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## Faculty Retirement Recognition Dinner 2004

Western Michigan University

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Centennial  
1903-2003 Celebration

WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY

*Faculty  
Retirement  
Recognition  
Dinner*

*May 26, 2004*



*Faculty  
Retirement  
Recognition  
Dinner*



*May 26, 2004*

THE  
JOURNAL OF  
THE  
ROYAL ANTHROPOLOGICAL INSTITUTE

OF GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND

Volume 100, Part 1, 2000

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May 2004

Dear Colleagues:

The 2004 Faculty Retirement Recognition Dinner provides us with the opportunity to thank you for the dedication, hard work, and support you have given Western Michigan University throughout your career. Thanks to your efforts, WMU has been transformed into the world-class, student-centered research university it is today.

This is a remarkable and wonderful transition point in your life, and you have our heartiest congratulations on having joined the ranks of a distinguished and impressive group of individuals. As you embrace your future endeavors, we hope you will experience success, joy, fulfillment, and good health.

With warm regards,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Judith I. Bailey".

Judith I. Bailey  
President



## Program

Trumpet Fanfare ..... Scott Thornburg  
Emcee ..... Bob Beam

## Dinner

Greetings from the Faculty Senate ..... Tom Amos  
Legislative Tributes ..... Alexander Lipsey  
Recognition of the Honorees:  
Presentation of the Certificates ..... Judi Bailey  
Welcome to the Ranks of Emeriti ..... Roger Wallace  
Honorees' Response ..... Tom Lawson  
SLAB ..... Introductions by Terry Williams

Jason Konkell • Chris Hodson

Brendan Closz • Kyle Heerspink • Andy Inghat

Ken Satchsield • Zach Vaughn

WMU Alma Mater ..... sung by all  
Led by Jason Konkell

## *Dinner*



*Mixed Greens with Shredded Cheddar Cheese,  
Bacon Bits, and Peppercorn Ranch Dressing*

*Foccacia Chicken with Marinara Sauce  
over Fettucine*

*Vegetarian:  
Roasted Vegetables with  
Red Pepper Coulis Sauce over Rice Pilaf*

*Fresh Seasonal Vegetables*

*Rolls and Butter*

*Cheesecake with Cherry Topping  
or German Chocolate Cake*

*Beverages*

## Honored Guests

Tonight we honor 30 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.

JoNina M. Abron  
Leonard J. Beuving  
Diane G. Boston  
Michael J. Buckner  
Wendy L. Cornish  
Joseph S. Ellin  
Kathi Fuller  
William B. Harrison, III  
Robert C. Hinkel  
Arthur W. Hoadley  
Keith E. Jones  
Elise B. Jorgens  
Robert A. Laing  
E. Thomas Lawson  
Edward J. Mayo

Paul S. Mergen  
Mary E. Neu  
Gale E. Newell  
Richard W. Pippen  
Richard E. Plank  
Howard R. Poole, Jr.  
Curtis A. Rhodes  
Chester B. Rogers  
Kamlesh D. Sharma  
J. Thomas Sill  
Janet E. Stillwell  
Patricia B. Viard  
Molly W. Williams  
Carl A. Woloszyk  
Robert M. Wygant



## **JoNina M. Abron**

Associate Professor of Communication

JoNina M. Abron was born in Morristown, Tennessee. She received her A.B. in journalism from Baker University, Baldwin, Kansas, and her M.A. in communication from Purdue University.

Prior to coming to Western Michigan University in 1990 and teaching in the Departments of English and Communication, she was a language arts instructor at Oakland Community School in Oakland, California. Some other work experiences include news correspondent for *The Michigan Citizen* and the National Newspaper Publishers Association, editor of *The Black Panther Newspaper*, managing editor of *Black Scholar Magazine*, general assignment reporter for the *Chicago Defender*, and administrative assistant and community relations coordinator for the Institute for Food and Development Policy in San Francisco.

At Western, JoNina served on the Board of Directors for the *Western Herald*, the on-campus board for the Institute for the Study of Race and Ethnic Relations, the AAUP Association Council, the Board of Directors of the Gilmore Theater Complex, and as chair of the African-American Faculty and Staff Council. She has a wide variety of publications to her credit dealing with racism, gender, and African-American journalism.

In retirement, she is continuing her position on the Board of Contributing & Advising Editors of the *Black Scholar Magazine*, and she has started her own editing/desktop publishing business: Abron Business Writing, P.O. Box 498231, Chicago, IL 60649-8231.



## **Leonard J. Beuving**

Professor of Biological Sciences

Leonard J. Beuving was born in Modesto, California. He earned his B.S. and Ph.D. degrees in zoology from UC Berkeley. Following this, he did two years postdoctoral work at the Wistar Institute in Philadelphia.

Leonard joined the Department of Biology at Western Michigan University as a faculty member in 1970. His teaching focused on the biomedical sciences including human physiology, general pathology, and pharmacology. This was accompanied by a long list of original articles and presentations at scientific meetings.

His administrative duties included setting up a research animal use and care mechanism prior to the congressional mandate. This process continues to review all animal use protocols and inspect animal housing facilities for compliance. He became director of the Biological Imaging Center in 1988. In addition to Western's use, the facility has been utilized by many regional companies on a contract basis, thus making the unit largely self-supporting.

Leonard served as chair of the Department of Biology from 1996–2001. During that time he was a major advisor in the planning of Haenicke Hall organization and use. Additionally, he spearheaded the development of the master's program in high throughput biomolecular screening.

Leonard will be missed in the day-to-day activities of the University, but the impact of his artistry and love of knowledge will remain. An early plan for his retirement will take him and his wife, Diane, to Australia. Later on, he plans to devote much of his time to the design and construction of fine furniture.

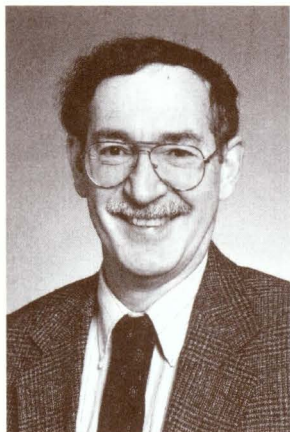
## **Diane G. Boston**

Assistant Professor of Libraries

Diane G. Boston was born in Battle Creek, Michigan. She received her bachelor of science degree in library science from Central Michigan University and her master of science in librarianship from Western Michigan University.

Her career at Western Michigan University has been a non-teaching one. She joined the WMU Libraries in 1980. She first served on the staff of Waldo Library in various positions in the Cataloging Department, including fast cataloging, database maintenance, and serial and electronic resources cataloger. She served on a search committee for a reference librarian and a cataloging priorities committee.

Diane completed her myriad responsibilities with quiet confidence. She retired as assistant head of Waldo's Library Cataloging Department.



## Michael J. Buckner

Associate Professor of Libraries

Michael J. Buckner began his career at Western Michigan University in 1968 as an instructor and science librarian, hired out of Western's School of Librarianship. He earned his B.S. in biochemistry and his M.S. in physiology from Michigan State University.

Mike established the Science Reference Department. He was very proud of his student recruiting for this area. He would rely on a student's science expertise to assist library patrons, and he would learn from these students what was being taught in the science curricula. With the technical advantages of the last decade in library automation, Mike insisted that his staff take a patron to a computer terminal so the patron would have the "hands on" experience of searching indexes and databases, a fundamental first step in research.

In addition to his library duties, Mike taught bibliographic instruction to all the IME technical writing classes as well as science classes for years before additional faculty eventually joined the Science Reference Department.

Mike represented the University Libraries on numerous library, University, and community committees. He was an officer for a number of years for the Western Michigan Chapter of Special Libraries Association. A personal interest in fire prevention developed over the years. He wrote a history of the Kalamazoo Fire Department as part of the organization's annual report, and had a significant number of his personal photos of local area fires appear in the *Kalamazoo Gazette*.

Today's science, math, and engineering areas much appreciate Mike's strong advocacy for science resources in the library collections at Western Michigan University.



## Wendy L. Cornish

Professor of Dance

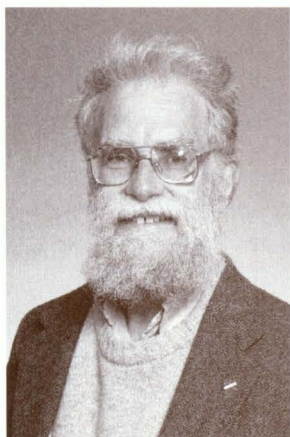
Born and raised in Marquette, Michigan, Wendy Cornish earned a B.S. in education from the University of Michigan and an M.A. in physical education from Western Michigan University. She also studied at Northern Michigan University and the State University of New York at Brockport.

Wendy taught at Albion College in 1966 and joined the Western Michigan University faculty in 1967 as an instructor of Women's Physical Education. She became a faculty member in the newly-formed Department of Dance in the College of Fine Arts

in 1972. She served as chair of the Department of Dance from 1979 to 1988. Additionally, she taught workshops at Colorado State University and York University. Prior to her academic positions, she was a professional figure skater in Florida and Nevada.

Wendy is recognized locally, regionally, and nationally as an artistic leader. She choreographed more than 40 works, including concert dances and music theater productions at Western and in the Kalamazoo community. Wendy has contributed her administrative and artistic expertise to several organizations. Noted for her tireless work on behalf of students, faculty, dance education, and the dance profession, Wendy was awarded numerous honors. In 1997, she was named the Helen Frays Professor of Dance, one of the first four named professorships recognizing teaching excellence. In 1996, she received the Alumni Teaching Excellence Award, and in 1995 she received the College of Fine Arts Outstanding Service Award.

Her retirement plans include projects around her house, traveling, and being the lighting designer for the Department of Theatre production of *Metamorphoses* in Fall 2004.



**Joseph S. Ellin**  
Professor of Philosophy

Joseph S. Ellin was born in New York City. He received his B.A. degree from Columbia, and his M.A. and Ph.D. degrees from Yale. He joined the faculty at Western Michigan University in 1962.

Joe served as chair of the Philosophy Department from 1968 to 1974. He served in the Faculty Senate almost continuously from 1971 to 2002. He was vice president for two terms and corresponding secretary for one term; chair of the Continuing Education Council and the Campus Planning Council; vice-chair of the Graduate Studies Council; and a founding member of the Center for the Study of Ethics in Society and served as its publication editor.

Joe was awarded the Distinguished Faculty Award by the Michigan Association of Governing Boards of State Universities in 1998. He has also taught at Indiana University and California State Polytechnic University, and has studied at the University of Michigan, UCLA, and Indiana University. He studied at the University of Colorado and Williams College (MA) on fellowships from the American Philosophical Council, and has received fellowships from the National Endowment of the Humanities to study at Tufts University and Indiana University.

Joe's areas of scholarship are ethical theory, biomedical ethics, philosophy of law, political philosophy, and David Hume. He is an active member of several scholarly organizations on philosophy, has many publications and scholarly presentations, and continues to participate actively in scholarship.

He considers himself primarily a teacher and believes that in over 41 years at Western he has helped innumerable students learn what thinking really is.

## **Kathi Fuller**

Master Faculty Specialist, School of Community Health Services

Kathi Fuller was born in Alma, Michigan. She received her bachelor's degree in sociology and social work, and her master's degree in clinical psychology from Western Michigan University. She has a Limited License in Psychology (LLP) and is a Registered Social Worker (CSW) in the State of Michigan.

When Kathi joined the faculty at Western Michigan University in 1991, she began as associate director, and then director of the Rural Health Education Program in the College of Health and Human Services. The program trained students in all of the college's programs for rural practice and built long term collaborative relationships between the University and the rural communities. Her own experience growing up in a small town in Michigan helped her to understand rural life, issues, and problems. She also spent time in a rural community in Venezuela where she served in the U.S. Peace Corps. In San Carlos, she taught physical education and English as a second language at a girls' high school.

During her tenure in the Rural Health Education Program, she began a Summer Institute on Migrant Farmworker Health, helped develop a number of University-Community partnerships in the rural regions of southwestern Michigan, became a member of the Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indian Substance Task Force, co-chaired the Latino Advocacy Center, and supervised the development and dissemination of health professions recruitment information and materials for elementary, secondary, and higher education students. She also taught a variety of courses in Western's Holistic Health Care Program.



**William B. Harrison, III**  
Professor of Geosciences

William B. Harrison, III, was born in Covington, Kentucky. His family moved to Tampa, Florida, when he was a teen. Bill attended the University of South Florida where he received his bachelor's and master's degrees. He received his doctoral degree in geology, paleontology, and sedimentology from the University of Cincinnati.

Bill arrived at Western Michigan University in 1973 to begin his academic career in the Geology Department. He brought expertise in the field of paleontology along with a great deal of youthful enthusiasm, becoming immediately engaged in the department's new master's degree program. In the early 1980s, Bill undertook a seminal reorientation of his professional activities facilitated by a sabbatical leave. He astutely identified a tremendous opportunity to focus on the petroleum geology of the Michigan basin. Because vital subsurface data were being lost as no state agency was curating this material, the Michigan Basin Core Research Laboratory, of which he is now director, was founded. Bill and his students, through their research, are now collecting and preserving vital subsurface data from the Michigan basin.

With over 50 abstracts and oral presentations and the publication of over 20 papers and guidebooks, Bill has established himself as the preeminent petroleum geologist in the state of Michigan. His professional recognition is reflected in the nearly \$750,000 of funding for his own and his students' research activities. He has developed a close relationship with Michigan Technological University faculty, independent oil and gas companies, and the federal Department of Energy in funded research projects.

A highlight of Bill's career was the granting of Doctor Honoris causa (honorary doctorate) from the University of Latvia for his contributions to support students, faculty, and departmental infrastructure in the Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences.

A tribute to the contributions to his profession is the universal affection and respect Bill enjoys from decades of colleagues, students, and friends. His good humor and warmth cast a glow on all that have been fortunate enough to work with and for him. All who know him wish him and his wife, Linda, the best in their continued efforts to establish the Michigan Basin Core Research Laboratory as a permanent resource and tribute to his decades of commitment to the petroleum geology of Michigan.

**Robert C. Hinkel**  
Associate Professor of English

Robert C. Hinkel was born in Lynn, Massachusetts. He earned his B.A. at Washington and Lee University, and his M.A. and his Ph.D. at Northwestern University.

Prior to joining the faculty at Western Michigan University in 1968, Bob taught at Northwestern University and the Illinois Institute of Technology. His field of expertise is early 20<sup>th</sup> century British and American literature. One of his major contributions to the Department of English was the development of a program in film interpretation. He chaired the University Film Committee and was responsible, in part, for the transformation of the building on the corner of Oakland and Oliver into what is now known as "The Little Theater." He is still an active board member of the Kalamazoo Film Society.

Another special accomplishment lies in his discovery of the German language. He represented Western in Berlin and in Passau as an exchange professor. He chaired and delivered many papers (in German) in the German section of the Michigan Academy of Arts & Sciences. He has a long list of publications, papers, and presentations in both English and German. This is accompanied by a long list of service to both the University and the community.

Bob says he is grateful to the University for the opportunity to serve for 36 years. He looks forward to staying active at the University, perhaps doing some part-time teaching and enjoying Western's excellent research and recreational facilities.



**Arthur W. Hoadley**  
Professor of Mechanical  
and Aeronautical Engineering

Arthur W. Hoadley was born in Upland, Pennsylvania. He received his bachelor of science and master of science degrees in aeronautical and astronautical engineering from Ohio State University. He is certified as an FAA commercial pilot, an FAA airframe mechanic, an FAA repairman for N966F, and as an amateur radio technician class operator.

Prior to coming to Western Michigan University in 1975, Arthur worked for Rockwell International in design and testing. At Western, he was responsible for the establishment of the Aeronautical Engineering curriculum, and practically everything else dealing with flight from the operator to the aircraft. He has a lengthy list of technical publications, research grant and contract awards, professional talks, and consulting activities to his credit.

He received the NASA/ASEE Fellowship for the summers of 1982, 1983, 1987, and 1988, to conduct research at the NASA Dryden Flight Test Facility. He was awarded two patents for items he developed.

Arthur and his wife, Carol, plan to move to their second home in the north-western part of the lower peninsula of Michigan as he retires. They plan to continue flying, swimming, camping, hiking, boating, snowmobiling, visiting National Parks, and enjoying their grandchildren.

**Keith E. Jones**  
Associate Professor of Art

Keith E. Jones was born in Kansas. He earned his bachelor of fine arts in commercial art from the University of Kansas and his master of fine arts in communication design from Virginia Commonwealth University.

Prior to coming to Western Michigan University in 1992, Keith taught at the University of Kansas and at Virginia Commonwealth University. He worked as an art director in Kansas City, Missouri, and in Toronto, Canada. He has held various design positions in Kansas City, Missouri; Lawrence, Kansas; and Kalamazoo, Michigan. He currently is the principal designer for n-Dimensional Design in Kalamazoo. He has had a wide variety of exhibitions and client based design projects.

Keith has special interests in peace and justice activism. Other interests include multimedia virtual photographic environments, kinetic typographic design and interactive media, and photographic illustration. Reading, music, theater, travel, and do-it-yourself projects round out his realm of hobbies.

In retirement, Keith plans to devote his full attention to his professional practice as owner of n-Dimensional Design. He will be expanding his practice to include more electronic media and multi-dimensional artwork. He leaves us with these thoughts, "Art reflects the soul of our past and the spirit of our future." And the reason for this notion is, "If you haven't the intelligence to understand *metaphor*, you haven't the wisdom to work with *metaphysics*."



### **Elise B. Jorgens**

Interim Provost and Vice President  
for Academic Affairs

Elise B. Jorgens was born in Memphis, Tennessee. She and her parents moved to Winona, Minnesota, shortly before she was two. She earned her bachelor's degree in English at Carleton College in Minnesota and her doctoral degree in Musicology from the City University of New York.

Elise came to Western Michigan University in 1977 on a one-year term appointment in Music. After a second year working part-time in the library and part-time in the English Department, she received a tenure-track appointment in the English Department. She has made effective use of her joint interest and training in Musicology and English in her teaching and her scholarly work. She has received many awards and fellowships including two Folger Shakespeare Library Fellowships, three Newberry Library short-term fellowships, an Andrew Mellon fellowship, and two fellowships from the National Endowment of the Humanities. In 2003, she was a recipient of a Kalamazoo YWCA Women of Achievement Award.

After teaching in the English Department for a number of years where she became a tenured, full professor, Elise served as associate dean of the College of Arts and Sciences from 1992 to 1996. She was interim dean of the college from 1996 to 1997, and dean from 1997 to 2002. Her last assignment before retiring from Western was interim provost from January to June 2003.

In addition to her scholarly interest in music, Elise loves to sing. She sang with the Bach Festival, the Kalamazoo Symphony Orchestra, and the Michigan Bach Collegium, where she also served on the board for three years. She is currently singing with the Charleston Symphony Orchestra Chamber Singers.

In her retirement from Western, Elise is serving as provost and senior vice president for academic affairs at the College of Charleston in South Carolina.

**Robert A. Laing**  
Professor of Mathematics

Robert A. Laing was born in Centreville, Pennsylvania. He received a bachelor's degree with a major in mathematics and a minor in English from Indiana University, Indiana, Pennsylvania; a master's degree in mathematics from Kent State University, and a doctorate in mathematics education from Ohio State University.

Prior to coming to Western Michigan University in 1970, he taught high school mathematics in Kent, Ohio. This experience was interrupted by the military. Bob brought strong backgrounds in both mathematics and mathematics education to Western's Department of Mathematics. During his early years at Western, he was heavily involved in mathematics and not only taught mathematics and some mathematics education courses at both undergraduate and graduate levels, but served as chair of the Mathematics Prize Competition and as associate chair of the Department of Mathematics. As enrollment increased significantly in the mathematics education courses and grant opportunities became available to support professional development programs for teachers, Bob devoted more of his time to mathematics education. These experiences included co-authoring a grades K-8 Silver Burette/Gin mathematics textbook series, directing and co-founding mathematics grants garnering more than \$10 million for Western during the past 20 years, as well as teaching and advising undergraduate and graduate mathematics education students. Many mathematics teachers across Michigan benefited from their participation in these National Science Foundation, U.S. Department of Education, Eisenhower Higher Education, and private foundation grants.

Bob plans to spend most of the year with his wife, Pat, at their homes in Marcellus, Michigan, and Naples, Florida. He also expects to devote some time toward improving mathematics education in our nation's schools.



### **E. Thomas Lawson**

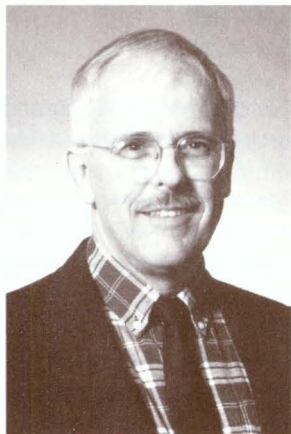
Professor of Comparative Religion

Ernest Thomas Lawson was born in Cape Town, South Africa. He earned his B.D., M.A., and Ph.D. degrees from the Divinity School at the University of Chicago. He joined the faculty of the then Philosophy and Religion Department at Western Michigan University in 1961. He was made acting chair of the department in 1963, and chair in 1965, a position which he held until 2001 (a record at WMU).

In 1967, Religion and Philosophy became separate departments. This occasioned a thorough rethinking of the department's direction and curriculum. Through a series of special meetings, the faculty decided that the goals of liberal education would be better achieved through the study of all religions on the same terms. In doing this, Western's was the first religion department in the United States to build a program which paid as much attention to non-Western religions as it did to those of the West. Tom subsequently spent a good deal of time traveling around the country promoting Western's model.

More recently, he has become a pioneer in the field of the cognitive science of religion. As a result of this new theoretical approach, one of his books has been cited as one of the three defining works in the emerging cognitive study of religion. In addition to his teaching and administration duties, Tom co-founded *The Journal of Cognition and Culture*, and has mentored several Ph.D. candidates in the Department of Comparative Religion's doctoral program.

Following his retirement, Tom will become a distinguished visiting fellow and co-director for the Institute for Cognition and Culture at Queen's University of Belfast.



**Edward J. Mayo**  
Professor of Marketing

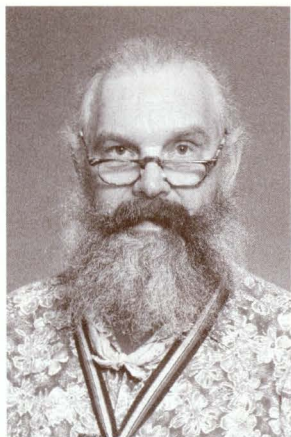
Edward J. Mayo was born in Los Angeles, California. He received his bachelor of science in economics from Villanova University, his master of science in business administration from the University of Alaska, and his Ph.D. in business administration (marketing) from Penn State University.

Ed joined the faculty at Western Michigan University in 1982. Prior to this, he was the director of the Hayes-Healy Travel Management Program at the University of Notre Dame from 1976 to 1980, and the director of the Pope Institute for Tourism Studies at the University of Central Florida from 1980 to 1982.

While at Western, he was honored with an MBA Teaching Excellence Award. Awards earned at Western Michigan University include the Alumni Teaching Excellence Award in 1993, the Spirit Award in 1996, and the Innovation in Teaching Award in 2001.

Among the many publications he has authored are articles and books on the subjects of tourism, marketing, and baseball. Of special interest to him are his family—children and grandchildren, along with running and baseball.

His retirement plans include his family, his hobbies, and some travel.



## **Paul S. Mergen**

Professor of Art

Paul S. Mergen earned his B.S. and M.S. degrees in art education from the University of Wisconsin.

Paul began his tenure as an instructor of art at Western Michigan University in 1965. A three-dimensional object maker, his metalsmithing works have been exhibited nationally. His vision, knowledge, and humanity shared in studio classes have provided a beginning for many to excel in the specialized field of metals and jewelry making. Numerous alumni share appreciation for Paul's motivation and direction. He has affected many through actions and ideas.

His teaching responsibilities in his discipline far exceed the syllabus, including ongoing studio-laboratory expansion, development, and maintenance. This encompassed training of monitors, handling of hazardous materials, and stock and inventory management. Paul annually served on committees in the school and college while maintaining balance in his studio where he created ritual and commemorative works for public ceremonies and personal occasions.

"I have tried to make jewelry that reflects attitudes and beliefs about life and the world about me," he states. Working in a commemorative medallion format has been a primary effort in recent years. Students, staff, faculty, and guests of the University community have been surprise recipients of Paul's commemorative tradition.

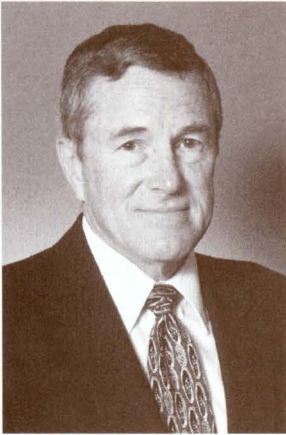
**Mary E. Neu**  
Associate Professor of Art

Mary E. Neu was born in Mason City, Iowa. She earned her B.F.A. and her M.F.A. in art and art education from Drake University. She earned a Graduate Specialty Program Certificate in gerontology with an emphasis on life long learning in art from Western Michigan University.

Prior to joining Western's faculty in 1968, Mariel taught art at the junior high level in Ames, Iowa. Much of her time at Western has been devoted to art education for public school teachers. She has directed Western pre-intern teaching at most of the Kalamazoo area and surrounding public schools. She has acted as advisor, planner, supervisor, and consultant for numerous art projects in local school districts and the Kalamazoo community. Professional service has involved numerous departmental committees, area workshops and presentations, and membership on councils where art was the focus. She belongs to a wide range of art related organizations, both in the educational and community realms.

Special interests of Mariel's include science fiction reading and collecting (especially *Star Trek* items), space exploration, and family genealogy.

Her retirement plans include writing a book about art teaching as a calling and as a unique product of personal development, working in her art studio on wearable art works, spending more time with friends, and working with and organizing a family genealogy. Mariel leaves us with these words, "I have worked for 42 years and have never had extended time to pursue a lot of my interests as I have wanted to. Now I'll take the time 'to smell the flowers.'"



**Gale E. Newell**  
Professor of Accountancy

Gale E. Newell was born in Burnips, Michigan. He attended high school in Hudsonville and served in the U.S. Navy for two years. He then attended Western Michigan University and received his B.B.A. He worked for General Telephone Company of Michigan for two years and then returned to Western where he worked as assistant to the controller and studied for his M.B.A. Upon completion of his M.B.A., he was admitted to Michigan State University for his Ph.D.

Gale joined the faculty in the Department of Accountancy at Western Michigan University in 1968. In his years of service, he has excelled in all areas of academe. He has been a dedicated and popular teacher all of these years, and received the Alumni Association's Teacher Excellence Award in 1975. During the same period, Gale authored or co-authored nearly 100 articles, reviews, books, and study guides. He served on and chaired many councils and committees including the Faculty Senate, Budget and Finance, Undergraduate Studies, and Educational Policies Councils. On the administrative side, Gale served as chairperson of the Accountancy Department for four years. His service to Western and the community has been outstanding.

Gale has always been an outdoorsman, especially a fisherman. That interest will certainly continue and probably grow during his retirement. He plans to build a year-round cottage on his lot on Dumont Lake and fish a little. In addition to the cottage building, he and his wife, Kathy, plan to travel and spend more time with their sons, daughters-in-law, and grandchildren.

## **Richard W. Pippen**

Professor of Biological Sciences



Richard W. Pippen was born in Villa Grove, Illinois. He began his tenure at Western Michigan University in 1963 after obtaining his bachelor of arts degree from Eastern Illinois University in 1957, his master of arts degree from the University of Michigan in 1959, and his Ph.D. from the University of Michigan in 1963. His graduate area of concentration was botany (taxonomy) and zoology. He was active in Kappa Delta Pi and Sigma Xi.

At Western, Dick was a faculty member and chair in the Department of Biology, and more recently was the resident director at Sunway College in Malaysia, a Western Michigan University Twinning Program. His research interests focused on specifics of certain vegetation in their areas of growth. His funded research grants, teaching, and lengthy list of publications supported these interest areas. He has extensive service both within and outside of Western. His honors and awards include Outstanding Alumni Teachers Award in 1970 and 1982, and his appointment to various professional boards such as the Michigan Botanical Club, The Nature Conservancy, and the Kalamazoo Nature Center.

Dick's hobbies include nature photography and travel. He states he has been in almost all of the 48 contiguous states and Hawaii. Coupled with his assignment in Malaysia, he had the opportunity to travel extensively in southeast Asia.

He has retired with his wife to Naples, Florida, where they are currently renting a condo while awaiting the construction of their new house.



**Richard E. Plank**  
Professor of Marketing

Richard E. Plank was born in Mountainside, New Jersey. He graduated from St. Peters College with a B.S. in marketing, from Seton Hall University with an M.B.A. in marketing, and from the City University of New York Graduate Center with a Ph.D. in marketing.

Richard's academic career has included positions at the University of Hartford, the University of Massachusetts at Lowell, and then Western Michigan University starting in 1992. He began publishing scholarly work as a doctoral student and has continued with numerous articles and one book. He has served dozens of University committees at all levels, and has served as president of the West Michigan Chapter of the American Marketing Association and on the local board of directors for ISM.

His research and teaching interests are focused primarily on the intersection of buying and selling as it occurs in marketing relationships between two or more business firms. His major contributions include a model which focuses on the need to understand processes in selling in order to understand sales performance, and specifically on the behaviors that salespeople actually exhibit. He has been a driving force in the development of the Sales and Business Marketing major in the Department of Marketing. This program, an outgrowth and updating of the former Industrial Marketing major, has become the second largest major in the department in four years.

Richard's main hobby is racing cars, and during his tenure at Western he has been the advisor to BroncoMotorsports, which is the only collegiate automotive racing team in the United States. When not racing, he enjoys spending time with his children and grandchildren. After retirement, he plans to move back to New Jersey to be closer to his family.



**Howard R. Poole, Jr.**  
Professor of Educational Studies

Howard R. Poole, Jr., was born in Alexandria, Virginia. He received his higher education at Purdue University: a B.S. in agriculture, an M.S. in animal science, K-12 teacher certification, and a Ph.D. in educational research.

Before coming to Western Michigan University in 1973, Howard was a faculty member in biological science at Lake Michigan College. He was first employed by Western as head of the Office of Instructional Development providing services to more than 800 faculty members. In 1983, he became coordinator of Project EXCITE, an institutional development project that promoted the use of computers and information technology by faculty and students. As part of this project, he helped develop the first microcomputer lab on campus, developed a microcomputer sales program, and offered hundreds of workshops and classes for faculty, staff, and students. In 1989, he was promoted to director of the Division of Media Services which provided instructional support services and public broadcasting service to Western and the State of Michigan.

Howard joined the graduate faculty in the College of Education in 1994 where he developed and taught educational technology courses. He helped develop an educational technology program which offered an online graduate certificate and a master's degree, the first totally online program at Western. Additionally, he has published a multitude of articles dealing with technology as it applies to education.

In retirement, he plans to explore the use of digital technology in multimedia and personal publishing, travel, enjoy his family and grandchildren, as well as spend time fishing, collecting antiques, and growing plants, his favorite hobbies.

## **Curtis A. Rhodes**

Professor of Art

Curtis A. Rhodes holds B.F.A. and M.F.A. degrees in printmaking and painting from the University of Kansas and Ohio University, respectively.

Curtis joined the faculty in the School of Art at Western Michigan University in 1966. His numerous contributions to the school include teaching lecture courses in art history and theory, and studio classes in lithography, drawing, painting, intermedia performance, and video-film at both the undergraduate and graduate levels. Sabbatical travel to Machu Picchu, Peru; and Artist-in-Residency in Hillend, Australia; gallery exhibitions in Portland, Oregon, Scottsdale and Tucson, Arizona in 2003; as well as recent exhibitions at the Kalamazoo Institute of Arts and the Epic Center Arts Council Gallery are representative of his outstanding creative research pursuits.

Curtis influenced and defined a critical new direction in fine arts education beginning with the National Print/Drawing Exhibition in 1968; continuing as co-chair of Multiples USA Exhibition in 1970; and directing Marketings, an international exhibition of graphics in 1974. These significant exhibitions introduced innovative directions and attitudes in print media. He provided the original works in the University Print Collection. He has continued to be the driving curatorial authority behind the development of the collection since that time. This collection of contemporary art, whose central importance is its role as a teaching device demonstrating history, process, technique, and aesthetics for all students in the university who can study these fine works first hand, continues to grow. The 2003 Centennial Year exhibition entitled, *Progressive Proof: Celebrating Forty Years of Collecting at Western Michigan University*, honored this extraordinary body of professional work contained in the Western Michigan University Print Collection.



## **Chester B. Rogers**

Professor of Political Science

Chester B. Rogers was born in Cincinnati. He received his bachelor of arts degree in foreign affairs and his master of arts degree in political science from the University of Cincinnati. He received his Ph.D. in political science from Northwestern University. In 1966, he joined the faculty at Western Michigan University.

Chet has published extensively on the nature and operations of the United States Congress, and coedited *The Electoral Politics Dictionary* published in 1989. He has also written and presented research on local politics. His research has been supported by several WMU faculty fellowships. He has been a board member of the Michigan Conference of Political Scientists since 1993.

Chet served as a campaign manager and consultant to Congressman Howard Wolpe on several occasions, and helped found the "Howard Wolpe Fund for the Study of Politics." He chaired the Department of Political Science from 1992 to 1997. In 1999, he became director of academic collective bargaining and contract administration at WMU, a position he held until his retirement.

Chet's teaching career includes some two dozen different courses in the Department of Political Science and extensive work in curriculum development. His university service includes chairing the Faculty Senate Blue Ribbon Task Force on the Nature of the University between 1983 and 1985. Chet also has been active in local and regional politics as a consultant.

Chet currently resides with his spouse, Elise Jorgens, in Charleston, South Carolina.



### **Kamlesh D. Sharma**

Assistant Professor of Biological Sciences

Kamlesh Datta Sharma was born in Nairobi, Kenya. She was raised in the Vedic tradition of the Arya Samaj movement—protesting within the Hindu fold against beliefs and practices which had betrayed the original 5,000 years of its cosmology of monotheism and egalitarianism. She, therefore, never felt that women should play a secondary role to men.

She wanted to be a doctor and a fully fledged professional. After two years at the Royal Nairobi College, she went to India to seek admission to a medical college. Unsuccessful there due to financial constraints of a political nature, she completed her bachelor of science degree at the University of London at Makerere. After marrying Dr. Visho Sharma, and while raising two infant daughters, Kamlesh completed her master's degree at the University of Nairobi. The Sharmas moved to Kalamazoo in 1967 and had two sons. Kamlesh was hostess to a myriad of student cricket teams through her passion for dance, music, and gourmet cooking.

Kamlesh completed her Ph.D. in science education with a biology concentration at Western Michigan University in 1981. In 1984, after some ten years of part-time teaching, she became an assistant professor in the College of General Studies. Throughout her teaching career, she brought forth problems of the Third World, exposing an essential human, social dimension. While at Western, Kamlesh has served on numerous committees and was a representative to the AAUP.

Retirement plans include concentration on golf, grandchildren, ceramics, and pottery. A Makerere women's captain of badminton, a badminton mixed doubles Michigan champion, and the national golf champion of Indian women of North America, her next goal is to beat her husband at golf, scratch, more consistently.



## **J. Thomas Sill**

Associate Professor of Communication

John Thomas Sill was born in Carbondale, Illinois. After an interruption for service in the U.S. Army, he earned his B.A. at Southern Illinois University majoring in speech, English, and psychology. He went on to earn his M.A. in speech and his Ph.D. in educational psychology with an emphasis on curriculum development.

His teaching career began at Bloomington (IL) High School as a teacher of speech and English. He went on to become the coordinator of speech and English student teaching interns at the

University Laboratory School at Southern Illinois University. He then was on loan to the office of the Illinois State Superintendent of Public Instruction in Springfield (IL) as a curriculum consultant and evaluator of high school curricula.

Tom joined the Western Michigan University faculty as a member of the Speech Department in 1967. He taught a wide variety of courses including public relations, interpersonal communication, non-verbal communication, argumentation, organizational communication, and more. During most of the time at WMU, he was the undergraduate academic advisor for the Communication Department.

Tom has been a consultant and trainer to numerous organizations, agencies, and institutions in the areas of public opinion analysis, listening behavior, non-verbal communication, and employee relations. His current interest is public relations, specifically corporation-employee relations. He is also interested in legal communication, more specifically juror behavior.

Tom's enthusiasm for teaching and learning continues as he plans to do more consulting and training during retirement. Other plans include reading, travel, antique art pottery collecting, writing, and working at his log house on a lake in northern Michigan.



**Janet E. Stillwell**  
Professor of Dance

A native of Saginaw, Michigan, Janet E. Stillwell earned a B.S. in education, an M.A. in education, an M.A. in speech (oral interpretation), and a Ph.D. in theater history all from the University of Michigan.

Janet began her teaching career at Western Michigan University in 1967 in the Department of Physical Education. She has held numerous administrative positions at Western. She served as acting chair of the Department of Dance during the 1975–76 academic year; from 1982 to 1986 she was the assistant dean of the College of Fine Arts; she served as the college's associate dean from 1987 until she took over as chair of the Department of Dance in 2002. She was also interim dean of the College of Fine Arts from 1999 to 2000.

Janet was instrumental in the development of the BFA program in Music Theatre Performance, the Non-Profit Leadership Certificate Program, and the MFA program in Performing Arts Administration. She coordinated the Music Theatre Performance program and advised its students from the program's inception in 1996. An endowed scholarship in Music Theater Performance was recently established in her honor. In recognition of her commitment to the local arts community, Janet was the 1993 recipient of the Arts Council of Greater Kalamazoo County Community Medal of Arts Award. She also received the College of Fine Arts Outstanding Service Award and the Saginaw Valley Dance Council Award.

Janet is a member of the Kalamazoo Dog Training Club and has volunteered as a steward at Obedience Trails. She looks forward to continued participation in this area.

## **Patricia B. Viard**

Associate Professor of Family and Consumer Sciences

Patricia B. Viard received both her B.A. and M.A. degrees from Western Michigan University.

Pat joined the faculty of the interior design program in 1980. She has served as the program coordinator for the majority of that time and has been the driving force and strength behind the program from its infancy. She has guided and helped her faculty colleagues to develop a strong program and in 1997 for the first time the program received the highest accreditation offered to interior design programs by the Foundation for Interior Design Education Research.

Pat is a creative educator who consistently seeks opportunities to help her students interact with local professionals. For example, she organizes cross-disciplinary charettes for industrial and interior design students. Students from both programs interact with local professionals during an annual weekend event. They work in teams across program areas and develop a case study as assigned by the visitors. Faculty from both programs observe and participate in presentation discussions at the end of the day.

Pat supports and values reciprocal relationships with the local design community. She locates meaningful opportunities for student internships, requests donations for their design library, encourages and trains designers to teach as adjunct faculty, and nationally visits other programs for accreditation reviews. She has created a legacy as a professional educator who is highly respected by the design community and as such has created a visionary university design program.



### **Molly W. Williams**

Professor of Mechanical  
and Aeronautical Engineering

Molly W. Williams was born in Evanston, Illinois. She received her bachelor of science in materials science from Northwestern University, and her master of science and Ph.D. in metallurgy, physics, and ceramics from the University of California at Berkeley.

When Molly came to the faculty of Western Michigan University in 1973, she went through the professorial ranks and became associate dean for research and graduate programs in the College of Engineering and Applied Sciences. Prior to coming to Western, Molly worked in various research and teaching positions at Northwestern University, the University of California at Berkeley, and Nazareth College. While at Western, she was a visiting associate professor at the University of Michigan and a research scientist at The Upjohn Company. She is a registered professional engineer with the State of Michigan.

Molly has a lengthy list of publications and presentations with a more recent focus on tribology (friction, lubrication, and wear) and engineering pedagogy, including the incorporation of a variety of teaching methods and curricular reform into engineering programs at Western.

Her hobbies include an interest in English and Early American Dance. She and her husband, Roger, have been associated with country dancing for many years. Molly also has a special interest in music and through their travels she has accumulated an odd collection of musical instruments which she would like to work with more in her retirement. Additionally, they plan to combine their interests in music and dance with trips abroad to see more of the world.



## Carl A. Woloszyk

Professor of Family and Consumer Sciences

Carl A. Woloszyk was born in Dearborn, Michigan. He earned his A.A. in commerce from Henry Ford Community College, his B.A. in business administration from Michigan State University, his M.B.E. in business education from Eastern Michigan University, his Ed.S. in occupational education from the University of Michigan, and his Ph.D. in business and distributive education from Michigan State University.

Prior to joining the faculty of Western Michigan University in 1987, he taught at St. Sebastian School, Taylor School, and Waterford School. He was the director of career and vocational education in the Alpena-Montmorency-Alcona Intermediate School District, and was a consultant with the Michigan Department of Education. Carl has created a significant body of work and holds a national reputation as a leader in career and technical education. He is the recipient of numerous honors and awards for outstanding achievement in his field.

Carl creatively develops programs to meet the needs of future teachers in Michigan. He was instrumental in developing a new undergraduate degree program in Occupational Education Studies (OES). The OES degree was developed in conjunction with 14 different community colleges and the Michigan Department of Education. As part of the degree program, distance-learning strategies were utilized to deliver the professional education sequence of courses. He developed content and produced compressed video interactive television to deliver this content. He has been highly successful utilizing this medium to teach his classes and has been a role model for his colleagues.

Carl represents scholarship at its highest level. He is a prolific author, researcher, program developer, and teacher. He is an outstanding role model, mentor, and colleague. In retirement, he plans to work on a fourth edition of *Marketing Essentials*, enjoy his cottage in northern Michigan, and pursue hobbies and interests. Additionally, he will be establishing a WMU scholarship fund for graduate students in career and technical education in appreciation for the support that the University has given him over the years.



**Robert M. Wygant**  
Professor of Industrial  
and Manufacturing Engineering

Robert M. Wygant was born in New Haven, Connecticut. He received his B.S.E. in industrial engineering from Ohio State University, his M.B.A. in management from Western Michigan University, his M.S.I.E. in industrial engineering from the University of Michigan, and his Ph.D. in industrial engineering from the University of Houston.

Bob's first career was flying. He served in the U.S. Marine Corps as a jet pilot and primary flight instructor. After that he entered civilian aviation as a commercial pilot for TWA. He then started his next career in engineering. After work as chief industrial engineer, manufacturing manager, and the plant manager at Muskegon Tool Industries, Bob joined the Engineering Department at Western Michigan University in 1978. While pursuing his teaching career, he established two very significant programs developing child restraint closures and establishing the International MODAPTS Association at Western. He worked with Charles Woodward and Paul Engelmänn to develop "child proof" medicine bottles that senior citizens and people with arthritis could open. The initial work was funded by the Consumer Product Safety Commission and eventually resulted in a patent and an award for "Protective Package of the Year" in 1990.

Throughout his many publications and research endeavors, the themes of ergonomics and work design and measurement come through. As well as being a certified manufacturing engineer, licensed MTM, MODAPTS and MOST Practitioner, Bob was appointed by the governor to Michigan's General Industry Safety Commission. During 1989–90 he served as interim associate dean for research and graduate programs in the College of Engineering and Applied Sciences. In 1995, Bob moved back to Muskegon and focused his energies developing two programs for Western. He has taught a variety of graduate courses in Muskegon, Holland, and Grand Rapids.

In his retirement, he plans to continue with his hobbies of kayaking, fly fishing, woodworking, cross country skiing, and birding.



## 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)

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