University research plays broad role in higher education and in society

Climate becoming more scholarly

Successfully increasing the external grant funding WMU receives for research projects is only part of the tremendous progress the University has made toward meeting the goals in its comprehensive research plan. Enhancing the overall scholarly climate in all areas also has been a big part of the plan’s focus, and this has resulted in such successes as strengthened graduate program offerings, increased participation in professional conferences, and a more stimulating and supportive research environment. “It’s important to understand that when I say research, I’m not just speaking about faculty who bring in grant dollars,” Haenicke notes. “Books have been written that have a significant impact on the intellectual life of the disciplines in which those books have been written, and we also have numerous scholarly activities that have contributed intellectually to their respective disciplines and to the University as a whole. All of this falls under research.”

Today WMU offers students master’s programs and since 1990 has more than doubled the number of doctoral programs it offers to twenty-two. Furthermore, graduate students comprise 25 percent of its student body, a higher percentage than at all but two other Michigan universities.

Internal support programs are also enhancing the scholarly climate by providing funds to promising graduate students, faculty members, and even undergraduates who are new to the research endeavor or who are exploring new fields of research. “Internal support programs are vital to the academic, intellectual, and creative growth of the University and serve to support those activities for which external funding sources don’t exist,” Thompson says. “These programs enhance our institution’s reputation while building our capacity to conduct funded research in the future.”

WMU funds exciting research activities

Developing specialized Centers for Excellence has been among the most innovative methods the University has used to foster research collaboration among faculty members from different departments and colleges. The initiative began in 1992 when the Office of the Vice President for Research established a campuswide awards competition to support and encourage outstanding interdisciplinary research. WMU provides two years of start-up funding for the research centers, which are expected to eventually become self-supporting by securing external grant funding.

The first competition led to the creation of centers focusing on enabling technology, water research, and geographic information systems. The last competition, held in 1994, lead to the creation of centers focusing on educating at-risk children, friction and wear phenomena in industrial equipment, and the body’s biological response to environmental pollutants. Among other important WMU-sponsored support programs are two specifically targeted toward nourishing the inquiring minds of students.

The Undergraduate Research and Creative Activities Award, established in 1988 and administered by the Lee Honors College, provides a stipend for undergraduate students to undertake research or creative projects in cooperation with faculty advisors.

Continued on page 6
Quality, student-oriented initiatives play role

WMU shatters several key enrollment records

Western Michigan University's fall 1995 enrollment of 26,537 students, up a total of 3.4 percent from last fall, shattered enrollment records in several key categories, including beginning freshmen, off-campus students, minority students, and doctoral students. "We are delighted with this news," said President Detre J. Haggerty. "This is a notable quality and value, which continues to improve each year, is clearly reflected in this growth—as is the hard work of both staff and faculty combined." The number of new degree-seeking freshmen rose 17.5 percent, signaling the dramatic reversal of a three-year trend of declining enrollments. This was the largest increase ever for WMU, including beginning freshmen, off-campus students, all graduate and undergraduate students were counted, were doctoral and off-campus students. Accounting for one-tenth of WMU's total student body. "We obviously are becoming the school of choice for a growing number of students, including those students who have several choices," said Dr. Nancy S. Barrett, provost and vice president for academic affairs. Overall, officials said, stepped up recruitment and retention efforts involving faculty and staff across the campus have played a major role in last fall's enrollment surge.

Among the recruitment and retention initiatives singled out were increased contact with prospective students and increased use of on-site admissions in high schools and at WMU's regional centers, where prospective students have a transcript and completed application are told immediately whether they are admitted.

We also reviewed carefully course scheduling so that the courses are spread better throughout the day so people can avail themselves of courses at the times that are convenient to them," Hagg niekt. "We have begun with mandatory freshman advising, which we think is an important new step, with supplemental instruction and with more aggressive attempts to identify students with potential academic difficulty."

Currently, WMU ranks second among the state's public universities in percentage of graduate students. Graduate students represent one-quarter of WMU's total enrollment, including some major graduate-intensive universities. The university has twelve doctoral programs, more than double the number of just a few years ago, and sixty-two master's programs.

In addition, enrollment at WMU's five regional centers and its Weekend College increased 28.8 percent to the second largest off-campus enrollment ever. The rebound in off-campus enrollment was attributed to a broad-based interest in WMU's off-campus programs at both the graduate and undergraduate level, particularly now that the University is offering a wider array as well as a greater number of programs and courses.

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Cash gifts reach record total; move new programs forward

Current and deferred cash gifts to Western Michigan University reached a record total of $6.5 million and an increase of 1,994.85 percent, surpassing the previous record by 12 percent. "Among the most gratifying developments of the past few years has been the healthy growth in the number of individuals, corporations, and foundations who are generously supporting this institution's goals as well as the increasing number of contributors who make a donation to WMU a part of their yearly giving pattern," President Detre J. Haggerty said. "We are exceedingly grateful to each of them because each has contributed to this achievement."

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The science facilities.

and furnishing Western Michigan University's new building project, the University is actively seeking to expand support for the sciences in terms of both gifts and grants.

Officials announced the gift October 27 during groundbreaking ceremonies that marked the official start of a project to transform part of WMU's West Campus into a mecca for science instruction and research.

The three-year project involves construction of a so-phisticated new Science Research Pavilion, and a complete retrofit of Rood Hall, funded entirely through state appropriation. In conjunction with this state-funded building project, the University is actively seeking to expand support for the sciences in terms of both gifts and grants.

A ceremonial groundbreaking took place October 27 to mark the official start of a project to transform part of Western Michigan University's science teaching and research facilities. The need for more advanced space for laboratories and offices of the College of Arts and Sciences had become apparent as research has increased and as new technologies have altered the requirements of the classrooms it contains.

Although it will have fewer levels than the six-story Everett Tower, this new structure will create a formal gateway from the west to the center of campus — and to scientific knowledge.

It is designed as two wings connected by a glass-encased area, and will consist of three stories plus a mechanical "penthouse." Although it will have fewer levels than the six-story Everett Tower, it will be tall enough to accommodate the requirements of the rooms it contains.

Currently, the first floor will include teaching laboratories and research and support spaces. The second and third levels are intended to house flexible "generic laboratory modules" that can be used in the science areas. The "penthouse" will include mechanical equipment such as exhaust systems for the structure's fume hoods. A bridge at the second level will connect the building with the third level of Wood Hall.

Wood Hall, the largest classroom structure on campus when it opened in 1960, will have its interior gutted and modernized to fit today's needs for science teaching and research. The building's basic external structure will not change, but a dramatic new central entry will be created through the north facade. The entry will lead to a three-story atrium with an open stair connecting all three levels. The atrium will overlook a three-story atrium with an open stair connecting all three levels. The atrium will overlook the interior courtyard.

Wood's first two levels will have classrooms and teaching laboratories. All will accommodate new audiovisual and computer technologies. The third floor will consist of faculty offices and graduate student work stations in an open office landscape plan. Each department housed in the building will be contiguous and linked vertically by existing stairways. The massive science facilities project will also include an expansion of greenhouse facilities and landscaping of Wood's south-side parking lot.

The new Wood Hall is scheduled to be completed by June 1997 — in time for departments to move in and be ready for fall 1997 classes. Work on the Science Research Pavilion is scheduled to begin in spring 1996. Occupancy of the facility's laboratories is slated for fall 1998.

This architect's drawing shows the Science Quadrangle that will be created when Western Michigan University completes its science facilities upgrade. The quadrangle will be bordered by a new, completely refurbished Wood Hall (upper right), Rood Hall (foreground), and Everett Tower. The Science Research Pavilion will house multi-disciplinary research laboratories.

Awards programs showcase top researchers, teachers

Pritchard has been a faculty member since 1968, chairing the Department of Philosophy from 1975 to 1983, and from 1993 to the present. Described as one of the leading philosophers of moral and political ethics, he has served as director of WMU's Center for the Study of Ethics in Social and Professional Practices, which since 1978 is a founding member of the National Association for Practical and Professional Ethics.

Ehrle has been a member of the biological sciences faculty since 1984. He teaches classes on such subjects as environmental biology, the biology of vascular and non-vascular plants, plant systematics, bryology, and applied and general botany. Those nominating him for a teaching excellence award cited him for his infectious enthusiasm, demanding classroom standards, and willingness to spend time with students. He was also praised for his efforts to keep current in his field through scholarly writing, speaking engagements, and service as president of the Michigan Botanical Club and the Michigan Botanical Foundation.

Griffin has been a faculty member in the Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures since 1971. He has taught classes in Spanish language and culture as well as Latin language and literature and classical mythology. He was cited for his humor, concern for students, continual efforts to prepare for and perfect the courses he teaches, innovative teaching techniques, and setting an excellent example for those entering the teaching profession. His professional activities have included providing on-campus events for high school students, doing presentations at high schools, writing scholarly articles, presenting papers at national conferences, and serving as president of both the Michigan Foreign Language Association and the Michigan Classical Conference.
WMU’s colleges are bursting with useful and innovative ideas.

### College of Engineering and Applied Sciences

The most spectacular growth in grant funding at WMU can be claimed by the College of Engineering and Applied Sciences, which cited the largest share of grants by fiscal year. With more than $3.5 million in 1995–96, these grants cover the breadth of research areas that range from improving the performance of jet engines to studying the impact of solar power on the threatability of the grid. There is even a specialty recognized for its potential to improve all levels of education, innovative projects such as these take practical needs into account.

### College of Business

A growing emphasis in the high school of business is the College of Business in which more than 1,000 students are majoring in business. The College of Business has received a $2 million grant to support the development of new business education programs that will help students succeed in a rapidly changing business environment.

### College of Arts and Sciences

The college of arts and sciences is home to 8,000 students who are majoring in fields ranging from biology to mathematics. The college has received more than $13 million in grants to support research projects in these fields, and these grants are expected to continue increasing.

### College of Health Sciences

The college of health sciences is home to 1,200 students who are majoring in fields ranging from nursing to physical therapy. The college has received more than $10 million in grants to support research projects in these fields, and these grants are expected to continue increasing.

### College of Education

In education, WMU is home to 7,000 students who are majoring in fields ranging from psychology to education. The college has received more than $10 million in grants to support research projects in these fields, and these grants are expected to continue increasing.

### College of Fine Arts

For students in the College of Fine Arts, “art” most often takes the form of the visual or performing arts in their chosen fields. Their success in performing and making art is reflected in a growing number of grants that are awarded to support their work. The college has received more than $5 million in grants to support research projects in these fields, and these grants are expected to continue increasing.

### College of Community Health Sciences

In community health sciences, WMU is home to 4,000 students who are majoring in fields ranging from public health to social work. The college has received more than $7 million in grants to support research projects in these fields, and these grants are expected to continue increasing.

### College of Engineering and Applied Sciences

With more than $10 million in grants awarded to support research projects in these fields, the college of engineering and applied sciences is one of the most productive in the nation. The college has received more than $10 million in grants to support research projects in these fields, and these grants are expected to continue increasing.

### College of Business

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### College of Arts and Sciences

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### College of Health Sciences

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### College of Education

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### College of Fine Arts

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### College of Community Health Sciences

With more than $10 million in grants awarded to support research projects in these fields, the college of community health sciences is one of the most productive in the nation. The college has received more than $10 million in grants to support research projects in these fields, and these grants are expected to continue increasing.
The College of Health and Human Services has a historic reputation for refining its innovative academic programs and community service orientation. It is home to one of WMU’s smallest colleges in terms of enrollment, yet it attracts more than $4 million in grant funds each year. The College’s faculty is dedicated to serving the community of Southwest Michigan, and completed a major upgrade and consolidation of its clinical facilities.

The College’s faculty not only teach and conduct research, but also arrange and supervise clinical programs and professional field experiences. These activities benefit students by providing invaluable hands-on training and benefit the region by permitting individuals as well as interdisciplinary teams of professionals to work for citizens.

In addition, the college’s renowned programs include careers in fields of blindness rehabilitation, occupational therapy, social work, and speech pathology and audiology continue to gain strength as they adapt to the challenges of an ever-changing world, embracing technology and tailoring new efforts to meet shifting population needs.

Sponsored research in the college ranges from a project assessing the impact of electronically amplifying teachers’ voices in elementary classrooms to developing a single curriculum that will provide graduate students certification in both blindness rehabilitation and counseling. The following representative examples help show the breadth of the outstanding work being done in the College of Health and Human Services:

- A three-year, $300,000 award from the Fetzer Institute of Kalamazoo is being used to develop health care principles into the School of Nursing curriculum.
- More new health care professionals are turning up in rural communities as the fifth year of WMU’s Rural Primary Care program. Funded by two successive three-year federal grants totaling more than $1.3 million, the program has resulted in such fields as speech pathology and audiology, social work, substance abuse, nutrition, occupational therapy, and physician assistant. One out of four project graduates have started their careers in rural areas, a substantially higher ratio than the national average.
- A series of federal grants to the Department of Speech Pathology and Audiology is being used from research, funding and training. One grant is funding research on how the inner ear and brain interact and how to recognize a sound in a project that could lead to better speech synthesis devices. Other federal grants include students with specialized training in how to serve culturally diverse backgrounds as well as the growing number of American with community. Another multiple-year grant will bring in $474,361 in 1996 funding.
- A three-year project funded by a $615,000 grant from the W. K. Kellogg Foundation is examining ways of training new social service professionals to be more effective to their needs. Four Kalamazoo neighborhoods are helping design training packages that will tailor training to neighborhood needs and strengths.

WMU's college is coursework with programs and ideas

Don't forget your reunion

The Classes of 1946, 1951, and 1956 are invited to return to campus June 7 and 8 for the Western Michigan University Alumni Association's Reunion Weekend.

In April, members of these three classes will be mailed an invitation and a registration form with complete details. Be sure and check us out because the college on the "hilltop" has made some dramatic changes!

Emma Garrison Kisinger, TC '28, recently promoted to director for the South Central Division of Better Business Bureaus of America.

Lena Teusink Tagg, TC '31, was recently accepted a position as a project manager for Ford Motor Co.

Costello, BS '09, was recently promoted to director of student writing, grades K-6, entitled "The Westerner, 1990-1996."
community service focus was delightful.

As a December ’94 graduate of WMU, I have received my first publication of the Westerner! It was delightful to see that the editors of the Westerner dedicated to community service has added more depth and brought our feelings about community service. It is great to see so many people wanting to help other communities.

In April I was interviewed (as a media specialist) by the Manistie Community Partnership Program. Manistie is a small community in the Upper Peninsula. The interview was a stimulating grant that focuses on grassroots prevention for substance abuse. I remember hearing in college that “you'll never use what you learn in college for a job in the real world.” Well, whatever says that is not thinking hard enough. I have used many of the lessons I learned during my career at WMU, both in and out of the classroom.

I would like to thank WMU for my education and look forward to another issue of the Westerner. Please keep me informed of ways that I may still be of service to WMU as an alumna.

Heidi E. Teitler, B.S. ’94

WMU was caring ‘Mother Hen’ in 1930s

What a reminder of my college days—the columns, theTrylly, the hiring in the colunm. (Remember those days) leads me to the “Mother Hen” theory of Western University.

My college life was far different than college life is now. I started at Cass County Normal School in 1929 and afterward taught for three years at $40 a month. My current paycheck is not even equal to the cost of a college meal certificate from Western in 1933. In 1938 I received a bachelor of science degree in rural education from Western after many summer schools and correspondence courses.

My classmates were older, like I, than the college age—most were working to get their life certificate. The enrollment was about 600 in the summer, with a large Rural Education Department. With the numbers crowded, the students got more individual attention. The tuition was only about $20 a term, and I limited myself to about 394 a day for food—nothing or a cookie for breakfast and at the cafeteria, a 50¢ sandwich for lunch and a good 25¢ supper. A Miss Evans taught health, and my soon-emaciated appearance led her to inform the Health Department, which called me in, concerned. When the banks closed in March 1933, I was told by the cafeteria that I could charge my food for the time I was out of school. Luckily, my boys were able to get food in a cafe抯. Western again in December 1933 showed they were watching, I had $39 left, my life certificate was being granted, but I just had to quit college. I was taking a class from the head of the Tests and Measurement Department. He announced before the whole class that he was notifies me that I got work at a cafeteria—that I was too good a student to quit now.

I couldn’t see my way clear to do this. I went home to my folks and began working at the Simplicity Factory. In September 1934, I started my lifetime job of $1,000 a year, teaching lower grades. My cube was in “Sangren Hall” auditorium where the commencement ceremony was held. Not only was I given the recognition as an alumna of WMU’s actual past presidents, along with the University seal.

In addition, the diploma covers shown were the real thing and the doctoral hood presented to Taylor was a duplicate of one that could be presented during a WMU commencement ceremony. The other mississippi’s brown and gold colors. Even the letter informing Taylor of his academic honor was on official stationery from the Office of the President, with signature of Joseph Haenicke. Allen has previously shown his school spirit by wearing WMU sweatsuits and making occasional campus reference to the “W." This is national exposure for the University,” said Jeremy, who proposed the idea of Haenicke appearing mentioning Western Michigan University, “This would not have happened without Tim Allen’s strong loyalty to this institution.”

DMU alumni celebrate Haenicke’s anniversary, WMU’s progress

The largest non-athletic alumni event ever held in Southeast Michigan attracted 400 University supporters November 1 to honor President Dieter H. Haenicke on his tenth anniversary at Western Michigan University.

Detroit Mayor Dennis W. Archer, B.S. ’65; state legislators; and many other dignitaries joined alumni at Detroit’s Renaissance Center/Westin Hotel complex to salute Haenicke for his contributions to the University.

“Western Michigan University has been an outstanding University, but it has been made greater by the presidency of Dieter Haenicke,” said Archer, who opened his remarks by reading a tribute to Haenicke from U.S. Sen. Carl Levin, who couldn’t be present.

Alumni Awards: Archer; Richard T. Cole, B.A. ’69, emcee for the evening and senior vice president of marketing and corporate communications for Michigan Blue Cross and Blue Shield; lawyers William B. Fitzgerald, B.A. ’64, and James W. Goss, B.B.A. ’66; John S. Lore, B.S. ’85, president and chief executive officer (CEO) of Sisters of St. Joseph Health Systems; William F. Pickard, B.S. ’64, an independent businessman and chairman of Regal Plastics Company; Roy S. Roberts, B.A. ’70, a General Motors Company vice president and general manager of its Truck Division; Jack Ryan, B.A. ’48, president of Detroit Edison Company; and S. Martin Taylor, B.S. ’64, vice president of community and governmental affairs for Detroit Edison.

We the resolution committee of the Southeast Michigan Chapter of the WMU Alumni Association Scholarship Fund, was filled with remembrances and jokes from both guest speakers and Haenicke.

It also drew widespread media attention, with Crain’s Detroit Business editor Mary Kramer stating in a lengthy article that “WMU is on a roll” and more popular than ever.

“The school known primarily as a ‘teacher’s college’ for most of its ninety-two years has blossomed under Haenicke,” said Kramer. “Western’s growing stature in Lansing and the higher profile of key alumni may have had the ripple effect.

She also cited many of the same WMU successes made under Haenicke’s 1994-95 administration as did a WMU Board of Trustees resolution in October. The resolution recognized Haenicke in part for his leadership in earning the University the state’s highest percentage appropria-

tions increase, setting the state’s lowest tuition increase, and garnering a record $21.1 million in research grants and $12.3 million in total private support.

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