Mitchell selected as new ombuds

Kathy L. Mitchell, a longtime staff member with experience in a number of campus departments, has been tapped to head the WMU Ombuds Office. Mitchell, director of field placements in the College of Education since 2004, was selected for the position following a campuswide search this spring. Her full-time appointment is effective July 1.

Seminar to center on veterans

The Advocacy Office for Transfer Students and Military Affairs will host a comprehensive national online seminar from 1 to 2:30 p.m. Tuesday, July 15, in 1010 College of Health and Human Services Building.

“Returning Veterans: Implications for Higher Education,” is a response to talk in Washington of reinvestigating the GI Bill and debates about whether the United States should bring its troops home from Iraq and Afghanistan, which point to a new wave of veterans enrolling in college.

But is America’s post-secondary education system prepared to serve them effectively, especially given that today’s returning veterans are different from their predecessors? A large turnout is expected for this event, so seats should be reserved early. RSVP to the advocacy office’s Eric McConnell at eric.mcconnell@wmich.edu or by calling 387-0740.

Nursing school wins local award

The Bronson School of Nursing will receive a 2008 Kalamazoo Communities In Schools Champ Award during an awards luncheon Friday, June 20, in the Kalamazoo Public Library. The award recognizes the school as a KCIS partner that provides quality service to students and possesses true collaborative spirit.

This community collaboration, active since 2004, is carried out by nursing students in their junior year as part of their pediatric rotation. The students present activities related to health promotion, disease prevention and minor illness management over a five-week period in local elementary schools. In some cases, they request and receive grants to fund materials and other aspects of the activities they provide.

Western News to go on hiatus

Today’s Western News is the last issue for the summer. Western News will resume its regular publication schedule after the start of the fall semester. During the hiatus, faculty and staff can keep up with campus happenings by visiting WMU News online at www.wmich.edu/wmu/news.

WMU releases Kalamazoo Promise findings

Preliminary findings from a study of the Kalamazoo Promise’s impact on the local school system have been released by the Evaluation Center.

The first round of findings are detailed in three working papers that have been posted at www.wmich.edu/evalctr/promise on the center’s Web site. The papers, titled “The Kalamazoo Promise as a Catalyst for Change in an Urban School District,” “Response from Community Groups” and “Key Findings from the 2007 Survey of High School Students,” give a preliminary assessment of the celebrated scholarship program’s impact on schools and the community at large.

The purpose of the evaluation, which is funded by the U.S. Department of Education, “is to determine whether the Kalamazoo Promise, through its transformative effect on the education culture within the school district, improves the progress of students through their K-12 experience and better prepares them for entering a postsecondary education program.”

Many of the key findings are still pending and will be released later in the summer. But initial results show the scholarship program, which was announced in November 2005 and provides four years of tuition and fees at any public college or university in Michigan for students who have attended Kalamazoo Public Schools, is having an impact on students, schools and the community.

The 2007 survey of high school students shows the vast majority plan to use the scholarship. Perhaps most telling, more than three-quarters of the students said they wish to use the Promise to enroll in a community college or university. Nearly a third reported the existence of the Promise has motivated them to attend school more often. A third also said they are now working harder in school due to the Promise.

Almost half of the students said they think the Promise has led to teachers having higher expectations, while only 34 percent reported the promise had not changed their education goals and plans.

“These are promising results, but it is important to note that these are self-reported data on short-term outcomes,” says Gary Miron, Evaluation Center research associate and director of the Promise evaluation. “Hard data on intermediate and long-term outcomes will be critical to determine the actual impact of the Promise on the public school system.”

Interviews with a diverse array of key informants from the community show the Promise is also having an impact on community groups that support students and families. Changes among community organizations prompted by the Promise include increased support for students through new programming, such as tutoring or through expanding existing programs serving children, and an influx of tutors and mentors across different community organizations.

New event debuts to recognize faculty tenure, promotions

WMU’s newly tenured and promoted faculty members were recognized during a special luncheon June 13 in the Bernhard Center.

This was the first time the University has held such an event.

The luncheon was hosted by the WMU Board of Trustees following its June 13 meeting, during which 40 faculty members were approved for tenure and 66 faculty members were promoted.

Both the tenure appointments and promotions are effective with the beginning of the 2008-09 academic year. A total of 29 faculty members were promoted to the rank of full professor, 31 to associate professor, four to master faculty specialist and two to faculty specialist II.

President John M. Dunn, center, and English department Chair Richard Utz, right, congratulate English faculty members, from left, Jana Schulman, who was promoted to professor, and Jon Adams and Karen Vacke, who received tenure and were promoted to associate professor.

(Photograph courtesy of the Department of English)
University Theatre gets rare performance opportunity in Canterbury

A ground-breaking drama about gay Christians, performed last season by the University Theatre, has attracted international attention and an invitation for the original cast to present the work in England at a gathering of Anglican clergies Wednesday through Monday, July 16-Aug. 4.

WMU's recently sold-out production, "Seven Passages: The Stories of Gay Christians," will be performed at the Lambeth Conference, which convenes once every 10 years in Canterbury, England.

Led by the archbishop of Canterbury, the three-week summit brings together archbishops and diocesan, assistant and suffragan bishops from around the globe to consider issues facing the church and pass resolutions on the church's governance, its ministry and liturgy, and its engagement in the world.

WMU students will move the timely issues of gender and sexuality to center stage when they perform in conjunction with related conference discussions. The theatre production is one of just 30 events chosen for inclusion in the conference schedule.

Around Campus

Free jazz concerts scheduled

The fifth annual Steve Zegree Vocal Jazz Camp will bring participants from around the world to campus Sunday through Friday, June 22-27. It will conclude with a free concert at 7:30 p.m. Friday in the Dalton Center Recital Hall.

Camp participants also will perform nightly in downtown Kalamazoo from 8:30 to 10:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday at the Union Cabaret and Grill, 125 S. Kalamazoo Mall. There is no cover charge and no reservations are necessary.

TB focus of Uzbekistan visitors

Public health professionals from Uzbekistan will visit the College of Health and Human Services Monday, June 23, to tour the WMU Bronson School of Nursing and meet with Amy B. Curtis, interdisciplinary health sciences.

Curtis has served as an epidemic intelligence officer at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, where her work focused on investigating tuberculosis outbreaks and evaluation and surveillance of health-care related diseases.

Doctoral researchers to present

The public is invited to see the research contributions being made by doctoral students when the Ph.D. Program in Interdisciplinary Health Sciences hosts the 2008 Interdisciplinary Doctoral Research Conference from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Friday, July 18, in the College of Health and Human Services Building.

Service

An expanded issue of Western News will be published at the start of the 2008-09 academic year to accommodate the lengthy list of faculty and staff who will be celebrating service anniversaries in July and August while Western News is on summer hiatus.

Jobs

Current job opportunities at WMU are announced daily on the Human Resources Web site at www.wmich.edu/hr/careers-at-wmu.htm. Please note that applications must be submitted online by the stated deadline. Complete application procedures are included with each posting.

Clinician named national fellow

Sandra Glista, speech pathology and audiology, has been elected a fellow of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association. The designation is one of the field's highest honors and a testament to Glista's accomplishments at WMU on behalf of her department, its clients and professionals throughout Michigan.

Glista, a master clinical faculty specialist, has been at WMU since 1991. She has expertise in the areas of neuroanatomical disorders of speech, language, communication disorders of the aged, and augmentative and alternative communication.

ASHA is the professional, scientific and credentialing association for more than 130,000 members and affiliates who are audiologists, speech-language pathologists, and speech and language hearing scientists.

Counselor wins national honor

Alan J. Hovestadt, counselor education and counseling psychology, has received a 2008 Presidential Award from the American Counseling Association. It was bestowed in recognition of his more than three decades of service as a counselor educator, mentor and advocate for inter-professional collaboration.

The honor, presented during ACAs 2008 conference in March, is part of the association's national awards program for recognizing achievements of counselors who have distinguished themselves professionally as well as through service to others.

Hovestadt came to WMU in 1985 as chair of his department. He is a fellow and former president of the American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy and chairs the Michigan Board of Marriage and Family Therapy State Licensing Board.

Emerita named top volunteer

Linda Law, emeritus in health, physical education and recreation, was recognized by Special Olympics Michigan as the Outstanding Volunteer of the Year for Kalamazoo County during a May 28 event in Mount Pleasant, Mich.

Each year, directors from SCOM's 36 local area programs recognize one volunteer who goes above and beyond to help athletes develop physically, emotionally and socially.

Law, who's been involved with Special Olympics for 10 years, was cited for recruiting additional volunteers and successfully coordinating Area 16's 2008 Unified Bowling Program as well as volunteering in the same capacity next year.

She retired this past year as an associate professor after 31 1/2 years of service at WMU and was named the Alumni "W" Club Woman of the Year in 2005.
Trustees approve retirements of eight faculty, staff members

The retirements of four faculty members and four staff members were approved by the WMU Board of Trustees at its June 13 meeting. Trustees also accepted the resignations of two faculty members.

All of the faculty members who are retiring are doing so with faculty emeritus status. Their names, units, years of continuous service and effective dates of retirement are:

- **William "Arnis" Johnston,** English, who also is being granted the title of chair emeritus in English, 40 years, effective June 30; **Gwendolyn Nagle,** theatre, 18-1/2 years, effective April 30, 2009; **Janet I. Pisaneschi,** speech pathology and audiology, who has been taking a year’s annual leave and also is being granted the title of dean emerita of health and human services, 19 years, effective June 30; and **Judith J. Sadler,** nursing, 10-1/2 years, effective April 28, 2009.

The staff members retiring are: **Willard E. Breur,** physical plant-utilities/services, 32 years, effective June 30; **William D. Cochran,** physical plant-maintenance services, 30-1/2 years, effective June 30; **Margo A. Kellogg,** development, 23 years, effective Aug. 31; and **Daniel Tinkler,** physical plant-power plant, 22-1/2 years, effective Sept. 30.

The faculty members resigning are: **Anthony Calucci,** dance, effective Aug. 10, and **Laura B. Ciriton,** sociology, effective Aug. 29.

Golfers, non-golfers to gather for second WMU team-building event

Two campus organizations are organizing their second campuswide golf outing and dinner program, continuing an event they began this past summer to foster camaraderie at the University.

The Administrative Professional Association and Academic Technology and Instructional Services has planned the nine-hole golf outing starting at 2:45 p.m. Friday, Aug. 15. The registration deadline is noon Friday, Aug. 1, and participation is limited to the first 72 golfers who register.

Any student affiliated with WMU, and their guests, may play in or volunteer to help out at the event, which is being held at the Prairies, 5303 W. Main St., Kalamazoo (next to the National City Bank).

The golf outing is designed to introduce WMU colleagues to one another and build as well as strengthen personal and professional relationships. It will include an awards program and dinner. Volunteers are eligible to win door prizes and may attend the dinner at no cost.

Obituaries

- **Billie L. Donoghue,** a retired staff mem-

ber, died May 17. She was 86.

Donoghue came to WMU in 1961 and retired in 1985 as administrative assistant to the dean of graduate studies.

- **William F. Grimshaw,** apart-time instruc-

tor, died May 14. He was 86.

Grimshaw came to WMU in 1987 and taught public administration in what was the Division of Continuing Education until 1999. Previously, he had a non-academic career, working with such organizations as the Burroughs Corp., General Electric and the Charles Stewart Mott Foundation.
Newly tenured faculty

The faculty members approved for tenure are listed as follows by their current academic rank.

• The associate professor receiving tenure is: Takashi Yoshida, history.
• Assistant professors receiving tenure are: Jon R. Adams, English; Heather Addison, communications; Omar Anguslan, finance and commercial law; Bradford Dennis, University Libraries; Charles R. Henderson, physics; Sarah Hill, anthropology; Phillip Johnson, counselor education and counseling psychology; James J. Kiddie, chemistry; Ok-Kyong Kim, mathematics; Mahendra S. Lawoti, political science; Robert J. Lenewey, educational leadership, research and technology; Kathryn Lewis-Ginebusch, University Counseling and Testing Center; Mark Liermann, theatre; Nancy B. Mansberger, teaching, learning and educational studies; Michael Millar, Spanish; Mustafa Mughazy, foreign languages; Debasri Mukherjee, economics; Lori A. Mose, management; Jun-Soek Oh, civil and construction engineering; Sue Poppink, educational leadership, research and technology; Pablo M. Pastrana, Spanish; Shaila Rao, special education and literacy studies; Sybil Rhodes, political science; Weiwei Shen, computer science; Paul R. Vellom, teaching, learning and educational studies; Karen S. Vlacic, English; Kevin Wonnner, comparative religion; Donna M. Weinreich, social work; Michael Whang, University Libraries; Peter Wielhouwer, political science; and Takashi Yoshida, history.

• Faculty specialist IIs receiving tenure are:
  - Mary J. Baakus, nursing; Cheryl L. Bauman-Browne, theatre; Michael C. Beaus, Spanish; and Joni Jones, nursing.
  - Faculty specialist Is receiving tenure are: Martin Grant, aviation; Loren Heun, statistics; Kathleen Onderlinde, biological sciences; and Jodi G. Palmer, teaching, learning and educational studies.

Newly promoted faculty

The faculty members approved for promotions are as follows.

• Promoted to professor are: Richard Adams, music; Amos J. Beyan, history; Sandra L. Borden, communication; Jose A. Brandao, history; Cat L. Crotchett, art; Leigh A. Ford, communication; Thomas W. Govecze, physics; Emily L. Hauptmann, political science; Norman W. Hawker, finance and commercial law; Margaret Joyce, paper engineering, chemical engineering and imaging; David N. Karowe, biological sciences; Jean Kimmel, economics; Kirk T. Korista, physics; Cindy L. Linn, biological sciences; Yu-Nong Liu, health, physical education and recreation; Matthew S. Mingus, public affairs and administration; Timothy B. Palmer, management; John S. Petrovic, mathematics; Dewei Qi, paper engineering, chemical engineering and imaging; Silvia Rossbach, biological sciences; Nancy M. Schullery, business information systems; Jana K. Schulman, English; Michael Tarn, business information systems; Robert E. Vann, Spanish; Delores D. Walcott, University Counseling and Testing Center; Wilson J. Warren, history; Susan Weinger, social work; and Steve M. Wollnberger, music.

• Promoted to associate professor are: Jon R. Adams, English; Heather Addison, communica tion; Omar Anguslan, finance and commercial law; Bradford W. Dennis, University Libraries; Charles R. Henderson, physics; Sarah Hill, anthropology; Phillip Johnson, counselor education and counseling psychology; James J. Kiddie, chemistry; Ok-Kyong Kim, mathematics; Mahendra S. Lawoti, political science; Robert J. Lenewey, educational leadership, research and technology; Kathryn Lewis-Ginebusch, University Counseling and Testing Center; Mark Liermann, theatre; Nancy B. Mansberger, teaching, learning and educational studies; Michael Millar, Spanish; Mustafa Mughazy, foreign languages; Debasri Mukherjee, economics; Lori A. Mose, management; Jun-Soek Oh, civil and construction engineering; Pablo M. Pastrana-Perez, Spanish; Sue Poppink, educational leadership, research and technology; Shaila Rao, special education and literacy studies; Sybil D. Rhodes, political science; Weiwei Shen, computer science; R. Paul Vellom, teaching, learning and educational studies; Karen S. Vlacic, English; Kevin J. Wonnner, comparative religion; Donna M. Weinreich, social work; Michael Whang, University Libraries; Peter W. Wielhouwer, political science; and Takashi Yoshida, history.

• Promoted to master faculty specialists are: Mary J. Baakus, nursing; Cheryl L. Bauman-Browne, theatre; Michael C. Beaus, Spanish; and Joni Jones, nursing.
• Promoted to faculty specialist II are: Loren L. Heun, statistics; and Kathleen Onderlinde, biological sciences.

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