



Western Michigan University  
ScholarWorks at WMU

---

Faculty Recognition

Western Michigan University

---

5-30-2002

## Faculty Retirement Recognition Dinner 2002

Western Michigan University

Follow this and additional works at: <https://scholarworks.wmich.edu/faculty-recognition>



Part of the Higher Education Commons

---

### WMU ScholarWorks Citation

Western Michigan University, "Faculty Retirement Recognition Dinner 2002" (2002). *Faculty Recognition*. 134.

<https://scholarworks.wmich.edu/faculty-recognition/134>

This Program is brought to you for free and open access by the Western Michigan University at ScholarWorks at WMU. It has been accepted for inclusion in Faculty Recognition by an authorized administrator of ScholarWorks at WMU. For more information, please contact [wmu-scholarworks@wmich.edu](mailto:wmu-scholarworks@wmich.edu).





WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY

*Faculty  
Retirement  
Recognition  
Dinner*

*May 30, 2002*



*Faculty  
Retirement  
Recognition  
Dinner*

---

WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY

---

*May 30, 2002*





Elson S. Floyd  
President

May 2002

Dear Colleagues:

Welcome to the 2002 Faculty Retirement Recognition Dinner, and congratulations on having joined the ranks of a distinguished and impressive group of individuals.

This occasion marks a very significant transition for faculty who have served this University long and well. Your commitment to excellence helped build and maintain Western Michigan University's fine reputation as a student-centered research university, and I thank you for your dedication and hard work.

You have my best wishes and warm regards as you embrace all of your future endeavors.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Elson S. Floyd".

Elson S. Floyd



## Program

Trumpet Fanfare . . . . . Scott Thornburg  
Emcee . . . . . Joe Reish

## Dinner

Greetings from the Faculty Senate . . . . . Peter Krawutschke  
Recognition of the Honorees:  
    Presentation of the Certificates . . . . . Elson S. Floyd  
Welcome to the Ranks of Emeriti . . . . . Ellen Page-Robin  
Honorees' Response . . . . . Karen Seelig  
"Music from Around the World" . . . . . student performers  
    Introductions by D. Terry Williams  
WMU Alma Mater . . . . . sung by all  
    Directed by Bob Whaley, accompanied by Bill Appel



# *Dinner*



*Garden Greens with Mandarin Oranges, Slivered  
Almonds, and Orange Poppyseed Vinaigrette*

*Grilled Chicken Breast with Rosemary, Feta Cheese,  
and Roasted Red Pepper Sauce*

*Baby Redskin Potatoes*

*Fresh Seasonal Vegetables*

*Rolls and Butter*

*Raspberry Layer Cake or Boston Creme Pie*

*Beverages*

## Honored Guests

Tonight we honor 18 of our colleagues who are entering the ranks of Western's esteemed retired faculty. It is good to have this gathering of those who through so many years have contributed so much to the building of Western's valued traditions, yet have always been attuned to the imperatives of new directions.

We thank these retiring faculty for their years of dedicated service to Western Michigan University and wish them a full and happy future. By honoring the accomplishments of our retired faculty, we also honor the accomplishments of Western, for the two are inextricably interwoven.

Dale M. Brethower

Mary Anne V. Bunda (no biography)

Seamus A. Cooney

Loren D. Crane

Ronald A. Crowell

Richard J. Dieker

Jay Easwaran

Jeffrey B. Gardiner

Earl E. Halvas

R. Dean Kaul

Diann J. Miller

Thomas F. Pagel

Karen K. Seelig

Thomas H. Seiler

John F. Shaw

Nancy H. Steinhaus

Ralph K. Steinhaus

Morton O. Wagenfeld

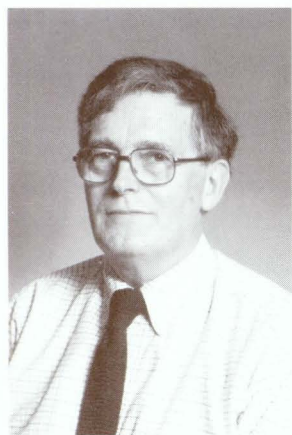
**Dale M. Brethower**  
Professor of Psychology

Dale M. Brethower was born in St. Francis, Kansas. He received his bachelor's degree in psychology from the University of Kansas, his master's degree in experimental psychology from Harvard University, and his doctorate in educational psychology from the University of Michigan. Dale specialized in instructional design, performance management, and behavior management.

Prior to joining the faculty at Western in 1978, Dale taught at the University of Michigan and Cleveland State University. He directed the Industrial/Organizational Psychology Program in Western's Department of Psychology from 1978 to 1988. He also introduced the Learning-to-Learn program. In addition, he has worked closely with other departments at Western: Working on two projects at the Evaluation Center, teaching cognate courses for graduate programs in Human Resource Development and Developmental Administration, and serving on numerous doctoral committees in the College of Education.

Dale is widely published with many books, book chapters, book reviews, research reports, and published papers to his credit. He was recognized with an achievement award in 1993 from the Organizational Behavior Management Network. He was elected to the Board of Directors of the North Central Reading Association and the International Society for Performance Improvement and served as president of each organization. Additionally, Dale has done extensive consultation work in both the public as well as the private sectors.

In retirement, Dale plans to continue his consulting work both on his own and with his wife in her consulting business. Plus, he wants to continue doing research and development work in organizational theory. Dale plans to see much of the southwest while living and traveling there (on his pre-retirement gift of a BMW motorcycle) during part of the year. He also wants to spend more time with his family.



**Seamus A. Cooney**  
Professor of English

Seamus A. Cooney was born in Dublin, Ireland. He received his bachelor's degree in English and French from University College, Dublin, his master's degree from Indiana University, and his doctorate from the University of California, Berkley.

Seamus taught at Indiana University and Loyola University of Los Angeles prior to coming to Western's English Department in 1971. His courses at Western have included nineteenth century fiction, modern and contemporary literature, genre courses in fiction, poetry, and creative writing, to name a few. He also offered courses on Chaucer, Shakespeare, Scott, Yeats, D. H. Lawrence, and Joyce. He is widely published with scholarly articles, book reviews, and books which were edited by him or contained contributions from him.

As Director of Graduate Programs in English during three different terms, Seamus was responsible for course scheduling, curriculum, student advising, and more. He has served on many of the English Department's vital standing governance committees. At the university level, he served on committees such as the Merit Scholarship Committee, the Dean's Advisory Committee, and the Undergraduate Studies Council, to name a few. During his three decades on campus, Seamus has done much to establish the tone, content, and structure of the English Department's curriculum and methods of governance.

In retirement, Seamus plans to spend more time with his wife, Mordi, and continue his scholarly and editorial interests. Additional plans include running his on-line book selling business, Celery City Books. He and his wife also are looking forward to traveling to his native Ireland and his wife's native Thailand.

## **Loren D. Crane**

Associate Professor of Communication

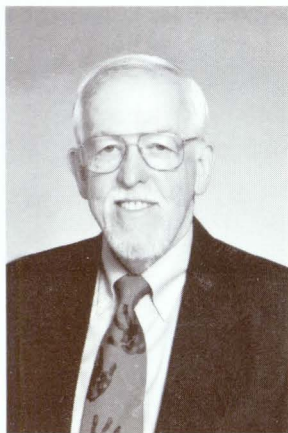
Loren D. Crane was born in Las Vegas, Nevada. He attended Brigham Young University where he earned his bachelor's degree in speech. From there he went to Ohio State University for a master's degree in rhetoric and a doctorate in communication.

Loren joined the faculty at Western Michigan University in 1965, after teaching at Wisconsin State University at Whitewater. His areas of teaching have included interpersonal communication, intrapersonal communication, listening, public speaking, persuasion, leadership, group decision-making, organizational communication, and general semantics.

The role of the brain in communication activity with particular focus on the functions of the hemispheres of the brain has been the focus of Loren's scholarly enquiry. He has been the recipient of many grants, the purposes of which were to examine the relationship between the brain's information processing abilities and communication behavior in special education, and child and adult education. This research led to his fourth book, *The Executive Functions of the Brain*. Three earlier books on public speaking were *Professional Strategies for Public Speakers*, *Authentic Public Speaking: A Personal Approach*, and *Programmed Speech Fundamentals*.

Over the years, Loren has been a visiting professor at six universities. Additionally, he has served as a consultant and made numerous presentations and developed workshops for business and professional organizations, and educational organizations.

In retirement, Loren and his wife, Marlene, will be hosting welcomed visits from their four children, Liann, Dan, Maren, and Kirstin in their new home in Phoenix, Arizona.



## **Ronald A. Crowell**

Associate Professor  
of Teaching, Learning, and Leadership

Ronald A. Crowell received his master's degree in psychology from the University of Toledo. He then was awarded his doctorate degree from Michigan State University.

Ron joined the faculty of Western Michigan University in 1966 as a teacher of reading in the Psycho-educational Clinic, which was a part of the Department of Teacher Education. Throughout his career as a teacher educator in the Department of Teaching, Learning, and Leadership, Ron has been a voice in the public schools.

Shortly after coming to Western, Ron joined two colleagues, Rich Harring and Jim Burns, along with three public school teachers in a special program for teachers in the Freemont and Fruitport (Michigan) public schools, which became a nationally recognized and award-winning program for field based programs. His next step was involvement with the "Kalamazoo Project," a master's degree program for teaching disadvantaged youth, and a cross-departmental team initiated "Urban Education" program. He has served as Assistant Department Chair and as head of the Elementary Education unit in the department.

At the state level, Ron has served on the Board of the Michigan Reading Association and the Michigan Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development. He was an officer in two special interest groups for the American Educational Research Association. In 1991, Ron helped develop a partnership with Battle Creek Lakeview Schools and became the university coordinator for Prairieview Elementary Professional Development School in that district. He served in that role for seven years, working closely with undergraduates who completed their internships there. He also worked closely with colleagues from Grand Valley State University, Michigan State University, and Central Michigan University, initiating the Michigan PDS Consortium, researching and evaluating the role of university faculty in partnering with public schools. More recently, Ron has been the co-director of another innovative school-university partnership with the Oak Park Schools in the Detroit area.

Always active in the community, Ron chaired Action Now, worked with NAACP lawyers to desegregate the Kalamazoo Schools, served as AYSO commissioner for three years, and was board president of Living Ways.

Ron and Nancy, his wife, plan to spend summers at their cottage during retirement, while Ron continues to work on the Oak Park program and do volunteer work, in addition to traveling.

**Richard J. Dieker**  
Professor of Communication

Richard J. Dieker was born in Lyon County, Kansas. He received both his bachelor's and master's degrees from Emporia State University in Kansas, and his doctorate from Michigan State University.

Richard's teaching career began in the Hugoton Public Schools, Hugoton, Kansas, followed by Michigan State University, and the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. He joined Western's faculty in 1966, and served as chair of the Department of Communication for almost half of his tenure here.

Starting with a position as resident coordinator for the Agency for International Development Communication Seminars at Michigan State University, Richard began his long-term interest in intercultural communication. His articles, papers, and presentations have explored the role of communication in leadership, crisis management, and conflict management in both private and public sector organizations. Richard is a certified curriculum evaluation consultant by the Speech Communication Association. As such, he has served as a consultant and trainer for numerous corporate, professional, and academic organizations, some of which include the Upjohn Company, Grumman-Olson Corporation, Mohawk Airlines, the U.S. Department of Navy, the U.S. Army, and Alcoa and Reynolds Aluminum.

Richard has served as a program evaluator for undergraduate and graduate communication programs at numerous schools and has been a visiting professor at four universities.

In retirement, Richard and his wife, Judith, plan to live in their new home in Palm Beach, Florida, where he can pursue his interests in sailing, flying private airplanes, and playing the guitar.



## Jay Easwaran

Associate Professor of Mechanical and  
Aeronautical Engineering

Jay Easwaran was born in India. He received his mechanical engineering degree from Baroda University. His graduate degree was completed in North America in his areas of specialty – metallurgy and materials science and engineering. His doctorate degree was conferred by the University of Toronto. Prior to the beginning of his teaching career, he held a prominent position in industry.

Jay joined the Western Michigan University faculty in 1982. His practical, caring, and demanding attitude toward his students have made him a very practical educator, having long-term impact on his engineering students. Students in his materials classes became the beneficiaries of his vast experience and great engineering intuition. Throughout his tenure at Western, Jay has kept abreast of first-hand, cutting-edge developments in industry. This has been fostered through close, personal relationships with colleagues in industry.

Reflected in his patents and technical papers are Jay's curiosity and innovative mind. He views engineering as the application of science and technology to produce better and more useful products. He searches enthusiastically for ways to market his creative ideas. As Western develops its new Business, Technology, and Research Park, it is unfortunate that Jay Easwaran, as he has been ahead of his time as a one-man Business, Technology, and Research Park, has retired.

In retirement, Jay has moved with his wife and their four children to Indiana, from where he will keep managing his successful high-tech materials engineering factories.



## **Jeffrey B. Gardiner**

### **Associate Professor of German**

Jeffrey B. Gardiner received his bachelor's degree from Stanford University where he graduated as a member of Phi Beta Kappa. Jeff then spent three years as an Army Intelligence Officer in Germany. After his military service, he returned to the United States and went on to the University of Colorado, where he earned his master's degree. This was followed by a year of study at Universität Tübingen in Tübingen, Germany. He then returned to the University of Colorado to earn his doctorate. After earning his doctorate, he was a teaching associate at the University of Colorado for one year.

Jeff joined the Western faculty in 1970. With a specialization in eighteenth century German literature coupled with interests in Germanic linguistics, naturalism, medieval German literature, business German, and translation, Jeff easily fit into virtually every type of course offered at Western in German language, literature, and culture. Throughout his tenure at Western, he has maintained close contact with German culture through numerous periods of travel and study in Germany. As an active German scholar, Jeff has authored many critical reviews, in particular on the work of the eighteenth century writer Christoph Martin Wieland. His extensive study has been a strong contribution to the wide variety of courses he has taught over the many years at Western.

At the department level, Jeff was the German section head for nine years. He has served on virtually all of the major committees in the Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures. He represented his department in the Faculty Senate for many years, providing substantive reports at department meetings. Some of his translation work included lengthy translations of highly technical material in the field of medicine.

At the university level, Jeff has served on two American Association of University Professors committees. He served on a committee to help establish a translation center at Western. In addition, he was a member of a committee proposing to establish a travel planning and counseling program. Additionally, he chaired an Arts and Science Curriculum Committee and was a member of various other college curriculum committees.

Upon retirement, Jeff and Dagmar will do a good bit of traveling, particularly in the warmer parts of the West and South, and of course in Germany. Jeff's unique approach to life and his insightful comments about the many intricacies of life will be missed greatly in the department, in the halls, and at the many meetings which he attended.



## **Earl E. Halvas**

Assistant Professor  
of Business Information Systems

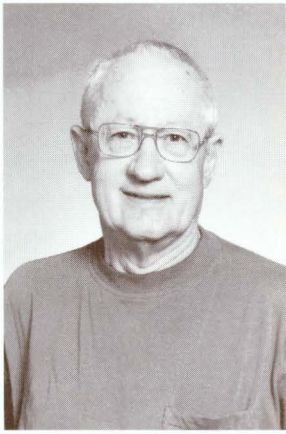
Earl E. Halvas was born in Beechwood, Michigan. He earned his bachelor's degree in business administration and business education from Northern Michigan University, his master's degree in counseling and psychology from Northern Michigan University, and his doctorate in business education from the University of Minnesota.

Prior to joining the faculty of the business college in 1971, he taught business and English in William G. Mather High School in Munising and Andover High School in Bloomfield Hills. He then became a consultant in business and distributive education for the Division of Vocational Education with the Michigan Department of Education. This was followed by teaching at Utah State University.

Since coming to Western, Earl passed the six-part examination to become a Certified Records Manager. He also attended the five-week AACSB/University of Minnesota Basic Information Systems Faculty Development Institute. He has been involved with the Association of Records Managers and Administrators (ARMA) for many years. Earl has consulted with numerous organizations in this area such as the City of Kalamazoo, the Kalamazoo Chapter of the American Red Cross, the Upjohn Company, the Irving S. Gilmore Foundation, and many others.

Earl has presented many workshops, one of the most popular of which has been his Time Management Seminar. He has served on numerous committees in his department, at the college level, and at the university level. Most recently, Earl has been serving as the Executive Chair of the Department of Business Information Systems.

In retirement, he plans to spend much more time with June, his wife, their children, and grandchildren, who are located all across the country. His caring demeanor for all of those who came into contact with him, will be missed.



## **R. Dean Kaul**

Associate Professor of Physics

R. Dean Kaul was born in Cleveland, Ohio. He earned his bachelor of science in physics, his master of science in physics, and his doctorate in atomic physics, all from Case Institute of Technology.

Prior to coming to Western in 1967, Dean taught physics at the University of Otago in Dunedin, New Zealand, and he worked at the

NASA Lewis Laboratory in Cleveland. When he first came to Western, Dean continued his research into the properties and structures of atoms. He built an atomic collision apparatus in his laboratory in Rood Hall, from which emerged several publications. Later, his efforts focused on full-time teaching. He frequently taught the department's large introductory courses. This was followed by the popular course on photography, and then the optics course which was required of all physics majors.

Dean's hands-on approach to physics has allowed his students to be able to relate the relevance of physics to their everyday lives and careers. He is known for demanding high standards, resulting in students coming away from his courses with a deeper knowledge of the subject matter. Dean is known for his independence and down-to-earth style. He can certainly be characterized as someone who does it "his way."

It is assumed that he will continue pursuing his interests in climbing, scuba diving, and car restoration in his retirement.



## **Diann J. Miller**

Assistant Professor

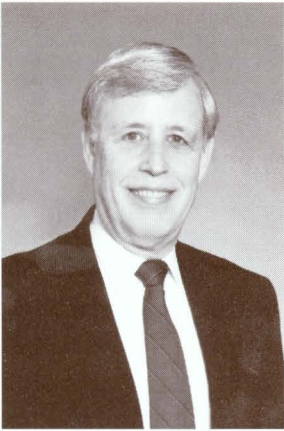
University Counseling and Testing Center

Diann J. Miller was born in Park Falls, Wisconsin. She received her bachelor's degree in secondary education from the University of Wisconsin, Stevens Point. She went on to study guidance and counseling for her master's degree at Western Michigan University.

As part of her training at Western, Diann was a graduate assistant in the Counseling Bureau, where she was hired as an Academic/Educational Advisor. In 1976, she was appointed the coordinator of the Undecided Program. During that time period, she developed and coordinated the teaching of the Career Exploration Course, now known as UNIV 102. In 1995, Diann was named Career Counseling Coordinator. She has worked with all facets of counseling and test interpretation for students seeking career counseling services.

Diann has been an active member of St. Thomas More parish and has served on numerous committees providing outreach services to those in need. She continues to do extensive volunteer work in the community. She is a licensed professional counselor in the state of Michigan.

In retirement, Diann plans to pursue her interest in art by taking some classes in watercolor and drawing. In addition, she will continue her interest in the community through her volunteer work.



## Thomas F. Pagel

Associate Professor of Communication

Thomas F. Pagel is a native of Detroit, Michigan. His first two years of study were done at the College of William and Mary in Williamsburg, Virginia. He completed his bachelor's degree in radio and television at Wayne State University. He received his master's degree in mass communication theory from the Annenberg School at the University of Pennsylvania, and his doctorate in mass communication from the University of Denver.

Tom began his professional career as a camera operator and floor manager for Dick Clark's *American Bandstand* at WFIL-TV in Philadelphia, in 1963. From there, he moved on to Ohio University. Tom joined the Western faculty in the Department of Communication in 1970. He has taught extensively in the area of television and mass communication.

Media production, consultation, and training have all been parts of Tom's professional work. His consulting work has been with Goshen Indiana Public Schools, Borgess Hospital, Clark Equipment Company, United Way of Kalamazoo, and the Michigan Department of Natural Resources, to name a few.

Tom has always maintained close relations with his students, many of who have gone on to hold prominent positions in the media industry. One such student is Tim Allen of *Home Improvement*. Tom has been a prime source of information on Tim Allen's student days at Western, and as such has been interviewed pertaining to his recollections numerous times.

In retirement, Tom and Wanda plan to stay in Kalamazoo, but do extensive traveling in Europe. Greece, the Czech Republic, and the Island of Madeira are probable destinations. This will afford Tom the opportunity to pursue his interest in international cuisine and culture.



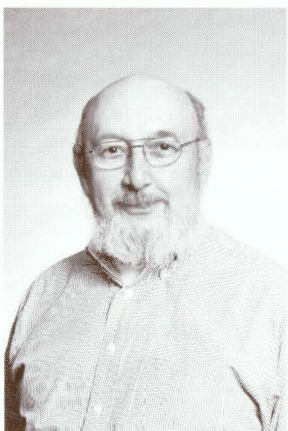
**Karen K. Seelig**  
Associate Professor  
of Speech Pathology and Audiology

Karen K. Seelig was born in Chicago, Illinois. She received her bachelor's degree in speech pathology and English from Western Michigan University, where she also received her teacher certification. She then went on to study speech pathology for her master's degree from Northwestern University. Her next step led to Certification of Clinical Competency-Speech Language Pathology (CCC-SLP).

Karen was a speech therapist for Riverside Public Schools in Riverside, Illinois, prior to joining Western's faculty in the Department of Speech Pathology and Audiology in 1967. Over the years, she has taught a wide variety of classes, but has specialized her teaching and clinical education endeavors in the areas of developmental disabilities and fluency disorders. Karen has made major contributions to the department and its students by facilitating the infusion of writing intensive activities into several of the department courses and into the professional development of both undergraduate and graduate students.

In addition to her teaching responsibilities, Karen has served as coordinator of the undergraduate program, undergraduate advisor, and coordinator of the undergraduate honors program. She served for many years on the University Teacher Education Committee and the Undergraduate Studies Council. She has an extensive listing of professional activities, which include presentations, consultations, training, publications, and more.

The faculty, staff, and students in the department will miss Karen's valued contributions and friendship as Karen and Joe look forward to the extended recreation planned for her retirement.



## Thomas H. Seiler

Professor of English and Medieval Studies

Thomas H. Seiler was born in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. He earned his bachelor's degree at Indiana University of Pennsylvania. He received his master's degree from the University of Toledo and his doctorate from the University of Texas at Austin. His dissertation was on, "Devices of Brevity in the Narrative Poetry of Robert Henryson."

Tom joined the Department of English at Western in 1970. He has taught a variety of courses in his specialty: Chaucer, Dante, Arthurian legend, medieval English literature, and medieval continental literature. Additionally, he has taught a wide array of departmental offerings: Literary history and criticism, development of English verse, Shakespeare, modern poetry, gay and lesbian literature, the English Bible as literature, and many others.

A major contribution to his profession was when Tom was Managing Editor of Medieval Institute Publications where, beginning in 1978, he contributed significantly to the international stature of Western as a key center for study of the Middle Ages. Under Tom's guidance, 15 to 18 books and several major periodicals are published annually. His work has turned the press into a major voice in international medieval studies.

In more recent years, Tom has devoted himself to his interests in the Audubon Society, the Southwest Michigan Land Conservancy, the Nature Conservancy, and the American Birding Association. In retirement, he plans to continue his volunteer work, pursue his interest in travel and the arts, and enjoy leisure time with family and friends.



## **John F. Shaw**

Associate Professor of  
Health, Physical Education, and Recreation  
and Head Coach  
for Men's Track and Cross Country

John F. Shaw was born in Kane, Pennsylvania. He received his bachelor's degree from Muskingum College, where he captained the track squad. He later received his master's degree from Western Michigan University. He first coached at Warren High in Warren, Pennsylvania, where he clinched a state cross country title and two district track trophies. He then was appointed head coach in track and cross country at Marshall University, followed by being an assistant coach at the University of Pittsburgh.

Jack joined the coaching staff of Western in 1970. He has produced more NCAA All-Americans than any coach in Bronco history, all told 55, 28 outdoors, 21 indoors, and six cross country. Jack is one of the most decorated track and harrier coaches in Mid-American Conference (MAC) history. He has been named MAC Coach of the Year on 11 occasions, is a four-time recipient of the Central Collegiate Conference Coach of the Year, was named NCAA District IV Coach of the Year (1995), and was named the league's top coach in cross country and track (1979-80).

Under Jack's guidance, the Broncos have won six outdoor MAC titles and have been runner-up on eight occasions. The Broncos have won five cross country championships. The Brown and Gold have also excelled in Central Collegiate Conference Championships, capturing two outdoor titles, one indoor crown, and three cross country championships.

In 1997, Coach Shaw was inducted into the Western Michigan University Athletic Hall of Fame. He is considered the dean of Mid-American Conference and WMU coaches. Retirement plans include summers in Pennsylvania and winters in Florida.



## Nancy H. Steinhaus

Associate Professor  
of Family and Consumer Sciences

Nancy H. Steinhaus was born in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. She earned her bachelor's degree in clothing and textiles from Ohio University, her master's degree from Purdue University, and her doctorate from Ohio State University.

Prior to coming to Western in 1972, Nancy worked for the Joseph Horn Company in Pittsburgh as a fashion coordinator. She then served as a Dormitory Director and Assistant to the Dean for Women's Activities at Wisconsin State University. At Western, she has taught courses involving the history of fashion, textiles, apparel construction, pattern design, and socio-psychological aspects of clothing, among others. Her creativity, sincerity, and concern for her students earned her the WMU Alumni Teaching Excellence Award in 1981. Recognizing the lack of text support for teaching AutoCAD for textile and apparel applications, Nancy co-authored the text *I CAD...Can You? AutoCAD for Apparel Design and Pattern Development*, the first such text targeting students in the discipline.

Nancy has served the education community well on committees at the department, college, and university levels. She is widely published in many professional journals and has a long list of presentations at professional meetings. Her partnerships with local industries created many opportunities for student internships, guest lecturers, corporate gifts, and faculty training.

Nancy and Ralph plan to enjoy their home, travel, and spend time with their children during retirement. She will most likely continue with her hobby and life-long devotion to sewing, as well.



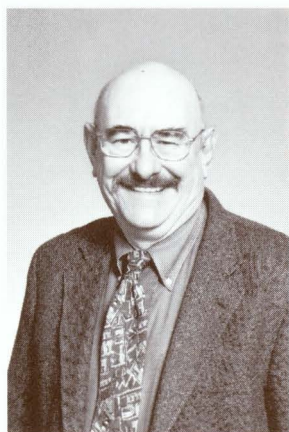
**Ralph K. Steinhaus**  
Professor of Chemistry

Ralph K. Steinhaus was born in Sheboygan, Wisconsin. He received his bachelor's degree from Wheaton College, Wheaton, Illinois. After graduating, he went on to Purdue University to obtain his doctorate in analytical chemistry. A decade later, he did post-doctoral work at Ohio State University.

Ralph taught at Wisconsin State University, Oshkosh, and worked as a researcher for the U.S. Steel Corporation in Monroeville, Pennsylvania, prior to joining Western's faculty in 1968. As a Western faculty member, his teaching has been primarily in the areas of general, analytical, and organic chemistry. His area of research has been in the kinetics of transition metal coordination complexes with the goal of understanding the mechanism of coordination complex reactions. Ralph has used his laboratory skills and his desire to provide the best for the student learning environment to develop and publish new experiments for the teaching of analytical chemistry.

As a faculty member at Western, Ralph has demonstrated a strong commitment to the academic program of the department. He has served on departmental committees and has been either the undergraduate or graduate advisor for over ten years. At the university level, he served in the Faculty Senate, on the Budget and Finance Council, and on the Research Policies Council. He is a member of the American Chemical Society and the Society for Applied Spectroscopy.

Ralph has always been willing to give of himself to his profession, his colleagues, and his family and friends. In retirement, he and Nancy plan to continue to be active members of their church, singing in the choir, traveling, and enjoying their leisure time.



**Morton O. Wagenfeld**  
Professor of Sociology  
and Community Health Services

Morton O. Wagenfeld was born in Brooklyn, New York. He received his bachelor's degree in biology from the City College of New York, his master's degree and his doctorate in sociology from Brooklyn College and Syracuse University, respectively. In addition, he earned a certificate in community mental health from Harvard University, and is a certified on-line instructor per Walden Institute, Bonita Springs, Florida.

Morty joined the faculty at Western in 1966. He was one of the four founders of the Specialty Program in Alcohol and Drug Abuse (SPADA). Throughout 28 years of dedication, SPADA has grown from a small graduate certificate program of ten students with \$25,000 in grants and projects annually, to a graduate certificate program offered in four regional centers with 90 students and an undergraduate minor serving over 100 students and 23 clinics in southwestern Michigan with over \$2,500,000 in grants and contracts per year. As a medical sociologist, he became the founder and first director of the Health Care Administration Concentration and subsequent graduate certificate in Health Care Administration. Through his vision, he was able to lead Western to address the need of administrators in this area. Morty is one of the few professors at Western to hold joint appointments in two colleges.

A Distinguished Faculty Scholar, Morty is nationally and internationally recognized for his work in the sociological and etiological aspects of substance abuse. For his contributions to the field, he was honored as a research fellow by the National Institute of Alcoholism and Alcohol Abuse. He has a lengthy list of scholarly endeavors to include research, consultation, professional programs, major committees at both the college and departmental levels, and a wide range of publications.

In retirement, Morty plans to pursue his hobbies in furniture making and cooking, along with domestic and foreign travel with Beth. He also plans to continue what he calls a second career in Internet teaching, and to write on resilience and health.



## Alma Mater

### *Brown and Gold* Western Michigan University

Western we sing to you, Brown and Gold.  
Western we bring to you, faith untold.  
You challenge and inspire;  
Your hope is our desire;  
We sing to you our Alma Mater  
Brown and Gold.

(James Bull '57 and Walter Gilbert '64)



**The Faculty Retirement Recognition Committee  
of the  
Faculty Senate**

Darryl A. Salisbury (Chair), Career English Language Center for  
International Students

Thomas Gossman (Past Chair), University Ombudsman

Bernadine (Penny) Carlson-Carmichael, Emerita

Charles Spaniolo, Emeritus

Ellen Van Arsdale, WMU Bronson School of Nursing

D. Terry Williams, Department of Theatre

*Special appreciation is extended to*

The Office of the President

Suzanne M. Davenport, Faculty Senate Office

Catering Services

Printing Services

University Relations

and all of the others who participated in this event.





