Dedicated, visionary individuals laid strong foundation for WMU's future

The air hummed with excitement when Western Michigan Normal School opened its doors to 117 students in summer 1904. The time was right for something special to happen, and indeed it would. From the outset, the institution approached its mission with a flair all its own.

Dedicated, Western grew out of America's need to provide qualified normal school teachers where about one-fifth of the state's population resided. From the outset, the institution approached its mission with a flair all its own.

From Dream to Reality
Western grew out of America's need to provide qualified teachers to educate its growing populace. By the turn of the century, Michigan had three normal schools and the push was on to have a fourth located in West Michigan, where about one-fifth of the state's population resided.

The region's lobbying efforts were rewarded on May 27, 1903, when Gov. Aaron T. Bliss signed the bill creating Western Michigan Normal School. Kalamazoo was selected as the new school's home, in large part because of its central location and accessibility and its enthusiastic residents, who had lobbied for the institution.

Building Up
State officials chose to place the normal school atop Prospect Hill, the impressive eminence off of Oakland Drive that overlooked downtown Kalamazoo to the east. Unexpected difficulties in obtaining title to the land and growing slopes initially delayed construction activities. Classes met in various buildings around town until Western could construct its own facilities.

In the early years, Western's primary focus was training rural teachers. Recognizing that training rural teachers would be an important function, following Waldo's recommendation, the state allowed Western to create the nation's first rural school department. "In creating a rural school department," Waldo said, "the new normal will become unique among normal schools of the country. No other normal school has such a department..."

In its early years, Western's curriculum was consistent with Michigan's other two-year teacher-training schools. Only a few teaching certificate programs in a few subject areas were offered. Teacher preparation remained Western's primary focus in the 1950s as it gradually developed from a two-year normal school into a degree-granting teachers' college.

By 1958, however, a much different institution graced the rolling hills of Kalamazoo's west side. All references to Western's teacher-training mission had been removed from its name and "Western Michigan University" was a national leader in several non-teaching fields.

Guiding Hands
Much of Western's success has grown out of the efforts of its top-notch faculty and administrators, who early on laid foundation blocks which were strong enough to support the weight of the comprehensive, national university it is today. Armed with expertise, foresight, and a cooperative professionalism, they enhanced the institution decade by decade.

The Carnegie Commission was to say some years later, the most successful school in the United States in carrying out that transformation from normal school to university was WMU. "Dr. Philip Dennyfield, former provost and vice president for academic affairs, noted during the 1986 Academic Convocation, "I have great respect for the Western of the 1950s... We were good, very good, and, as one of the top five producers of teachers in the United States, we were nationally recognized for the quantity and quality of our graduates. We worked with the clarity and sure direction that produced our teacher preparation program...."

Fingertip Facts
Great educational institutions offer great instructional facilities, and Western Michigan University has traditionally provided its students with some of the most advanced facilities in the Midwest and nation.

Above: Early in its history, East Campus drew widespread recognition for its sophisticated library, science faculty, recital hall, and gymnasium. Left: Today, buildings like the state-of-the-art Waldo Library/University Computing Center complex are keeping WMU on the cutting edge. (For more about Western's history as well as its future plans, turn to pages 4 and 5.)
Buckley, White win teaching excellence awards

The WMU Alumni Association has presented 1994 Alumni Teaching Excellence Awards to two outstanding teachers.

Dr. Joseph Buckley, associate professor of mathematics and statistics, was cited for making calculus more accessible to students and for his teaching style, continually improving his work in the classroom and seeking to provide extra time outside of class.

Dr. Bob E. White, B.S., M.S., '76, professor of industrial engineering and coordinator of the Coordinating Committee for Introduction to Engineering, was cited for making the course more enjoyable for students and organizing student education and design competitions.

WMU Foundation elects 1994-95 officers

Richard G. Carlson, B.B.A. '71, managing director of national real estate services for DeLeotte & Hartsuff in Chicago, Illinois, has been elected chairperson of the WMU Foundation for 1994-95. Carlson is a former WMU Alumni Association president. Two other foundation members were elected to one-year terms—Gregory J. Fettke, B.B.A. '73, trustee and public relations director for AMCO; and Hazel L. Starcher, assistant to the dean in the College of Health and Human Services. Starcher has been a staff member of Western Michigan University Board of Trustees in the college since its inception in 1976.

Distinguished Service Award winners announced

Dr. Richard M. Oshandler, associate professor in the Counseling Center, has won the 1994-95 Distinguished Service Award. Oshandler has been a counseling psychologist in the center since 1978.

The other 1994 recipient was Hazel L. Starcher, assistant to the dean in the College of Health and Human Services. Starcher has been a staff member in the college since its inception in 1976.

Three new administrative appointments made

Dr. Rollin G. Douma has been named dean of the Graduate College effective December 16. Douma had been interim dean of the college since 1993. From 1979 to 1992 he had served as associate dean of the college. He came to WMU in 1970 as a faculty member in the Department of English.

Barb Douma, Karen Santamaria and Bruce Koons have each been appointed assistant director of alumni relations. Russell will be responsible for alumni constituent groups, Homecoming events, and reunions. She has been business manager and publisher for WMU's Department of Theatre.

Karen T. Santamaria has been appointed assistant director of the annual fund. Santamaria will assist in managing and implementing current WMU fundraising efforts. She has been an associate director of Kalamazoo College's annual fund.

Honorary degree awarded to college's founder

WMU awarded an honorary doctor of education degree to Dato Jeffrey Cheah, president of the United Malayan University College in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, during commencement exercises December 17 in Miller Auditorium. WMU is the only U.S.-based higher education partner in Malaysia's "swimming" concept, through which it will soon accept two of its two degree work at Sunway then transfer to a cooperating foreign university to complete it.

Academic programs becoming stronger

After three years of planning and development, the School of Social Sciences became an independent college on November 14 by the WMU Board of Trustees. The Michigan State Board of Education had approved the school's charter on November 9. The new college has a mission to improve the quality of social sciences education at WMU, to provide opportunities for research and training and to provide improved services to the community. The college is housed in the former Engineering building.

President Dieter H. Haenicke's recommendations to retain three of four sports—"signaled last spring for possible termination and to move aggressively toward gender equity were approved this November by the Western Michigan University Board of Trustees. Meinerd stressed that all student athletes presently receiving aid in men's gymnastics will continue to do so as long as they maintain NCAA and WMU academic standards. NCAA rules will permit WMU's male gymnasts to transfer and be eligible for competition immediately with no waiting period, he said.

If the possible reduction in the size of WMU's sports programs was announced in June, Meinerd established six committees to evaluate specific issues. Final recommendations were to be made to the president by early 1995. Meinerd said the six committees will continue to function in completing their studies.

Haenicke said he accepted the process because of the anxiety that was created for a number of student athletes, their coaches, parents, families, and fans. He noted that WMU is paying for the irreversible cost of academic and athletic achievement. He expressed a strong desire to achieve gender equity and parity without creating acrimony within the Division of Intercollegiate Athletics between women and men athletes. "I want to preserve our high quality of campus life, avoid divisiveness, and preserve sports with international appeal," he said.

Stories from the Wildcat News

Alumni father and son win election bids

Michigan's talented father and son teams earned their bids October 11 at the MAC meet. The football team finished fourth while the women finished in third place.

The football team ended its season November 19 with a 17-14 loss to Southern Western Michigan University, posting a 7-4 overall record and tying for third place in the MAC with a 2-3 conference record. This was the team's fifth straight winning season and was the first time since 1978 that it compiled three consecutive seven-win seasons.

In other news, Kevin Haverdink, an offensive tackle who successfully "bailer out" a Student with a back injury, received his bachelor's degree in economics December 8.

Women's sports season brings highs and lows

The men's and women's cross country teams ended their seasons October 31 at the MAC meet. The men finished fifth while the women finished in third place.

The football team ended its season November 19 with a 17-14 loss to Southern Western Michigan University, posting a 7-4 overall record and tying for third place in the MAC with a 2-3 conference record. This was the team's fifth straight winning season and was the first time since 1978 that it compiled three consecutive seven-win seasons.

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Recent building-related activities cross all campus boundaries

Above: WMU unveiled the Student Recreation Center and Read Fieldhouse Complex on August 29 with dedication ceremonies marking the culmination of a decade of preparatory and construction work. Joined by an elevated walkway, the two buildings are the major parts of a $60 million renovation and expansion of WMU’s facilities for student recreation and intercollegiate athletics. Construction of the Student Recreation Center began in March 1992 with a $22.4 million project cost.

Above left: A $9 million East Campus health and human services center was dedicated September 6 as part of a joint venture between WMU, the Michigan State University Center for Medical Studies, Borgess Medical Center, and Bronson Methodist Hospital. The project included construction of a four-story building and renovation of an existing one. The two structures are now attached and referred to as the University Medical and Health Sciences Center. WMU’s portion, the new building’s top two floors (called WMU Unified Clinics) was privately funded. It provides room to consolidate several of the University’s health and human services clinics.

Above right: Public and University officials broke ground October 24 for the renovation of facilities to expand WMU’s Sciences Division I-A membership and will include 350 covered, premium seats.

Left: A new water sculpture in the Waldo Library Plaza was dedicated September 24 to honor those Michigan citizens who have provided outstanding service to WMU as members of its governing board. Named the Trustee Fountain, it was designed to commemorate the WMU Board of Trustees’ thirtieth anniversary. Twenty-six persons, including the current eight members, have served on the board. The fountain was funded by private contributions to the WMU Foundation, with a major gift donated by an alumni couple (below) from St. Joseph, B. A., B. A. Ed., B. A. Ed., M. D. A. Ed., and Judith Will E. B. D. The sculpture features three fountains spilling into a shallow pool. The water simulates a crew with oarsmen rowing down to rapids and into the pool, which is lined with stones and surrounded by benches and gravel.
Exciting East Campus changes bring new life to WMU's "historic district"

Grooving to the music of change, the horseshoes line up in the sand. The image of the old West Campus buildings fades into the background as the new, modern structures rise in their place. The transformation of East Campus is evident, and the future looks promising.

Changes are afoot on East Campus that threaten to stir up fond memories of bygone days. New construction and renovation projects are dropping a fireball onto the grounds of Western Michigan University, drastically altering the face of the campus. That all changed in 1952 when a new Administration Building opened on West Campus. Although one of the first buildings to be constructed, it marked a shift away from the original campus. A similar shift occurred in 1991, as the West Campus was first Coming.

Everything old is new again

The Campus Training Center, a former elementary school, offers a unique opportunity to students.

In 1995, the Campus Training Center, a former elementary school, offers a unique opportunity to students.

Dr. James W. Miller is named president of Western Michigan University and serves for thirteen years, becoming known as a champion of the arts. He was re-elected to his second term in 1988.

1980

Vandercook Hall, built in 1939 for men; and Spindler, named West Hall. By 1966, WMU's two oldest buildings are complete.

School's Great West Campus offices begin relocating to its north and the Campus Training Center to its south, this picturesque

1969

The stadium was named for Sangren, after thirteen years as an instructor and the designer of New York's world-renowned Cloisters.

Offices

More recently,

Additional academic areas he'll continue focusing on are graduate studies in health and human services clinics. Also, he plans to launch its largest fund-raising campaign ever. Therefore, WMU must continue to improve and expand its programs. The most significant is the university's commitment to retaining and recruiting internationally talented students and faculty members. The university's current fund-raising campaign, "Western's World," is aimed at raising $1 billion by 2011.


What the future has in store

When Western Michigan University celebrates its centennial in 2001, President D. Haenicke has many reasons to be euphoric with WMU—excellence. For this to remain so, however, Haenicke says several additional steps must be taken in the near future:

1. It is no standing still in our field, we all know that. Universities are dynamic institutions; they develop new programs and offer degrees and additional programs. Hence, WMU must continue to improve and expand its programs. The university's new fund-raising campaign, "Western's World," is aimed at raising $1 billion by 2011.

2. The next construction phase will include renovation of the music and drama programs at the university's 1990s Projects. The new complex is named the "Sangren Center for the Performing Arts," designed by Architectural The complex includes state-of-the-art theaters, a 1,000-seat concert hall, and an indoor arena. The complex opened in 1999.

3. The extension is named the "Sangren Center for the Performing Arts," designed by Architectural

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Offices

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Robert J. Connell, BBA ’93, was recently appointed associate profes- sor of finance at Roosevelt University, Chi- cago, Ill.

Gary Garrett, MA ’93, in May left his position as superintendent of the Montague School District to join First Invest- ment Bank, Grand Rapids, Mich., in his role as market administrator.

Ray Fong, M.D., recently received a 24-year service award from the Oceola Lake State Healthcare Foundation, downtown Grand Haven, Mich.

Fay Wilson, B.S., received the Doctor of Osteopathy (1994) Degree of University of Michigan’s School of Osteopathic Medicine, Flint.

Jay W. Bluhm, B.S., currently a manager in the department of computer science at Northern Illinois University, DeKalb, Ill., has recently been promoted to vice president of First National Bank of Chicago, Traverse City, Mich.

Dr. Nancy S. Walker, B.B.A. ’74, was recently promoted to private banking officer for California National Bank, Fis- hing, Ind., where she will serve as flight commis- sioner for the 10th Air Refueling Squadron.

Kathy Stellingworth-Robinson, B.S., was named ’1994 Teacher of the Year’ by the City of Kent Community Dis- trict of Kentwood, Mich.

Ricky Sutherland Cornett, B.S., has been appointed to the role of director, Inpatient Rehabilitation Services, for the University of Michigan Hospitals, Columbus, Ohio.

Warren Denton, B.B.A. ’75, was recently appointed accounting and corporate services for Heritage Communities, Plymouth, Mich.

Barbara Blanchard Frederikson, B.A. ’70, recently was appointed district sales manager for State Farm Insurance, Kalamazoo, Mich., where she is a property and casualty insurance agent for the Shiawassee Re- gional Education Service District, Owosso, Mich.

Susan A. Lackey, M.P.A. ’79, was recently named as the executive di- rector of the American Academy of Occupational Environ- mental Medicine, Atlanta, Ga., in her role as a member of the American Academy of Occupational Envi- ronmental Medicine, Atlanta, Ga.

John K. Callicott, B.B.A. ’90, was recently appointed to the role of vice president for the Shiawassee County Bank, University, Mich., where he will serve as flight commis- sioner for the 10th Air Refueling Squadron.

Dr. Larry Snider, B.B.A. ’74, in January was named president of St. Francis Xavier College, Loretto, Minn.

Tim Thompson, B.B.A. ’77, recently received a Ph.D. in business adminis- tration from the University of Denver, Colo., for his role as a member of the American Academy of Occupational Envi- ronmental Medicine, Atlanta, Ga.

Dr. Julie Bottoms, B.S., was recently named as the new director of the Heidt Family Foundation, Owosso, Mich.

James H. Bond, B.B.A. ’72, recently was appointed to the role of assistant professor of physics at Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo, Mich.

Dr. William J. Sung, M.D., has been named as the new chief of staff for the University of Michigan Health System, Ann Arbor, Mich.

Dr. John R. Blythe, M.D., recently was named president of the University of Michigan Health System, Ann Arbor, Mich.

William D. Taylor, B.S., was recently named as the new chief of staff for the University of Michigan Health System, Ann Arbor, Mich.

Dr. Nancy A. Mosca, M.D., M.S., has been named as the new chief of staff for the University of Michigan Health System, Ann Arbor, Mich.

Dr. Gary K. Snyder, M.D., recently was named as the new chief of staff for the University of Michigan Health System, Ann Arbor, Mich.

Dr. Daniel J. Silverman, M.D., has been named as the new chief of staff for the University of Michigan Health System, Ann Arbor, Mich.

Dr. Don W. Hubble, B.A. ’65, MBA ’66, has been named as the new chief of staff for the University of Michigan Health System, Ann Arbor, Mich.
May joined the staff of Nauticus, the motive ties include developing and coordinating as assistant branch coordinator.

Named director of finance for Grace Marie Lassfolk Ream, Neva P. Neva Wallace

Deaths

Emily Arndt Andersen, Margaret H. Hendrix, BBA '76, in May 29, 1994, in Vicksburg, MI.

Mary Louise H. Hendrix, BSE '70, July 15, 1994, in Vicksburg, MI.

Louise H. Hendrix, BSE '70, July 15, 1994, in Norwalk, CT.

John E. Hendrix, BSE '70, April 18, 1994, in New Smyrna Beach, FL.

William G. Hendrix, BSE '70, April 25, 1994, in Pensacola, FL.

Scott C. Hendrix, BSE '70, April 16, 1994, in Toledo, OH.

Kathy Hendrix, BSE '70, April 16, 1994, in Bay City, MI.

Karen Hendrix, BSE '70, April 16, 1994, in Traverse City, MI.

Robert E. Hendrix, BSE '70, April 16, 1994, in Muskegon, MI.

Barbara Hendrix, BSE '70, April 16, 1994, in Rockford, IL.

E. Daniel Hendrix, BSE '70, April 16, 1994, in Palatine, IL.

Robert C. Hendrix, BSE '70, April 16, 1994, in Detroit, MI.

Patrick Hendrix, BSE '70, April 16, 1994, in Detroit, MI.

Nancy Taylor Bufkin, BA '82, in May 28, 1994, in Norwalk, CT.

Kevin Wayne Legris, BBA '82, has been named director of finance for the Michigan Historical Foundation, Detroit, MI.

Lucille Maxwell Jones, BA '37, April 27, 1994, in Allegan, MI.

Frances DeMay Haines, BA '37, April 27, 1994, in Allegan, MI.

Robert E. Smith, BA '47, May 31, 1994, in West Des Moines, IA.

Andrew G. Seidman, BSE '50, May 31, 1994, in Battle Creek, MI.

Stuart A. Simon, BSE '50, May 31, 1994, in Detroit, MI.

Helen E. Simon, BSE '50, May 31, 1994, in Muskegon, MI.

Dean H. Simon, BSE '50, May 31, 1994, in Muskegon, MI.

Margaret A. Simon, BSE '50, May 31, 1994, in Muskegon, MI.

Charlotte Simms, BSE '50, May 31, 1994, in Grand Rapids, MI.

Lucy E. Stroup, BSE '50, May 31, 1994, in Coldwater, MI.

Carolyn H. Stroup, BSE '50, May 31, 1994, in Battle Creek, MI.

Ralph I. Stroup, BSE '50, May 31, 1994, in Battle Creek, MI.

Irving H. Stroup, BSE '50, May 31, 1994, in Battle Creek, MI.

Joan Stroup, BSE '50, May 31, 1994, in Battle Creek, MI.

Dale E. Stroup, BSE '50, May 31, 1994, in Battle Creek, MI.

Rosemary Stroup, BSE '50, May 31, 1994, in Battle Creek, MI.

Mary V. Stroup, BSE '50, May 31, 1994, in Battle Creek, MI.

Marcia H. Stroup, BSE '50, May 31, 1994, in Battle Creek, MI.

Gwendolyn Justus Williams, BSE '50, May 31, 1994, in Battle Creek, MI.

Jerry J. Stroup, BSE '50, May 31, 1994, in Battle Creek, MI.

John J. Stroup, BSE '50, May 31, 1994, in Battle Creek, MI.

Robert K. Stroup, BSE '50, May 31, 1994, in Battle Creek, MI.

William M. Stroup, BSE '50, May 31, 1994, in Battle Creek, MI.

Susan Elizabeth Stroup, BSE '50, May 31, 1994, in Battle Creek, MI.

James E. Stroup, BSE '50, May 31, 1994, in Battle Creek, MI.

Thomas R. Stroup, BSE '50, May 31, 1994, in Battle Creek, MI.

Charles E. Stroup, BSE '50, May 31, 1994, in Battle Creek, MI.

Roger Stroup, BSE '50, May 31, 1994, in Battle Creek, MI.

Richard E. Stroup, BSE '50, May 31, 1994, in Battle Creek, MI.

Joseph E. Stroup, BSE '50, May 31, 1994, in Battle Creek, MI.

James R. Stroup, BSE '50, May 31, 1994, in Battle Creek, MI.

Kenneth E. Stroup, BSE '50, May 31, 1994, in Battle Creek, MI.

Donald R. Stroup, BSE '50, May 31, 1994, in Battle Creek, MI.

Peter R. Stroup, BSE '50, May 31, 1994, in Battle Creek, MI.

James E. Stroup, BSE '50, May 31, 1994, in Battle Creek, MI.

John E. Stroup, BSE '50, May 31, 1994, in Battle Creek, MI.

Charles E. Stroup, BSE '50, May 31, 1994, in Battle Creek, MI.
I remember when Retaining alumni discover old friends, new campus

The Western Michigan University Alumni Association welcomed the Classes of 1944, 1949, and 1954 back to campus on Saturday, June 10. In addition to discovering former classmates, the reunion participants discovered a new campus, one far different from the campus they knew in the 1940s. A favorite point of view for many is the new fieldhouse, which was constructed in the 1940s and is now one of the most impressive athletic facilities in the country. The fieldhouse has been the site of many memorable events, including the 1980 Olympic Games trials and the 1990 Peach Bowl. The alumni gathered throughout the weekend to celebrate their reunion and to reconnect with old friends.

The 1940s and 1950s were a time of growth and change for WMU, and many alumni amased that the name is true is true. In addition to the direction of President Paul V. Sangren, the campus expanded right before our eyes.

Past and present blended together throughout the weekend as alumni familiarized themselves with how campus looks now and seized the opportunity to reminisce, locate old friends, and attend their personal accomplishments. They reconnected with departments and programs as they flipped through the pages of Bronco and Gold yearbooks and remembered their adventures. Many of these past mentors, professors and administrators also participated in the reunion festivities.

As they chatted the alumni noted that more about campus has changed than the buildings.

For example, in their day students had to register with the dean of students in Simpkins Hall. Males and females were allowed in the same room with low lighting "as long as each had one foot on the floor."

When they were interviewed, younger students say they often spent time watching "Brown and Gold Fantasies," campuswide shows produced by students. Some also went on "Coc-Cola" safaris up and down the campus when the men bought Coca-Cola fountain drinks for five cents.

Occasionally, these encounters led to the marriages of campus sweethearts.

The legendary "baby train" was also remembered among alumni. In the 1940s the birth rate in the married student housing was high, with students boxed in tight. To get up and too late to go back to sleep.

The University's transformation was complete in the 1990s. All told, more than 100 alumni gathered throughout the weekend to celebrate their reunion and to reconnect with old friends.

The Alumni Association continued from page 7 with Jane Hughes Lovat, B.A. '54, it was nostalgia that ticket on Schoolcraft Drive for traveling fifty miles per hour. "You know times have changed when Schoolcraft Drive is no longer a two-lane road," said Jane. But that was just the beginning of the changes reunion participants noticed.

Almost all of the alumni remembered the arrival of veteran units in the 1940s and the impact they had on campus life.

"During the war, there were sailors here and we had to wait until they left to live on campus," Edith Farthing, B.A. '49, recalled. Edith lived on campus. Farthing lived on Lovell Street in Kalamazoo. After returning from the war, Day recalls that a great number of veterans began taking classes. Once again, there was a housing shortage. In fact, Donald McLride, B.A. '40, says he remembers veterans living in one room with five to seven boys.

But in numerous ways, college life remains the same. says Peter Stodola, B.A. '54, when he met a guest speaker. "You know times haven't changed because students back then complained when tuition went from $1000 to $1500," he said. Donald Anderson, B.S. '44, presented the scholarship check to WMU President Dieter H. Haenicke on Saturday night.

The WMU's Golden Associates, graduates of fifty or more years ago.

The alumni have evolved from a regional college to a major University, memories, legends, and traditions continue to shape its history.

State/University High School reunion

Graduates from State/University High School are planning a reunion for all classes on July 21 and 22 at Western Michigan University. Reunion information will be sent to graduates to send their current address information, along with their names and class years, to Dorothy Ubele Schlobnich 7212 Brook Drive, Kalamazoo, MI 49004, (616) 345-0228.

The reunion will feature a keynote address by Tony Walker, B.B.A. '92, who is currently serving as the President of the Alumni Association.

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