Western’s enrollment this fall is 18,679, a gain of 232 over the fall 1967 figure. According to Clayton J. Maus, Dean of Records and Admissions at WMU, this year’s enrollment includes 2,389 graduate students and 16,290 undergraduates, with the total of juniors and seniors numbering 8,602, compared to the 7,688 freshmen and sophomores.

WMU President Dr. James W. Miller said, “The modest enrollment increase this fall is in line with Western’s program of growth and development. The fact that Western continues as one of only two institutions of higher education in Michigan which has more juniors and seniors than freshmen and sophomores indicates that it is meeting its obligation to Michigan’s growing community college program.

“It is encouraging to note that although doctoral programs were instituted at Western only two years ago, there are 81 doctoral candidates enrolled this fall. Western, it should be pointed out, ranks fourth in enrollment, diversity, complexity and level of programs among Michigan’s universities.”

Western’s students hail from all but one of Michigan’s counties (Montmorency), 45 other states and 59 foreign countries. Southwestern Michigan continues to be the greatest source of students with 9,321 coming from that section of the state, but with the largest growth in student representation over the past year registered by southeastern counties, which have sent 6,797 students to WMU this fall.

Of this student enrollment trend, President Miller said, “The increasing number of students which Western is attracting from southeastern Michigan is most gratifying. It emphasizes that Western is meeting its obligation to young people from all over the state and that its unique strengths and high level programs are filling a need.

“Western Michigan University stresses academic progress with programs geared to the current and future requirements of Michigan. This, I am confident, is the reason for the increasing number of students attending WMU from all sections of the state.”

This map shows the number of students at WMU this fall from each Michigan county in addition to enrollment from other states and foreign countries. The tier of 22 southeastern state counties registered a gain of 274 students over last year while the tier of 27 northern lower peninsula counties had a gain of 44 students and the 19 southwestern counties showed a gain of only 37.

A decline of 73 students from Kalamazoo county accounts for much of the marked slowing down of the usual large increase from southwestern Michigan, where nine counties declined and 10 were up, headed by Van Buren county’s gain of 63, the largest of any Michigan county. Kalamazoo Valley Community College in Kalamazoo county opened this fall and has enrolled more than 800 students, undoubtedly accounting for the drop in WMU students from Kalamazoo county.

Wayne county, with 2,417 students (15 over last year), supplies the second highest total of WMU students, while Oakland county is third with 1,350 (up 54) and Kent county is fourth with 1,231 (up five).

A decline of 118 out-of-state students has lowered WMU’s ratio of non-Michigan residents to 10.2 percent of its student body; last year it was 11 percent.
WMU Receives $201,991 Federal Grant for New Blind Training Program

WMU has been awarded a 12-month training grant of $201,991 by the Social and Rehabilitation Services Administration of the U.S. Office of Health, Education and Welfare to support a rehabilitation training program for the blind.

Donald Blasch, director of WMU's Blind Rehabilitation program, will direct the training project under this grant, which provides personnel salaries, supplies, travel expenses, tuition and traineeships. WMU's cost-share in the program is for an additional $88,479. The federal grant covers the period through next Aug. 31.

Western offers two master's degree programs in the area of blind rehabilitation and its contributions to this unique project have brought world-wide attention to WMU. The demand for graduates of programs related to training for the blind exceeds the current supply by about 10 to one. Many students, according to Blasch, are contacted by prospective employers shortly after they enroll in these training programs.

Ten Classroom Buildings In Proposed Five Year Capital Outlay Program

A five-year capital outlay program calling for the construction of nearly $37-million worth of campus buildings through the 1973-74 fiscal year has been approved by the WMU Board of Trustees. The capital outlay program calls for state appropriations of just over $10-million in fiscal 1969-70 and trailing off to $2.7-million in 1973-74. The program includes requested appropriations to complete new buildings and remodeling now in progress and also for new construction.

Projects already begun include the new Physical Science Building and the remodeling and expansion of McCracken Hall.

Construction funds will be requested for Instructional Facility No. 1 to cost $6-million, slated to begin in 1969 on the former Gateway Golf Course.

Planning funds are being requested for: a Fine Arts Building, a Women's Physical Education Building, Instructional Facility No. 2, a School of Business Building, Instructional Facility No. 3, Instructional Facility No. 4, and a Rehabilitation Education Building.

All of these projects have been included in previous requests for capital outlay appropriations to the Michigan Legislature.

First Multi-Level Auto Parking Ramp at WMU Begins in Early 1969

By the end of 1969 WMU will have its first multi-level parking ramp able to accommodate 600 cars. Construction was to begin next January on the self-liquidating project which will use funds from parking revenue for construction bond retirement and for maintenance.

Dr. Myron L. Coulter, WMU vice president for institutional services, said, "Parking has been a serious problem at WMU for the last few years. It is an even greater problem as the number of juniors, seniors and graduate students has increased. With the percentage of upper level students growing, more of them are living off campus and parking space for these commuter students is at a premium. All space available for parking is being utilized for this purpose. It leaves the University with only one alternative: we must park more cars on the same ground area, which means we must turn to parking ramps."

This first parking ramp will be located adjacent to Ellsworth Hall on a present parking lot.

Dedicate New Aviation Building in Mid-October

Dedication ceremonies and an open house were held Oct. 19 at WMU's newly remodeled and expanded facilities at the Kalamazoo Municipal Airport. More than 100 persons attended the dedication address, presented in a large hangar by David S. Ritner, vice president for employee development at United Airlines in Chicago. His topic was "Opportunity in Aviation."

Upwards of $300,000 in additions to the existing facility were completed this year at WMU's Aviation Building. The building houses operations for pilot training courses up to commercial and instructor's ratings, plus laboratories for the aviation engineering and technology curricula. WMU's fleet consists of nine airplanes housed and serviced at the airport facility.

Interior of one of large hangar-workshops in Aviation Building.
Harold Jacobson '38, president of the American National Bank of Kalamazoo and chairman of the 1967 WMU Alumni Annual Giving Campaign, was honored during the homecoming football game with Bowling Green for his outstanding participation as chairman of last year's fund drive. Barbara Bird '40 of Grand Rapids, president of the WMU Alumni Association, presented a plaque to Jacobson. The drive exceeded its goal of $150,00 under his direction.

**CALENDAR-PANORAMA**

**of alumni events**

WMU Alumni Relations Director John S. Lore was present at the recent installation of officers of the new Phi Chapter of Alpha Beta Epsilon, Western's alumnae sorority. Twenty women were inducted as charter members of the new Water-vliet-Coloma chapter.

Marion Krall was installed as the chapter's first president by Harriet Olifer of Muskegon, A.B.E. president. Other charter officers are: vice president Dorothy Shane, secretary Isabel Beall, treasurer Phyllis Schaus, and chaplain Rachel Rogers. Phi Chapter is the 19th in A.B.E. and the first new one since 1960.

Maxine Brule was toastmistress with Lucille Nobbs, retired WMU English faculty member who organized and sponsored the first chapter of A.B.E. at Western, also attending.

If this winter gets to be too much for you, then plan to take a warm breather with WMU alumni to a “Sunny Happening in Spain” next April 19-26. The tour price ($337 round trip from Detroit) includes non-stop jet flight, transfers and baggage handling, twin-bed accommodations at the famous seashore Triton Hotel at Malaga, two meals daily, golf, experienced tour escort and hotel service charges and taxes. In addition, optional tours to Tangier, Ronda, Granada, Seville and Cordoba are available at extra cost.

WMU alumni and members of their immediate families are eligible for this fun in the sun at the sumptuous Spanish resort.

WMU west coast alumni invite ALL Western alums to their “week end of fun” on Feb. 14-16, 1969 at the Sahara Hotel, Las Vegas, Nevada. The three days and two nights include dinner and show at the Sahara Congo Room, the Follies Bergere show at Hotel Tropicana, a behind-the-scenes tour of “The Mint,” a “Casbah” brunch, and other gatherings, all for the one price of $41 a person for double occupancy, $63 a person for single occupancy, or $19 a day per room only.

Other features of the weekend include a party at $3 a person and an 18 hole Saturday golf tournament at $4 a person.

East coast and midwest alumni are urged to contact WMU alumni relations director John Lore at WMU, if interested in a charter flight, which would be extra, as is all transportation.

West coast alumni should contact Pete VanDykten, 13829 Biola Ave., La Mirada, Calif.

**WMU NEWS BRIEFS**

Dr. Robben Fleming, president of the University of Michigan, will be the speaker at WMU’s fall semester commencement, Dec. 21, 2 p.m., in Read Field House.

As of July 1, WMU’s former Division of Field Services underwent a name change to the Division of Continuing Education, with Dr. Otto Yntema, who had been director, becoming Dean of Continuing Education.

Remember the long delays to phone into or out of WMU residence halls in the past? That has changed now that each room in campus residences has its own phone with different numbers. The change went completely into effect this fall, with the new Centrex system operating independent of a switchboard.

At present, Western offers master’s degrees in 54 areas, specialist (6th year) degrees in 15 areas and doctorates in four areas, with the 5th doctoral program (in mathematics) to begin this fall.

Delta Sigma Theta Sorority at WMU this fall presented to Waldo Library a gift of 20 new books, valued at more than $125, dealing with various facets of endeavor and contributions of Negroes to American life. Left to right, Peter Sypers-Duran, director of libraries at WMU, accepts the books from officers of the sorority, Linda Welley of Washington, D.C., Sandra Ford Frazier and Phyllis Heagmon of Detroit, and Gloria Butler of Chicago.

The books have become a part of WMU’s Randall Frazier Memorial Book Collection. They were selected by a professional librarian and sorority members said they plan future donations of such books to Waldo Library.

The late Mr. Randall Frazier was an employee of Waldo Library for 11 years and served as an unofficial recruiter of Negro students for WMU. He left Western, his alma mater, in 1943 to join the Inkster school system where he became athletic director of Inkster High School and then principal of two elementary schools until his death in 1961. An Inkster school is now named for him.
SPORTS REFLECTIONS

BASKETBALL—Led by returning veteran Gene Ford, WMU workouts began Oct. 15. Ford says the team “is ready for an all-out effort.” Last season’s scoring leader, Reggie Lacefield, who was named captain and most valuable player by teammates after the season, is making it with the Kentucky Colonels of the pro American Basketball Association as a guard-forward.

ALUMNI ATHLETES — Nelson Jackson, 1965 grid co-captain, this fall is a graduate assistant coach at Kalamazoo College. While at WMU, Nellie won the Mike Gary Award.

FOOTBALL — WMU's 17-10 homecoming loss to Bowling Green was its first MAC defeat at home in 11 games. Earlier, Brigham Young ended a Bronco win string of 12 against all foes at home, 17-7.

Defensive tackle Mike Siwek was named MAC lineman of the week for his 11 tackles against Arkansas State ball carriers, as WMU won 20-0.

The following week middle guard Don Lewis won the MAC lineman of the week award in the loss to Brigham Young as he was in on 16 tackles. Coach Doollittle termed Lewis' efforts the finest middle guard play he had ever seen.

The WMU defense, led by Siwek, Lewis and Pete Wysocki, nailed Kent State QB Trustdorf nine times trying to pass for 91 yards in losses, as WMU won 14-0 at Kent.

Top scholar on the squad is junior guard Keith Volk, with a 3.57 accumulative grade average, a math major.

March.

Randolph, despite his busy schedule of studies and practice, has time to serve as a board of directors member for the new Kalamazoo Teen Center. He worked hard to help remodel an empty store and raise funds for the Center.

WMU’s 440 yd. relay team (Randolph, Horace Coleman, Steve Strauch and Don Castronovo) set an all-time Michigan collegiate mark of :40.4 in the June NCAA outdoor finals.

John Piateck’s 228’ 1” javelin toss this May at Ypsilanti was the best ever by a Michigan collegiate performer. Wayne Lambert in late spring twice pole vaulted 16’, at Ann Arbor and the next weekend at Ohio U, a WMU record. Mike Hazilla last spring ran the best American collegiate times in the 10,000 meter and six mile events for the season.