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WKZO Interview Talking Points

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WKZO Interview 1/7/09 Talking Points

Year's Top News for WMU comments for WKZO

You know, I've just returned to campus after two weeks of business and family-related travel around the country, and the remarkable thing I noticed was that right up to the end of 2008, we were seeing tremendous regional and national coverage of events at WMU.

- Foster Care initiative
- Our work with military veterans
- Research on the Kalamazoo Promise
- A new engineering initiative with KCC
- The amazing success of our volleyball team, which made it to the NCAA "Sweet Sixteen"
- Great accomplishments by our alumni

No single story dominated WMU news this year. It was much more a year of across-the-board success for our students and for our faculty and staff.

- Our students won national competitions and individual honors like the Udall Scholarship and the Bucknell Poetry Fellowships. We had an Academic All-American.

- Our faculty were honored with Fulbright awards and received wonderful research funding for work that is making a difference here in Kalamazoo and in our state and nation

- Our aviation college was honored by the Michigan Aviation Hall of Fame

- Our Campus Activities Board won a national award.

- Our campus was praised locally for its sustainability initiatives and environmental work.

2008 was a productive year full of WMU news--the kind of thing you expect from a top national university.

One of our more unusual news stories revolved around WMU Day at the Capitol last May--Our effort to put some of this great news in the hands of the Michigan Legislature.

The items on this page tell only part of the story. You can expect to see more great news this year.