Western Michigan University Newsletter, April 1966

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Dr. John J. Pruis, a WMU faculty member since 1955, was named vice president for administration by the University Board of Trustees at a late February meeting. Dr. Pruis had been administrative assistant to WMU President James W. Miller since 1962, after serving on Western's Speech Department faculty. He has also been secretary to the WMU Board of Trustees since it was first formed in 1964, a role in which Dr. Pruis will continue to serve.

As major responsibilities of his new position, Dr. Pruis is charged with the coordination and development of campus planning and the development of a systematic program of institutional research. The research will provide data concerning present resources and programs of the University and the projection of the institution's needs.

Dr. Pruis, a native of Holland, Michigan, was graduated from Western in 1941 as three year’s service in the U.S. Navy in World War II interrupted his college career. His service included an assignment as supply officer in Japan. He has remained in the U.S. Naval Reserve and presently holds the rank of Commander.

After graduation from Western, Dr. Pruis attended Northwestern where he earned an MA and Ph.D. in 1951.

Dr. Pruis then taught one year at the State College of Iowa and three years at Southern Illinois University before joining Western’s speech faculty.

Dr. Pruis served as director of Summer Sessions at Western 1958-62. Active in professional societies and civic affairs, Dr. Pruis was general chairman of the 1964 Community Chest-Red Cross campaign in Kalamazoo county. He and his wife, Angeline, are the parents of three sons.

Dr. Robert Holmes Named to Head Western’s Department of Music

A prominent music historian, Dr. Robert Holmes, will become head of Western’s Music Department in August. Dr. Holmes is currently director of the University Center for Adult Education sponsored by Wayne State University, the University of Michigan and Eastern Michigan University, and is program annotator for the Detroit Symphony Orchestra. He’ll continue in this latter capacity for another three years.

Dr. Holmes is active as a writer and lecturer in the field of musicology.

A native of Massachusetts, Dr. Holmes received his higher education at Boston University, earning a doctorate in 1960. He joined the Oakland University faculty that same year and two years later was named assistant dean of students. In 1963 he became assistant director of the University Center for Adult Education and in 1964 became its director.

An outstanding pianist, Dr. (Continued on Page 2)
Second semester initiates into Omicron Delta Kappa, men’s honorary fraternity at Western, included, left to right, seated, Richard Bellingham of Plainwell, Gary Gerson of Grand Rapids and William Parsons of Muskegon; standing, Dr. Russell H. Selbert, WMU vice president for academic affairs, David Kreifeldt of Mount Clemens and Samuel Valenti of Allen Park. Dr. Selbert was inducted as an honorary faculty member. Membership in the national honorary is based on distinctive performance in at least one of the major campus activities: scholarship, student government, athletics and social and religious affairs.

Dean’s List Totals 937; 43 Grad Students Are Also Honored

Two students who received all “A’s” in more than 20 hours of class work topped the WMU Dean’s List of 937 scholars for the fall semester in this school year. To be included in the Dean’s List, an undergraduate student must have received a grade average of 3.5 (4.0 is “A”) while enrolled in at least 14 hours of class work.

The two top all-A students were David Pink, Traverse City senior majoring in industrial engineering, who carried 22 hours; and Joellyn Rose, a Kalamazoo junior majoring in special education, with 20 hours.

Forty-three full-time WMU graduate students received all A’s while carrying at least 10 hours of classroom work during the fall semester. Four of these students compiled their “A” grade average while enrolled in 13 hours, the most carried by any of the all-A graduate students. These top four graduate students were Joy J. Rogers of St. Joseph, enrolled in the school psychological examiner curriculum; Susan E. Woodford of Spring Lake, majoring in librarianship; Charles E. Townsend of Montague, majoring in biology and secondary education; and John C. Jardine of Mount Pleasant, a librarian-major.

John S. Lore Is Named Assistant Alumni Director

John S. Lore ’65, a Bay City native, has joined Western’s staff as assistant Alumni Relations director. In his new capacity Lore will assist WMU Alumni Relations director Tom Coyne in the promotion of the University’s activities for former students at WMU.

He returns to Western’s campus after serving as a trainee in the sales planning and analysis division of Ford Motor Co.

Coyne says the addition of Lore to the alumni office staff will enable his office to more effectively aid alumni and the University, and in particular, the current Alumni Annual Giving Campaign, which is aimed at raising $100,000 for scholarships, library funds and faculty grants.

As an undergraduate, Lore was active in student affairs at Western, serving one year as president of the Residence Halls Association; as staff assistant, and later, as assistant director of Ackley residence hall; as feature editor of the Western Herald and publicity director for the 1963 Homecoming committee.

Lore is married to the former Judith Bell ’64 of Kalamazoo.

Paw Paw Instructor Outstanding Science Teacher of Year

Ellsworth Starring ’56 MA ’64, head of the Paw Paw high school science department, this spring was named by Kappa Rho Sigma, honorary science fraternity at Western, as the “Outstanding Science Teacher of the Year.” Starring has taught biology at Paw Paw the last five years and at Allegan high school five years before that.

The presentation was made at Kappa Rho Sigma’s annual banquet at WMU. During the evening, 30 WMU students were initiated into the honorary fraternity.

American Assn. of School Administrators Honors Western Faculty Member

Dr. Paul J. Misner, professor of education at Western, received an Award for Distinguished Service in School Administration during the annual meeting of the American Association of School Administrators held in Atlantic City, N.J. in February.

He is a past president of the A.A.S.A.

Dr. Misner joined Western’s faculty last August after many years as superintendent of schools at Glenco, III. A graduate of Eastern Michigan University, he received his advanced degrees at the University of Michigan.
Ambassador from Uganda to U.S. Addresses Honors Convocation

The ambassador to the United States from Uganda, Dr. Solomon B. Asea, made a whirlwind two-day visit to WMU in late March, primarily to address the annual Honors Convocation in which some 160 of Western's top scholars were honored.

Dr. Asea outlined the political structure of his nation and the history leading up to that structure. He said he was pleased to note an increasing interest by American students in the problems facing the emerging nations and peoples of the world. Dr. Asea complimented Western and its student body for developing an insight into international problems and fostering an understanding of these emerging nations and their needs in this modern world.

At the conclusion of the convocation, in a surprise ceremony, Dr. Asea presented a new flag of Uganda to President James W. Miller on behalf of the University.

While at Western, Dr. Asea presented two excellent color films about Uganda to a good audience the night before the convocation and the next morning met with some of the 32 African students at WMU before lunching with members of the WMU African Studies Committee.

That afternoon he attended and spoke briefly at the third session of a four-day symposium on "The U.S. and Africa." A panel of four African students conducted this session on "The Political Future of Africa," with each one presenting the story of his particular African nation.

Dr. Asea was barely able to squeeze a tour of Western's mushrooming campus into his busy schedule.

WMU Blood Drives Supply 30 percent of County Total

While the February Red Cross blood clinic at Western did not break the previous all-time mark for the total collected, 993 pints were donated in spite of bad weather and minor illness outbreaks on the campus.

Red Cross officials noted that 30 percent of all of the blood collected in Kalamazoo county clinics this fiscal year came from clinics at WMU, from which 2,284 pints of the precious fluid were derived.

New WMU Basketball Coach, Sonny Means, Prepares for Opener

Western's new head basketball coach, Clarence "Sonny" Means, has been busy laying plans for another ambush in next season's opener against Michigan State University and his former head coach, John Benington. Means was on the other side of the fence when WMU upset this spring. Simmons is also a past president of the west Michigan chapter of IMS, which has headquarters at Grand Rapids.

He said he hopes "this will be the first of many scholarships given to IMS student chapter members." Simmons predicted that IMS will sponsor more student chapters in the future, patterned after the "excellent one here at Western Michigan University."

A Western Michigan University senior has received the first scholarship ever presented by the Industrial Management Society to a member of an IMS student chapter. He is David Nichols, a 1951 graduate of Jackson high school six years before the IMS student chapter was installed at Western. Nichols is married.

Hugh Simmons, vice president in charge of research and education for the national Industrial Management Society with headquarters in Chicago, presented the check to Nichols during campus ceremonies this spring. Simmons is also a past president of the west Michigan chapter of IMS, which has headquarters at Grand Rapids.

He said he hopes "this will be the first of many scholarships given to IMS student chapter members." Simmons predicted that IMS will sponsor more student chapters in the future, patterned after the "excellent one here at Western Michigan University."

David Nichols, left, is congratulated on his fine scholastic work by Hugh Simmons upon presentation of the scholarship check by Simmons.
the Spartans 85-82 to open last season when he was assistant coach at MSU.

Means was named to succeed Don Boven in late February when Boven announced plans to retire following the end of last season after a career spanning 29 years as player and coach, the last 12 in the coaching ranks at Western. Boven will continue to teach in the men’s physical education department at Western.

Means, 38, was a basketball star at MSU 1950-52, and was captain in his senior year. A Saginaw native, Means spent two years in the army before enrolling at State.

After graduating from MSU in 1952, Means coached at Owosso high school four years and then returned to MSU as freshman cage coach. In 1959 he became head basketball coach at the University of Omaha and in 1961 moved to St. Louis University as freshman basketball coach under John Benington. When Benington became Michigan State head coach last year he brought Means with him as his assistant.

Means says he plans to use a balanced offense with control patterns and utilize a fast break when the situation warrants. The defense-minded Means.

**SPORTS BRIEFS**

Adjac Triplett, left, who missed all of the 1964-65 season and more than half of the last basketball season with separate injuries to his knees, received the Herbert W. "Buck" Read Award from the Bronco Downtown Coaches group for his "leadership, sportsmanship and on-court performance;" while retiring head coach Don Boven was the recipient of a plaque for "his countless contributions to WMU as an athlete and a coach." The presentations came at the last Downtown Coaches luncheon of the season preceding the 82-76 win over Notre Dame.

Triplett, Gary, Ind. senior put in a surprise appearance against Notre Dame and made two of four shots as he played the final four minutes, his first action since being injured against Loyola on Jan. 12. Trip received a standing ovation when he entered the game. Said Adjac, "I always played my hardest... I'm only sorry I couldn't have been out there all season."

The late season triple overtime cage win at Toledo, 74-72, must go down as one of the all-time cliff hangers involving WMU. Senior guard Bob Blohm's winning basket came with three seconds left.

Senior forward Bill Coole of Wayne was named to the MAC all-academic team.

Reggie Lacefield, sophomore forward from Gary, Ind., was named to the second team all Mid-American Conference squad. Reggie finished fourth in conference scoring with a 17.3 per-game average.

John Scholtens, senior center from Evergreen Park, Ill., was voted by his basketball teammates as the most valuable and the most improved player of this past season.

Seniors Brian Best of Saginaw and Bob Blohm of South Bend, Ind., were voted honorary captains by the cage squad.

While the WMU wrestling squad finished fourth in the MAC championships held at Western in March, a highlight of the 15th annual meet was the 123 pound title victory of WMU sophomore John McIlroy of Pontiac who was unbeaten in 12 regular dual season matches and added four during the MAC meet.

During the team banquet after the season, Don Shelton was named honorary captain and McIlroy most valuable.

Western’s swimming team, in an obvious off-year, finished in fourth place in the Mid-American Conference swimming meet at Bowling Green in mid-March, their lowest league finish in seven years. WMU’s ace free-styler, Ron Pohlonski, Dearborn senior, smashed Bronco and MAC records in the 1,650 yard freestyle by nearly 10 seconds, in 18:3.2. Ohio University retained its conference crown in the meet.

One of the highlights of Western’s indoor track season was the Bronco victory over nine other schools in the Central Collegiate Conference meet held at Notre Dame in February. WMU's 55 points was 14 more than Notre Dame and Southern Illinois garnered to tie for second place. Bronco Paul Seeley, Ferndale junior, set a new CCC, N.D. field house and WMU varsity indoor pole vault mark of 15-feet ¼-inch while Charles LeMon won the high hurdles in :07.3, a new CCC mark.