Thomas Coyne, Ass't. to President Miller, Named WMU Vice President

Thomas E. Coyne, who has been administrative assistant to WMU President James W. Miller for the past four years, on August 1 becomes vice president for student services. He succeeds Dr. Paul L. Griffeth, who has served in the post since 1966.

Coyne, 36, a WMU graduate, earned his MA at the University of Michigan. He served as director of alumni relations at WMU 1962-66 and before then was administrative assistant to the president of John F. Chapple and Co., Elmhurst, Ill. Coyne has taken additional graduate work in educational leadership at WMU.

Dr. Griffeth asked to relinquish his administrative duties to devote full time to teaching in the College of Education. Before becoming vice president he had served as dean of students at Western for eight years.

In authorizing the position changes the WMU Board of Trustees approved transferring the responsibility for the offices of alumni relations, financial assistance, scholarships, and annual giving from the office of the vice president for student services to Dr. Peter R. Ellis, secretary of the Board of Trustees.

President Miller said, "The realignment of certain responsibilities will permit the vice president for student services to become visible and viable to students and thereby better serve their interests and those of the University."

The three Apollo 13 astronauts—left to right, James A. Lovell, Jr., John J. Swigert, Jr., and Fred W. Haise, Jr.,—who'll receive honorary degrees of Doctor of Science at WMU's August 14 commencement—are shown in this new NASA photo.

WMU President James W. Miller said the University is honoring the three astronauts for their courage in successfully returning to earth with a greatly reduced fuel supply after an oxygen tank explosion far out in space forced cancellation of their intended moon landing and caused a fingers-crossed return trip from around the moon.

Dr. Miller said they "proved to the world that man is master of the machine and not a slave to it, a concept which much of our blasé world elects to ignore."

Dr. James Griggs Ends 14 Years as Education Dean

Effective July 31, Dr. James H. Griggs, Dean of WMU's School of Education since 1956, stepped down from administrative duties to devote full time to teaching. His request to be relieved from deanship responsibilities was for health reasons.

He has been a WMU faculty member since 1948 and served as director of teaching education back then when there were only 1,594 undergraduates enrolled in teacher education and only 464 student teachers, figures which rose to 6,835 and 2,671 respectively last fall.

As dean, Dr. Griggs has been largely responsible for the development of WMU's School of Education to the point where it has ranked second in the nation in the production of teachers the past two years. He innovated numerous procedures and techniques such as screening students, offering greater attention to international education, developing off-campus centers for educational research, and preparing school administrators and community school directors.

Under his leadership, WMU is the only U.S. university to have received two special awards from the American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education: one for the Educational Resources Center, and one for WMU's program for the preparation of teachers of disadvantaged children.

In another administrative change, William D. Martinson has become professor and the first head of the newly established Department of Counseling and Personnel.

Dr. Martinson was Director of Counseling and assistant dean of stu.
In what must be Western Michigan University's most academically prestigious commencement a record 98 students this April received bachelor's degrees with high honors, and a record 10 earned-doctoral degrees were conferred along with four honorary doctorates, as 290 graduate degrees were awarded. A total of 1,400 students received various degrees.

The commencement speaker, Dr. Charles I. Schottland, acting president of Brandeis University, was also presented the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws by WMU.

Dr. Schottland, in his commencement address, called for "a high-level federal authority—a NASA for the poor" to eliminate poverty in the U. S. He outlined a five point program to this end:

1. Initiate a massive federal mobilization to overcome objections which spring from below the federal level.
2. Provide jobs for all who are able to work through stimulating private employment and establishing a public works program with government as the employer.
3. Improve presently in-force income maintenance programs; one way would be by raising Social Security benefits to a minimum of $100 a month, which could help lift five million people from the poverty category alone.
4. Guarantee an income sufficient to raise all Americans above the poverty line.
5. Establish an effective organization to deal with the problem of poverty at the federal level and eliminate the overlapping of the 25 federally connected programs to help persons locate jobs and the 50 programs which deal in vocational and job training.

He said that he believes strongly in the importance of private initiative and the role of the private sector of our economy to keep the economy strong. But the federal government must control the planning, direction and overall responsibility of such a war on poverty, much as it did in our space program via NASA.

Included among the other recipients of honorary doctorates were:

Dr. Wilma T. Donahue, a pioneer in social gerontology and a former University of Michigan faculty member, a Doctor of Humanities;

Dr. Frederick J. Margolis, a Kalamazoo pediatrician who has been long active in community and humanitarian service in the Kalamazoo area and other localities in the U. S., a Doctor of Public Service; and

Samuel J. Simmons, a 1949 WMU graduate, who is now Assistant Secretary for Equal Opportunity of the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, and who has long been a tireless worker in the areas of civil rights and equal employment opportunities, a Doctor of Public Service degree.

Highest ranking honors graduates who received bachelor's degrees, all Summa Cum Laude, (8) were: Elizabeth M. Garrett of Allegan, with straight A grades throughout her WMU career; Norman D. Grant and Betty A. Wassman, both of Lawrence; Cathy J. Hall of Three Rivers; Linda M. Lesniak of Gary, Ind.; Charles E. Polasek of Plainwell; Wayne R. Pretzer of Kalamazoo; and Karen M. Ryan of Mattawan, all of whom had better than 3.9 grade point averages on a 4.0 scale.

In addition, 18 students were Magna Cum Laude graduates (3.7-3.89) and 72 were Cum Laude (3.5-3.69).

Of the 10 persons who received doctorates, six of them hold previous degrees from WMU: Clifford E. Bryan and John A. Mitchem, both received Ph.D. degrees; and David E. Burkhead, Phillip A. Clark, Mark L. Crum, and Robert J. Davis, all Doctor of Education degrees.

Spring Commencement Was WMU's Most Prestigious
Spring Session
Enrollment Was
Another Record

Another record spring session enrollment was recorded this year at WMU as 8,950 students registered. The total represented 46.5 per cent of the winter semester enrollment (which was 19,247) and was an increase of nearly three per cent over the 1969 spring session enrollment. Of the total, 1,913 were graduate students.

A Look at Student Activism

NEGATIVE

In late March WMU students approved a revised Student Constitution by a 4-1 margin, but not until the issue had produced considerable and unfortunate controversy. The two most notable changes in the document, which was a revised version of one ok’d by students in early February were:

1. The addition of a phrase in the preamble noting that the student body will recognize “the complementary function of the faculty, administration, and Trustees, in addition to student rights;”

2. Changing one section to read: “All members of the Associated Students shall have freedom of speech as provided by the U.S. Constitution within the structure of the Associated Students and in all dealings within Western Michigan University.” The original wording in that section had included the statement that students would have “unrestricted freedom of speech . . . answerable only to civil authorities.”

The revised Student Constitution, containing what were termed as “clarifying” revisions in terminology, secured the approval of WMU Trustees and student leaders during informal discussions prior to the March meeting of the WMU Board of Trustees, and prior to the second student election.

Student Association President Ethan Vinson said the “hang-ups of the past were strictly semantics” and that the intention of the constitution insofar as expressing the belief of the right of student self-determination “has not been altered . . . in any manner.”

The first version of the new Student Constitution had been approved in early February by students by an 8-1 margin. However, even before the first election this version had been rejected by the WMU administration which had advised the Student Association not to place it on the ballot. This advice was based on the grounds that the document failed to recognize the authority of the WMU Board of Trustees, the University President and the faculty.

Only 4,125 students voted in this first election, a decline of seven per cent from the 1969 student election.

Dr. Paul Griffith, WMU vice president for student services, then wrote a letter to the Student Association which said, “This document assumes for the students authority which they do not have.” He noted that nearly every section of the proposed constitution “alluded to or directly declared the autonomy of the student body and totally ignored review of student actions by any other person or agency of the University.”

According to the Michigan Constitution, the WMU Board of Trustees is the final authority on all aspects of University life.

The Student Constitution controversy escalated into disruptive dissent on March 11th when an estimated 100-250 students blocked traffic and milled about along Michigan Avenue at the Administration Building. This phase of the dissent ebbed and flowed in the area for some 12 hours beginning at noon and finally resulted in 21 arrests, injury to 18 persons including 17 policemen, and some 37 broken windows at WMU. A coed and a state policeman suffered fractures when struck by thrown rocks.

The vandalism, by a small group of persons, occurred near the end of a four-hour evening demonstration permit period (8-12 pm) granted to the Student Association by city officials, including the use of Michigan Avenue, which was blocked to traffic at both ends of the campus. About 3,000 persons were at the demonstration at its peak but many left early when no speakers or leadership were manifest.

In the aftermath of the violence, which attracted barely 10 percent of WMU’s students, and most of these as mere curious spectators, five students received temporary suspensions from the University and were later placed on probation by the Men’s Disciplinary Committee for alleged participation in the disturbance. A number of others who were among those arrested still face final court action.

President Miller, while reiterating his advocacy of the right of peaceful dissent, had said identifiable leaders and participants in the disruption and incidents of damaging university property would be disciplined. Early in the afternoon street demonstration he had personally urged students to vacate the public street and conduct a peaceful demonstration on University property but to no avail.

In addition to window breakage, the disrupters perpetrated theft and damage to food supplies in the University Center snack bar area and to magazines, books, and snack supplies at the first floor sales counter.

Student Activism

POSITIVE

Several WMU campus organizations comprised of students and faculty joined with concerned persons in the Kalamazoo area this past winter to form a new group called CLEAN (Committee to Liberate Environment And Nature). The new group met several times to plan for its involvement in the growing, nationwide, urgent war against continued pollution of our air, land and water resources.

The first major activities of CLEAN included a late March environmental “teach-in” for two days which featured several prominent political and ecological speakers as well as a petition drive to support a proposed Michigan pollution control bill.

Michael Blanchard, a Buchanan junior, has served as chairman of CLEAN. At least several hundred WMU students and faculty have so far been actively involved in the organization’s programs.
Present at the recent first meeting of the newly appointed WMU Annual Fund Board appointed by President James W. Miller were, L to R, seated: State Senator Mrs. Lorraine Beebe '32, of Dearborn; board chairman for 1970 Russell L. Bearss '50, plant manager for Chrysler Corporation’s Toledo Machining Plant at Ferriby, Ohio; Harold A. Jacobson '38, president of Kalamazoo’s American National Bank; and Alfred Pugno '33 of Fremont, Mich., representative for Mutual Life Insurance Co. of New York.

Standing: Robert B. Wetnight, WMU vice president for finance; Raymond A. Weigel III '67, Detroit representative of Hornblower & Weeks-Hemphill, Noyes; Robert J. Bradshaw '54, controller for the Ypsilanti Press newspaper; James R. Foster, director of WMU’s Annual Fund; Dr. Paul L. Griffeth, WMU vice president for student services; and Dr. William F. Morrison, professor of general business at WMU. Not shown is Charles H. Ludlow '50, vice president and treasurer of the Upjohn Co., Kalamazoo, who is also a member of the WMU Board of Trustees.

The Annual Fund Board was formed to assist Foster and the Annual Fund Office in formulating an educational fund-raising policy.

The family asked that memorial donations be made to the Harper C. Maybee Music Scholarship Fund at WMU.

Mrs. Z. Blanche Maybee, Widow of Harper Maybee, Dies in Kalamazoo at 90

Mrs. Z. Blanche Maybee, the widow of Harper C. Maybee, former head of WMU’s Music Department, died April 7 in her Kalamazoo home at the age of 90. Active in many community and church groups, Mrs. Maybee was a resident for 57 years in Kalamazoo, and in 1951 was named Kalamazoo’s “Mother of the Year.”

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CAMPUS BRIEFS

Western’s Chemistry Department has been awarded a grant of $90,763 by the Agriculture Research section of the U. S. Department of Agriculture. The funds will support 42 months research in seeking new methods for oxidizing starches on a continuing basis.

1970 Brown & Golds

WMU alumni can purchase excess 1970 Brown and Gold yearbooks at $5.00 each plus a mailing fee of $1.50 per copy. However, this mailing fee will be waived if the $5.00 is sent in advance as a check or money order. In either case, the Brown and Gold staff must have your social security number.

To obtain a 1970 Brown & Gold, write to:
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