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Talking Points for Judge Deborah Thomas TV Show Taping

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Dr. John M. Dunn
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• Just delighted to be here and have an opportunity to talk with you and share some information with your viewers.

• The Detroit area and WMU are longtime partners in the higher education arena.

WMU and Detroit

Number of WMU students from three-county metro Detroit area:
5,400 or more than 20 percent of student body

Number of WMU students from Southeastern Michigan:
8,700 or 35 percent of student body

Detroit-area Trustees:
• Dennis Archer, chairman of Dickinson Wright and former mayor of Detroit
• Jeanne Carlson, president and chief executive officer of Blue Care Network of Michigan, based in Southfield, MI

Detroit area alumni:
• More than 23,000 live in Oakland, Macomb and Wayne counties.
• Across Michigan, there are 111,000

• We had a phenomenally successful few days celebrating our area connections in Detroit last fall--leading up to our Nov. 8 game against the University of Illinois at Ford Field.

• We'll be back in Detroit this coming fall for a week of activities leading up to a Nov. 7 game against Michigan State University--again at Ford Field.

We continue to offer an incredible educational opportunity for Detroit area students who want a research university education. We're one of Michigan's five research universities--and by far the most affordable. Out of Michigan's 15 public universities, our tuition is 12th--a great value. We've worked hard to keep WMU affordable, and with the financial strains so many families are facing, we know we have to keep our efforts strong.
Western Edge-- an initiative that puts accountability on the University and its students and keeps costs down. Nothing is as effective in containing college costs as getting students to finish their degrees in as quick a time as possible.

We're a large university, but not so large that our students feel lost. We are large enough to have an incredibly diverse student, faculty and staff population--great minority representation, international students from more than 80 countries and students from every county in Michigan and every state in the U.S.

One special population we've been working with this year is alumni of the Foster Care system.

WMU Website: www.wmich.edu