Western Michigan University Newsletter, October 1964

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13,770 STUDENTS NEW RECORD

WMU Enrollment Continues to Soar

Western’s current enrollment of 13,770 students set a new record for the 13th consecutive year. Not since Sept., 1951 when 3,508 students attended classes has the new enrollment figure failed to top the previous all-time high.

And projections foresee Western’s student population continuing to soar until it reaches 20,000 by 1969.

This fall’s total is a whopping 14.6 percent larger than last fall, a gain of 1,756 students. By comparison, college enrollment on a nationwide basis this fall shows a gain of an estimated seven percent.

President James W. Miller said, “Western Michigan University is fortunate that advance planning made it possible to accommodate this enrollment increase. The University is eager to do all possible to meet the requirements of Michigan’s young people who are well qualified and who have a desire for higher education.”

For the first time, the junior class is larger than the sophomore class. This means that more and more community college students in Michigan are continuing their education and are transferring to Western after completing two years at college level in their own localities.

The junior class numbers 2,877, an increase of 565 over last year. President Miller termed this year’s increase a dramatic development in higher education in Michigan. Seniors also gained 473 this fall, to reach 2,620.

The greatest percentage augment this fall, as was also the case last year, is in the ranks of WMU’s graduate students, who total 1,755, a gain of 270, or 18.1 percent. President Miller described this gain as indicative of an enrollment and a strong academic growth in the School of Graduate Studies.

As a consequence of this significant upper class gain, 52.6 percent of

Sen. Humphrey Draws Nearly 9,000 at WMU

Western’s newly enlarged Read Field House accommodated its biggest crowd so far when Democratic vice presidential nominee Hubert H. Humphrey spoke before nearly 9,000 persons on Sept. 25 at the invitation of the WMU senior class. His WMU stop of about an hour was one segment of a rapid speech-making trip through Michigan that day. He said he was highly pleased with the size of his audience, made up mostly of Western students.

Sharing the speaker’s platform with Senator Humphrey were senior class president Michael L. Gulino of Benton Harbor and a panel of three students who read questions from the audience to Senator Humphrey to answer after his speech.

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Dr. Willis Dunbar greeted the experts who attended the conference at WMU. On Dr. Dunbar's left is Dr. Paul L. Maier, who is directing the study. To Dr. Dunbar's right is WMU President Dr. James W. Miller, next to him is Dr. Russell H. Seibert, vice president for academic affairs and on his right is Dale P. Pattison, assistant professor of history, who is assisting in the study.

Dr. Paul Maier Heads Faculty Team in History Course Study

The three-day conference on "The Improvement of College and University Courses in the History of Civilization" held at WMU in late June has been considered in many quarters to be perhaps the most significant conclave of its kind held in some time.

The major objectives of the conference, which attracted 15 of the nation's leading history professors, authors of textbooks and authorities on teaching methods, were varied. However, major topics of discussion included deficiencies in college courses on the history of civilization and suggested means of improving the courses and establishing guidelines for future improvements in such courses.

Out of the conference has come a full three year study of the problems discussed, to be carried on by project director Dr. Paul L. Maier, associate professor of history at Western, under a $37,157 grant from the U.S. Office of the Department of Health, Education and Welfare.

Dr. Maier will be assisted in the project by Dr. Willis F. Dunbar, head of the history department, and Charles R. Starring, Dr. Robert Hahn and Dale P. Pattison, all members of the history department faculty.

The project will be accomplished on a national scale and will include distribution of questionnaires to history instructors and interviews with many of them. Colleges and universities around the nation may obtain the results of the project.

The project committee will be advised by an interdepartmental board composed of political science, economics, art, literature, philosophy and education faculty members at Western.

University Assembly Programs Announced

Western's 1964-65 University Assembly programs has some stellar attractions during the coming school year, including music, lectures and dramatic presentations.

Perhaps the best known will be actor Hal Holbrook who'll present his Mark Twain Tonight program March 29 in one of his rare appearances outside of the New York area.

On Nov. 23 the New York road production of the play Spoon River will be presented at Kalamazoo Central High School auditorium.

The woman who inspired the popular musical comedy The Sound of Music will be the featured lecturer March 16 in the University Center. Baroness Maria von Trapp, mother of the famed Trapp Family singing group, will discuss highlights of her adventure-filled life.

Violinist Henryk Szeryng will make his second appearance with the WMU Symphony Orchestra on April 14. He was soloist last year with the WMU symphony.

A Spanish dance group, Jos Molina Bailes Españoles, will be featured at Central auditorium March 9, while a musical group from India will present The Ravi Shankar Concert Oct. 28 in the University Center.

Two visiting scholars are included in the series, featuring Dr. David Sellman Nov. 10 and J. W. Getzels Oct. 29.

The WMU assembly programs are free to students and faculty members and the general public is admitted to available seats about 15 minutes prior to the start of each program.

Fred Bailey Wins Muskegon Honor

Fred Bailey, coordinator of the Muskegon Area Field Services Office, this spring was named winner of the 15th annual Jonathan Walker Award presented by the Muskegon Urban League. The award cites the person who contributed the most to the Muskegon area's civil rights movement over the preceding year.

The award is named for Captain Jonathan Walker, who aided slaves in escaping to the north before the Civil War. Walker is buried at Muskegon.
(ENROLLMENT continued)

Western's student body are either juniors, seniors or graduate students.

Fifty-five percent of Western's students hail from southwestern Michigan this fall, compared to 57 percent last fall, as an apparent trend away from state regional university status continues. Kalamazoo county accounts for 3,313 students, or 27 percent.

Other Michigan counties sending large numbers of students to WMU are Wayne, 1,685, nearly 400 more than last year; Oakland, 843, up by 196; Kent, 840, a gain of 235; Berrien, 560; and Calhoun 529. Eighty of Michigan's 83 counties are represented.

The number of out-of-state students remains at a low 10 percent of the total enrollment, with the neighboring states of Indiana, with 406, and Illinois, with 352, showing the largest totals.

Western's full-time-equated students total 12,041, a 15.2 percent hike over last year. A full-time-equated student is an undergraduate taking 15½ hours of credit or a graduate student taking 12 hours.

Ten Persons Win WMU Special Education Grants

Ten persons are attending special education classes for one year at Western starting this fall under a $57,600 grant from the U.S. Office of Health, Education and Welfare. The grant will finance five fellowships for graduate students and five traineeships for senior undergraduates in the preparation of professional personnel in the education of mentally handicapped children.

Each of the graduate students will receive a stipend of $2,000 a year plus tuition and fees while the undergraduates will each receive $1,600 a year in addition to tuition and fees.

The graduate fellowships and the undergraduate traineeships are for full-time study with major emphasis in the area of mentally handicapped children. An individual may be granted four fellowships under the program, which is intended to encourage the expansion of teaching handicapped children.

The five persons who began graduate work this fall are: Mrs. Jeanette Tredinnick of Hastings, Betsy Ross of Bronson, George Jacob of Holland, Mrs. Mary L. Warrick of Dowagiac and Mrs. Marjorie B. Neese of Niles. Undergraduates are Sharon Kahal of Romulus, Virginia Ingersoll of Kalamazoo, Patricia M. Popma of Wyoming, Mich., Russell Andreetti of Saginaw and Richard G. Fox of Michigan City, Ind., all seniors.

WMU A Leader In Psychology MA's

Western Michigan University is one of the ten leading universities in the United States in the awarding of master's degrees in the field of psychology, according to a recent study of graduate education as prepared by the American Psychological Association. The study was made by the Central Office of the A.P.A. in Washington, D.C.

The report reveals that the 23 persons who received master's degrees in psychology from Western during the 1962-63 academic year placed WMU in the top 10, numbers-wise, along with Columbia, Ohio State, Temple, Purdue and Boston University, among others.

Student is Political Intern in Washington, D.C.

A pre-law junior from Kalamazoo this summer spent six weeks in Washington, D.C. in an internship program with the Republican Party Policy Committee of the U.S. House of Representatives.

Benjamin Cannon was selected for the internship training program by the Michigan Center for Education in Politics, which moved its permanent headquarters to the WMU campus this fall. Dr. Robert Kaufman, associate professor of political science, is the new and first permanent director of the MCEP.

Dr. David Lewis Wins Federal Grant

A research project aimed at developing instruments for use in assessing the nature of social relationships between university students and faculty members will be undertaken by Dr. David M. Lewis, assistant professor of sociology and anthropology at WMU.
Swim Team Opens Dec. 5

There's an old sports axiom which says never look behind and this is particularly true in swimming, if at all. But you can't blame WMU swimming coach Ed Gabel if he steals an occasional glance back to last year's highly successful team. Ed may also glimpse at the record of 24 straight dual meet wins and two consecutive Mid-American Conference titles which this season's team will defend starting December 5th in the Mid-American Relays at Oxford, Ohio.

Gone via graduation from last year's great squad are five top-notch performers: Bill Cutler, Joel Gaff, Beau Toll, George Runciman and Tony Toporski, all of whom were point winners in the last two league meets.

However, Gabel has some bright prospects back, including freestyler Ron Pohlonski, a Dearborn junior; backstroke star Eric Evenson, a senior from Dearborn; Bob Kent of Grand Haven, senior diver; Nick Herrick, Plymouth senior, who excels in the butterfly and freestyle events; John Woods, Grosse Pointe Shores junior in the butterfly; Dennis Noll of Lincoln Park, a junior diver; and Doug Bottomley, a junior from Midland, individual medley and breaststroke events.

Western's dual meet unbeaten string of 24 goes on the line for the first time Dec. 12 at Northern Illinois. The first chance the home folks will have to see Gabel's splashing in action will be Jan. 13 against Albion (7:30 p.m.). Other home meets are: Jan. 16, Bowling Green (2 p.m.); Feb. 13, Loyola (2 p.m.); March 6, Miami (2 p.m.); March 11-13, Mid-American Conference championships. Other road meets are: Jan. 9 at Ohio; Jan. 23 at Kent; Jan. 30 at Western Ontario; Feb. 3 at Ball State; Feb. 6 at Notre Dame; and Feb. 20 at North Central, Ill.

Wrestling Team Has Balance

This year's WMU wrestling squad is expected to have better balance than last season when coach Roy Wietz' grappling Broncos posted a 3-5 record in dual meets and finished sixth in the MAC with 12 points.

Gone from last year's squad are Carl Latora, who won league titles in the 130 pound division in his last two years, and Bill Underwood, consistent point-getter in the 123 pound division. Both won three varsity letters in wrestling.

Unless injuries crop up, Wietz will have depth in all weights. Returning lettermen are: Pat Harrington, Wall ed Lake junior, 130 pounds; Bill Shelton, Southfield junior, 147 pounds; Dennis Brant, Hammond, Ind. senior, 157-167 pounds; Joe Colagross, Lansing senior, 177 pounds; and Don Shelton, Jackson junior, heavyweight.

The squad began working out in its new 100 x 40 foot wrestling room in the P.E. addition in mid-October, along with the freshmen. The spacious facility can accommodate both squads and has 60 lockers for wrestlers.