rapids, MI
Margaret Klinekster, BS '57, June 24, 2004, in Baton Rouge, LA
George M. Travers, BBA '57, May 17, 2005, in Glen Ellyn, IL
Donald E. Bruggeman, BA '58, Nov. 25, 2004, in Richfield, OH
Sylvia J. Lovat, BS '58, Aug. 19, 2004, in Allen Park, MI
Robert J. Weick, MA '58, July 1, 2004, in Fort Wayne, IN
Ivah F. (Miller) Carlson, BS '59, Sept. 1, 2003, in Rockford, MI
Ted F. McCarty, BBA '59, May 1, 2005, in Harbor Springs, MI
Delbert B. Beelick, BBA '60, MBA '66, EdD '70, July 8, 2005, in Sacramento, CA
William C. Corbin, BS '61, May 24, 2005, in Wallatosa, WI
Barbara J. (Say) Smith, BS '62, May 29, 2005, in Dowagiac, MI
Pauline (Becker) Zeber, MA '62, Feb. 18, 2004, in Minocqua, WI
Margaret A. (Rumey) Kowalski, BS '63, MA '66, May 29, 2005, in Portage, MI
Verna M. Shaw, BS '63, March 12, 2005, in Hesperia, MI
Lajanna J. Emery, BM '64, July 17, 2005, in Portage, MI
Gerald G. Ritenburgh, MA '65, Sept. 3, 2004, in Escanaba, MI
Martha H. Vile, BA '65, Feb. 2, 2003, in Fremont, MI
Glenn L. Werner, MBA '65, April 13, 2005, in Battle Creek, MI
Julia (Jordan) Culver, BS '66, April 5, 2005, in Dowagiac, MI
Stanford E. Williams, BS '66, MA '71, May 27, 2005, in Kalamazoo
Dolores T. Logel, BA '67, MA '88, June 12, 2005, in Kalamazoo
Theresa M. Powers, BS '67, May 16, 2005, in Kalamazoo
Eleanor R. Amos, BS '68, Feb. 6, 2005, in Bangor, MI
Louise K. Lyman, BS '68, May 31, 2005, in Melanoma, AZ
James W. Mills, BBA '68, March 6, 2005, in Belmont, MI
Dirk M. Nebbeling, TC '66, MA '68, June 11, 2005, in Caledonia, MI
Duane L. Cober, BS '69, Nov. 16, 2004, in Comstock Park, MI
Patricia M. Donaldson, BS '71, Sept. 28, 2004, in Dearborn, MI
John E. Littell, BBA '71, May 2, 2005, in Indianapolis
James J. Tobis, BS '73, MBA '77, July 13, 2005, in Raleigh, NC
Kenneth M. Welbes, BS '73, Jan. 2, 2004, in Muskegon, MI
Jeffrey T. Henderson, MA '75, MBA '88, June 28, 2005, in Calabash, NC
Douglas G. Summerville, BBA '75, May 5, 2005, in Fulton, MI
Larry VanWyngarden, MA '75, May 23, 2005, in Vancouver, WA
Janus R. Storey, MLS '77, Aug. 3, 2003, in Ypsilanti, MI
Willie L. Hopkins, BSE '78, March 2, 2005, in Benton Harbor, MI
William E. McGraw, BBA '78, June 18, 2005, in Paw Paw, MI
John H. Doran, BA '79, Dec. 31, 2003, in Ann Arbor, MI
Edgar J. Zumbers, BS '79, June 9, 2005, in Kalamazoo
Barbara J. Weir, BS '80, MPA '96, April 20, 2005, in Jackson, MI
Matthew J. Cygan, BBA '81, July 11, 2005, in Kalamazoo
Thomas E. Higgins, EdD '84, March 14, 2004, in Gaylord, MI
Ellumae A. Vujich, BA '85, May 9, 2005, in Kalamazoo
Judith A. Boughton, MS '86, Feb. 5, 2005, in Albuquerque, NM
Charlene K. Russell, MSW '87, March 30, 2005, in Clinton Township, MI
Lawrence C. Winston, BS '87, July 15, 2005, in Minneapolis
Jean H. Jones, BA '84, MA '88, May 7, 2005, in Portage, MI
Michael P. Hudeck, BS '94, July 19, 2005, in Mattawan, MI
Leo D. Magee, BS '97, June 1, 2005, in Kalamazoo
Nancy G. Kirk, BS '00, July 3, 2004, in Rockford, MI
Kay D. Mann, BS '03, July 10, 2004, in Battle Creek, MI

Faculty

Thomas Amos, associate professor in university libraries, July 28, 2005, in Kalamazoo.
Frederick Everett, professor emeritus in accountancy, in Florida.
William C. Gross, associate professor in health, physical education and recreation, April 7, 2005, in Greenville, MI.
Rex E. Hall, associate professor emeritus in engineering technology, Feb. 24, 2005, in Kalamazoo.
Fred V Hartenstein, professor emeritus in management, May 2, 2005, in Prescott, AZ.
Helmi K. Mouton, professor emerita in art, April 2, 2005, in Las Vegas.
CENTENNIAL BANNERS
Measuring 30" x 94", these banners were created for the 2003 WMU Centennial Celebration. All banners have stitched pockets top and bottom for ease in hanging. They have never been installed out-of-doors. Five photographic images are available. $25 each or five for $100. Specify banner choice by name.

BROWN AND GOLDEN MEMORIES
BY LARRY B. MASSIE
A publication commemorating WMU's first 100 years
This engaging collection of stories, memories, traditions and historical facts was commissioned for WMU's centennial anniversary. "Brown and Golden Memories" chronicles, decade by decade, the 100-year journey of what started as Western State Normal School. More than 250 historical photos are included to help illustrate the highlights of that journey. Was $35, now $15. Available, in stock.

WMU PRINTED SILK NECKTIES
Gold-on-yellow printed silk necktie, WMU 1903-2003 logo in gold with black outline, yellow background. Was $25, now $15. 26 remain.

Gold-on-gold printed silk necktie, WMU 1903-2003 logo in gold with black outline, gold background. Was $25, now $15. 17 remain.

WOMEN'S BROWN SILK SQUARE SCARF
Women's brown gold silk scarf, 36" square, imported silk, brown background and gold centennial seal, trimmed in gold. Was $46, now $15. Six remain.

Call 269-387-8402 to inquire about availability.
Not all items on Web site.

www.ur.wmich.edu/centennial/merchandise.html
Escape from computing class was start of IT business success

For this student turned CEO, being an entrepreneur is one of life's givens

"Entrepreneurship is in my blood," says Matthew Mace, explaining how he managed to run a business through high school, carry it over to his undergraduate days at WMU and wind up as a young alum who is now president and CEO of one of Michigan's 2005 "Top 50 Companies to Watch."

The Haworth College of Business alumnus isn't about to sit back and reflect on his accomplishments, though. A 1998 alumnus, he's just getting started. His company, BlueGranite, is a consulting and technology services company focused on making information work more efficiently for corporate clients around the region. His focus is on decision-makers within a four-hour drive of Kalamazoo. He's also out to triple the size of BlueGranite's revenue over the next five years.

Mace, a native of Nashville, Mich., has been in business for himself since high school, when he founded Mace Consulting and worked in tandem with a local computer store to orient people to computing technology and the Internet. As a WMU undergraduate, he continued his business and worked on first Web sites for such entities as WMU's Lee Honors College and Flexfab, a Hastings, Mich., company where he was an intern. But it was a fateful attempt to avoid a required basic computing class that sealed his fate.

"My computing 101 instructor gave me the opportunity to work on a special IT project with the honors college instead of attending the regular class sessions on materials I already knew," recalls Mace. "It was through Jeff McNutt of the Lee Honors College that I met Dan Blackledge, who is now my business partner and the chairman and founder of BlueGranite."

When they met in 1996, Blackledge owned a company called Alpha Graphics that was embarking on a Web site development partnership with AT&T, and he needed a good technical person—a Web developer at a time when barely anyone knew what a Web site was. Mace was interviewed by Blackledge and the company's board and a deal was struck on the spot. Mace Consulting closed its doors, and Mace brought his small portfolio of clients to the company that ultimately became Blue Granite.

What started in 1996 as a tiny firm with just three full-time staffers now employs 24, and the company operates from a spot in WMU's Business Technology and Research Park. At any given time, BlueGranite has about 40 active projects—professional project work for the kind of companies Mace calls "early adopters—companies that want to be the first to use emerging technologies such as RFID (Radio Frequency Identification)." He calls the partnership with the University critical and says being on the campus makes a powerful comment about the firm's status and credibility and vision.

"We're looking for innovative clients who want to take advantage of new technology and need a company like ours to help navigate as they move from exploring technology to implementing it."
Whether you're celebrating
— coming to Western
— graduating, or
— remembering the
days that were...
we have that special
something just
for you!

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www.wmuonline.com
“Beariscope” by Thomas Cooper is one of several award-winning nature photos by the 1980 business-marketing graduate of WMU.

Photographed in March 2001 in northern Canada, “Beariscope” has earned honors in two international photo contests. It and other Cooper photos have been featured in Nature’s Best magazine, on Hallmark greeting cards and in the magazine, calendars and greeting cards of the National Wildlife Federation. “Beariscope” was one of 40 photos selected for a 2003 world-touring exhibition sponsored by the Smithsonian Institution’s National Museum of Natural History.

In honor of WMU’s centennial, Cooper donated a print of “Beariscope” to the University’s permanent art collection. More photos by Cooper can be seen on the Web at www.coopersimages.com.

www.wmich.edu/magazine

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