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## Faculty Retirement Recognition Dinner 2006

Western Michigan University

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WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY

*Faculty  
Retirement  
Recognition  
Dinner*

*May 16, 2006*



# WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY

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Judith I. Bailey  
President

May 2006

Dear Colleagues:

Welcome to the 2006 Faculty Retirement Recognition Dinner. This occasion gives us an opportunity to express our sincere appreciation for the dedication, hard work, and support you have given Western Michigan University throughout your career.

Your commitment to excellence helped transform Western Michigan University 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,

Judith I. Bailey  
President



## PROGRAM

Trumpet Fanfare . . . . . Scott Thornburg  
Emcee . . . . . Margaret Merrion

## DINNER

Greetings from the Faculty Senate . . . . . Paul Pancella  
Legislative Tributes . . . . . Alexander Lipsey

Recognition of the Honorees:

Presentation of the Certificates . . . . . Judith Bailey  
Presentation of the Tributes . . . . . Alexander Lipsey

Welcome to the Ranks of Emeriti . . . . . Molly Williams  
Honorees' Response . . . . . David Isaacson

The Gold Company Sextet

Aubrey Johnson  
Amy Yassinger  
Mia Starr  
Andy Inglat  
Timothy Mellon  
Patrick Laslie

Accompanied by Hugh Little on the Piano

WMU Alma Mater . . . . . sung by all  
lead by the Gold Company Sextet

## MENU

*Chilled Garden Salad Mix of Romaine, Ice Burg, and Spinach  
with Tomatoes, Cucumbers, and Choice of Dressing*

*Champagne Chicken Forestierre (chicken breast with  
sauteed wild mushrooms, sparkling wine, and cream sauce)*

*Potato Latke*

*Vegetarian:*

*Sun Dried Tomato and Cheese Polenta Medallions with  
Sun Dried Tomato Basil Vinaigrette Served with Fettucine*

*Green Beans and Baby Carrots*

*Rolls and Butter*

*Dark Chocolate Cheesecake*

*or*

*Raspberry Dream Cake*

*Beverages*

## HONORED GUESTS

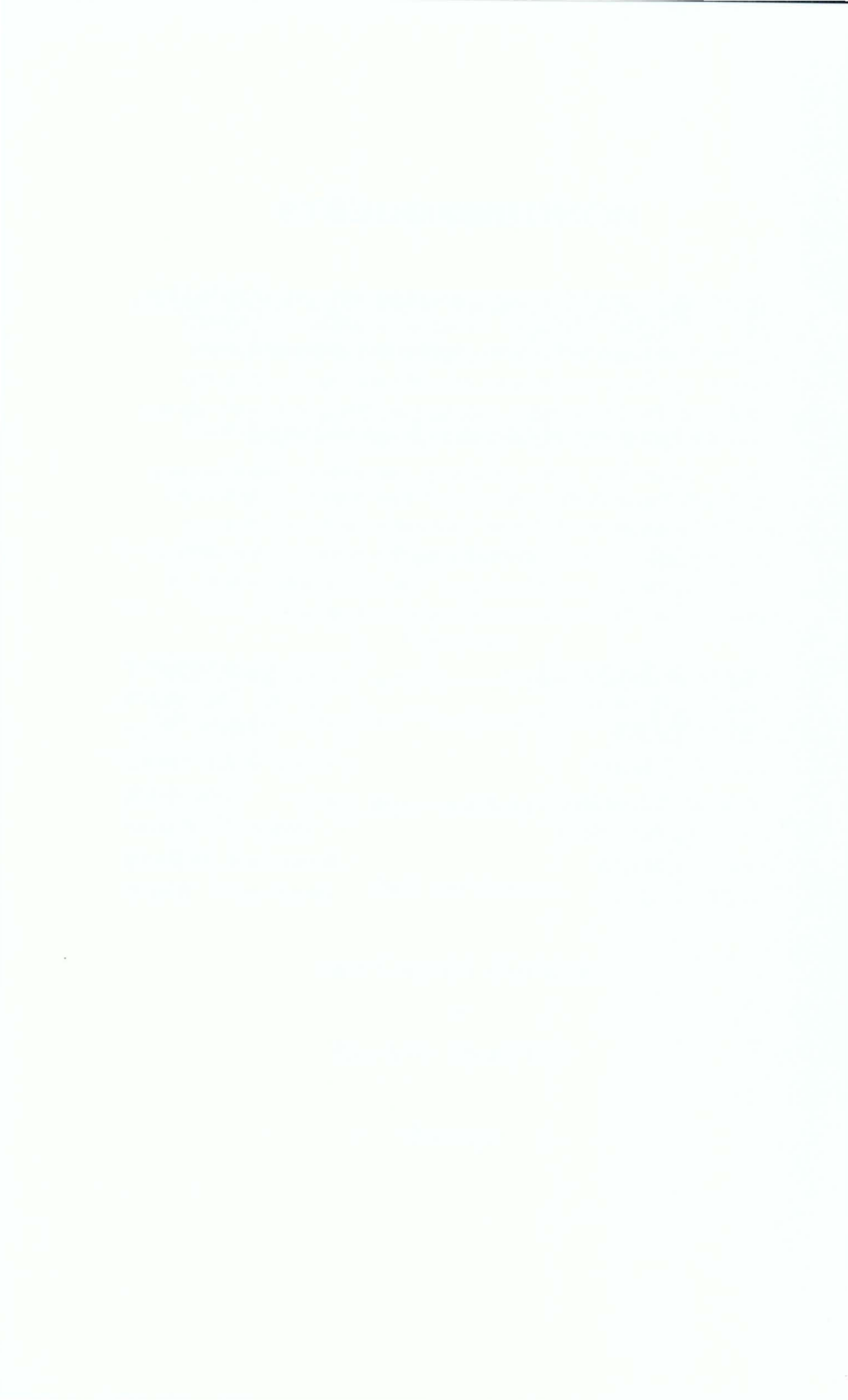
Tonight we honor 16 of our colleagues who are entering the ranks of Western Michigan University's esteemed retired faculty. It is good to have this gathering of those who through so many years have contributed so much to the building of the University's valued traditions, yet have always been attuned 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.

Gregory W. Boothroyd  
Robert O. Brinkerhoff  
Rollin G. Douma  
Adrian E. Edwards  
Sandra J. Edwards  
Alonzo E. Hannaford  
Dona G. Icabone  
David K. Issacson

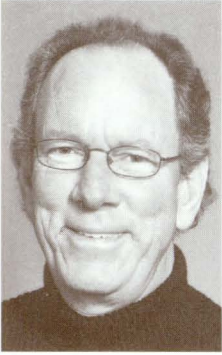
F. William McCarty  
Janet I. Pisaneschi  
Mary E. Ross  
Linda Trotter-Heger  
Edo Weits  
William R. Wiener  
Lawrence A. Williams  
Benjamin C. Wilson





## Gregory W. Boothroyd

Professor of University Counseling



Gregory W. Boothroyd was born in Detroit, and lived there until the end of the eighth grade when his family relocated to Traverse City. He enrolled at Western Michigan University where he supported himself for the next six years as a resident advisor and assistant director of Hoekje Hall. He earned a bachelor's degree in speech correction under the watchful eye of Dr. Charles Van Riper, followed by a master's degree in counselor education. Somehow during the master degree time period when he was referring a number of students to what was then called the University Counseling Bureau, he came favorably to the attention of Dr. Donald Davis, the Bureau's director, who expressed his appreciation and interest by offering Gregory a graduate assistantship

followed by a one year post-master degree adjunct position. That one year galvanized both a love for Western and a career dedicated to the field of counseling, especially as it related to working with college age students.

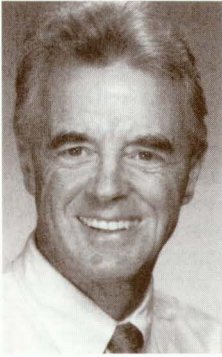
To help insure such a career, he left Western in 1968 to begin a Ph.D. program in counselor education at the University of Michigan. He then supported himself and a new family (wife and son, Scott) by accepting the position of director of Walton Hall at Eastern Michigan University. He believes he is the first man to ever direct an all women's residence hall in Michigan. He left Eastern Michigan University and the University of Michigan with his Ph.D. and returned to Western as a member of the Counseling Center faculty in the Fall of 1970 where he remained until retirement on January 1, 2006.

His 35-year career at Western was primarily as a personal counselor/therapist in the University Counseling and Testing Center. It was pleasantly interrupted from 1980-86 when he was selected to serve three consecutive terms as the third University ombudsman reporting first to President John Bernhard and then to President Diether Haenicke. It was a glorious job because it opened his eyes to the "total Western...how it worked, its gifts, strengths, flaws, limitations, and humanity," much more than the eye could see from a particular department or college. At the conclusion of his stint as ombudsman, he returned to the Counseling and Testing Center. Shortly thereafter he opened and directed, at the request of President Haenicke, University Substance Abuse Services - a licensed outpatient substance abuse treatment center for Western students, now in its 18th year of operation.

One of his greatest accomplishments at Western resulted from his association with friend and colleague Dr. Milton Cudney and the creation, development, and ultimate personal refinement and delivery of the theory of eliminating self-defeating behaviors which resulted in the successful publication of *Going Home-A Positive Emotional Guide for Promoting Life-Generating Behaviors*. This book, co-authored by his wife, Dr. Lori Gray Boothroyd, is the focal point of his post-retirement work life and subsequent professional speaking engagements, training, and workshops it invites across the country. These wonderful professional opportunities and the travel they afford are mixed with winter snowshoeing, summer kayaking, and plenty of enjoyment of Traverse City, where he has returned and finally settled.

## **Robert O. Brinkerhoff**

Professor of Counselor Education and Counseling Psychology



Robert O. Brinkerhoff has had a very distinguished career as a faculty member at Western Michigan University. After serving in the Navy as an officer during the 1960s, he returned to graduate school to complete his doctorate at the University of Virginia in 1974. After receiving his doctorate, Rob was invited to stay on as assistant professor and direct the Evaluation Training Consortium at the University of Virginia. The Evaluation Training Consortium was a national project funded by the U.S. Office of Education to upgrade the quality of evaluation in special education teacher training programs. The evaluation project and Rob relocated to Western Michigan University in 1978, where he was able to expand the project. Between 1978 and 1982,

Rob brought in over \$1 million in grants and contracts. During this same time he provided training workshops and seminars to more than 2000 special education professors and State Department personnel throughout the United States. His name became synonymous with the evaluation of special education training programs, and "The Brinkerhoff Model" for evaluation was used by virtually every university, regional, or State agency seeking grant funding to prepare teachers in the field of special education.

In 1983, Rob began a career transition to extend his work in evaluation into the emerging field of Human Resources Development or HRD, and he, with colleague Ken Dickie, started the HRD program here at Western. Since its inception the HRD program has graduated more than 400 graduate students and achieved a national and international reputation for excellence in graduate HRD preparation. Because of Rob's work, Western Michigan University is widely known as one of the top universities in the country for HRD study, and the program has attracted students from around the world who wanted to study with Rob. The program's graduates have been hired into leadership positions in virtually every major corporation in Southwest Michigan.

Rob is the author of 15 books and he has been a featured speaker at conferences and major professional association meetings all around the world. He has been prolific in service to his profession and to Western Michigan University. Rob is widely recognized as a leader in evaluation of training in the HRD field and his influence has been felt worldwide.



## Rollin G. Douma

Associate Professor of English



Rollin G. Douma was born and lived in Evanston, Illinois, for five years, moved to Palo Alto, California, for another four years, then to Milwaukee, Wisconsin, for another four years, and then on to Grand Rapids, Michigan, for junior and senior high school before moving to Ann Arbor for college and to Kalamazoo for employment at Western Michigan University. The initial reluctance to leave each town was soon replaced by the pleasant surprise of being in another with its own very positive attributes. He's had no regrets, plenty of highlights and indelible memories of people, places, events, and life's challenges and changes.

Rollin earned a B.A. in English and education, an M.A. in secondary school administration, an M.A. in English, and a Ph.D. in English and education at the University of Michigan. He is said to have enjoyed every minute of the academic and non-academic life in Ann Arbor—some years enjoying the latter far more than the former.

Following completion of his undergraduate program, Rollin taught English for a year at Derby Junior High School in Birmingham, Michigan; worked in business for nearly a year after that; then, convinced that the business world suited others better than him, returned to Ann Arbor for graduate school and took an English teaching position at Plymouth High School. One degree led to another, and the path out of Ann Arbor led to Kalamazoo in 1970, where Rollin accepted a faculty position in the Department of English. He taught in that department until 1979 when he became an associate dean in the Graduate College, which changed to interim dean in 1992 and then dean in 1995. In 1997, he returned to the faculty and assisted then Provost Tim Light with managing the curriculum review process and editing both the undergraduate and graduate catalogs. In the summer of 2002, he took on the additional position of interim dean of the College of Education, which he relinquished in the spring of 2003 when a permanent dean was appointed. Rollin returned to the Provost's Office as associate vice president for academic affairs and then vice provost for academic operations. He now, again without a trace of reluctance, steps onto the path to retirement.

What's ahead? Enjoying life with his very favorite person—his wife Sheppy—learning golf again after decades away from the game, biking corners of the world the two of them want to see close up, skiing and hiking in mountains they love, fly fishing in waters that one imagines hold the wariest and finest trout, tennis with friends, enjoying visits with children and grandchildren, reading anything except reports, catalog copy, or requests for answers to this or that, writing anything except reports, catalog copy, or answers to requests, and generally doing what comes naturally and compatibly with their political, philosophical, and community service principles and beliefs.

## Adrian E. Edwards

Professor of Finance and Commercial Law



Adrian “Ed” Edwards was born in Grand Falls, Newfoundland. He earned a B.B.A. with a major in economics and minor in accounting from St. Francis Xavier University in Nova Scotia. He subsequently earned an M.B.A. with concentrations in finance and economics at the University of Detroit. Ed proceeded to receive a Ph.D. from Ohio State University with a major in finance and minors in accounting and economics.

Prior to attending university studies, Ed worked for two years with the Bank of Montreal in Newfoundland and Ontario. He left this occupation when one of his bank co-workers shot another (though not fatally) in a game of Russian Roulette during a slow day at the office. Prior to coming to Western, Ed taught in Nova

Scotia and Ohio.

While working on his doctoral dissertation, Ed accepted a position as assistant professor of finance at Western Michigan University in the fall of 1964 and will remain on the faculty at Western up to June 30, 2006. Ed’s teaching areas were Investments and Mergers and Acquisitions. Ed also assumed several administrative posts at Western. In 1969, he was elected chair of the Finance Area in the College of Business. He held this position until fall 1975. In 1998, he assumed the position of chair of the Department of Finance and Commercial Law, a position he held until June of 2003. In July 2004, Ed accepted the position of interim dean of the Haworth College of Business. He holds this position until his retirement on June 30, 2006. Ed chaired the following University committees and councils: Faculty Senate Budget and Finance Council, WMU Athletic Board, WMU Athletic Hall of Fame, WMU representative to the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA), the Committee to Establish the Position of Provost at WMU, Organization of Chairs, Heads and Directors, and a number of University search committees. During his years at Western, Ed also found time to serve as head coach of the Bronco hockey team from 1966 to 1970 and to serve as a referee in the Central Collegiate Hockey Association for ten years.

Ed was a trustee for the Parkstone Family of Mutual Funds, and currently serves as a trustee for the Pension Investment Committees of the County of Kalamazoo, the City of Kalamazoo, and the Kalamazoo Foundation. He has also served as a financial consultant in forensic matters in Southwestern Michigan since 1975. Ed has been cited by the Michigan State Legislature for his years as a teacher, a mentor, and a friend to a multitude of students during his career at Western. He has authored and presented over 60 articles while at WMU.

After retirement from WMU, Ed intends to spend more time in the southern United States where he and his wife, Jo, own a home in Bluffton, South Carolina. They also have four grandchildren in the Carolinas. He and Jo will also travel to Oklahoma, Arkansas, Idaho, Oregon, Hawaii, and the Canadian Province of Saskatchewan, which will then mean visits to all states and provinces in the U.S. and Canada. Ed has two hobbies (three if you count a decrepit golf game): reading from a sports history library of approximately 400 books (including 40 on Negro Baseball) and playing competitive hockey which he has done for over 60 years.



## **Sandra J. Edwards**

Professor of Occupational Therapy



Sandra J. Edwards was born in Gainesville, Florida, at Alachua General Hospital, a prerequisite for authenticity as a native of Gainesville, home of the Gators. She received her B.S. degree in occupational therapy from the University of Florida, her M.A. in special education at Western Michigan University, and clinical certifications from Stanford University, Sensory Integration International, and Rancho Los Amigos Rehabilitation Hospital.

Sandra joined the Western Michigan University faculty in 1975 as an assistant professor and was promoted to full professor in 2001. Her research has been focused in clinical pediatrics with a specialty in hands of children with various disabilities. She is

one of the few experts on children with Down's Syndrome in occupational therapy. For the last five years, she has worked with faculty from electrical and computer engineering on research using a haptic robot with children for eye-hand coordination problems, which has attained national and international recognition.

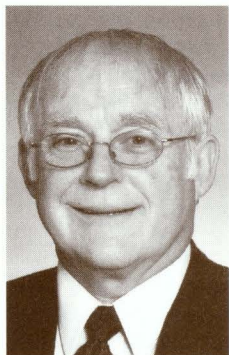
Sandra has extensive publications and presentations including work on the hands of children, and the haptic robot in national and international journals and conferences, including work on hands of children with Down's Syndrome. She has served on all the committees in her department, and has assumed leadership positions in the Faculty Senate, positions elected by the University faculty for committees, and committee appointments by the president and vice president.

Sandra's outside interests include travels with her husband and sons, in South, Central and North America, Africa, Asia, and Europe. She and her husband, Al, have enjoyed ballroom dancing since they met in 1969. She enjoys playing the piano (even occasionally for Rotary), singing in the Gospelfest choir, gardening, and summering at the family cottage in Delton.

Following retirement, Sandra plans to enjoy her family and friends, expand her participation in the arts, have extended stays abroad, and participate in ballroom dancing and exercising the recommended dose.

## Alonzo E. Hannaford

Professor of Educational Studies



Alonzo E. Hannaford was born in Taylorville, Illinois. He earned a B.S. in industrial education and an M.S. in special education from Illinois State University. His Ed.D. was from the University of Northern Colorado in special education and research and statistical methodology.

Before beginning advanced graduate work, he taught in the Springfield, Illinois, public schools and was an instructor at Illinois State University. In 1970 he became an assistant professor in special education at Western Michigan University. In 1974 Alonzo was promoted to associate professor and to professor in 1982. In 1984 he was the acting director of the Science and Mathematics Education Center and became chairperson of the Department of Special

Education in 1985, a position he held until he became associate dean in the College of Education in 1996. During his tenure as associate dean, one of his responsibilities was to help guide the college through a successful NCATE accreditation review as well as through State of Michigan curriculum and program reviews. While an associate dean he also served as interim chairperson of the Department of Educational Leadership and of the Department of Educational Studies.

Alonzo was awarded the Western Michigan University Alumni Association Teaching Excellence Award in 1985, was inducted into Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society in 1992, and received the College of Education Research Recognition Award in 1995. During his tenure at Western, he was extensively involved in giving professional presentations and workshops at the local, regional, state, and national levels on special education, career education, technology, science and mathematics instruction for learning with disabilities, curriculum, and administration. He also published extensively on many of the same topics. Alonzo maintained an active research and grant agenda while at Western, successfully winning both state and federal funding on a diverse array of topics related to special education. For over a decade he was, through State of Michigan grants, actively involved in delivering professional development in science education to teachers from throughout Michigan who worked with students with disabilities. Since his retirement he has been appointed a member of the Committee of Scholars by the Michigan Board of Education. In this capacity he, with other committee members, guides and assists institutions of higher education that are seeking to institute teacher preparation programs.

International travel with his wife, Jolene Jackson, has assumed a prominent role in Alonzo's post-retirement life. This has included travel to Asia, Europe, Africa, and Latin America, where he has been able to combine his love of travel with his interest in photography. When not traveling internationally, he and Jolene can generally be found at West Hills Athletic Club when in Kalamazoo, staying at their home on Lake Michigan, or enjoying the Upper Peninsula.



## **Dona G. Icabone**

Associate Professor of Educational Studies



Dona G. Icabone was born on June 12, 1944, in Brooklyn, New York. D-day was also in June 1944 and she thought D-day meant “Dona-Day” for many years. She completed high school in Philadelphia, all the while learning to get rid of her Brooklyn accent. She entered Penn State in 1962 and graduated in 1965 with a B.S. degree and in 1966 with an M.Ed., both in special education for students with cognitive impairments. She spent six years teaching in special education.

A friend who had received a doctorate in special education from Penn State was teaching at Western Michigan University and encouraged Dona to apply for a one-year term position as an instructor for the 1972-73 school year. She will always be grateful to Joe

Eisenbach for hiring her. She left WMU in 1973 to earn a Ph.D. in educational psychology at the University of Minnesota. On June 29, 1976, she returned to WMU as an assistant professor.

During her 30 years at WMU, 27 were spent in the Department of Special Education (later incorporated into the Department of Educational Studies). In addition to her teaching and advising responsibilities, some highlights were developing and coordinating graduate programs in both severe impairments and learning disabilities, being principal investigator from 1995-98 for a \$600,000 Special Education Evaluation and Technical Assistance Project grant, and serving as program coordinator for special education.

She was fortunate (or naïve) when elected recording secretary of the Faculty Senate. It provided her a wonderful overview of the University, as did serving as chair of the Sabbatical Leave Committee. She also served on the executive board of the AAUP representing the College of Education. She learned to view the University not just from the eyes of a faculty member but in a larger context. In September 2003 she was appointed ombuds for WMU. This position called on all her previous professional and personal areas of expertise. She has been proud to serve the WMU community for these past three years.

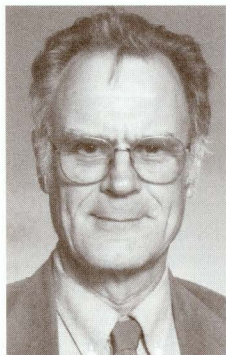
As she ends her professional life on a very positive note, her personal life has changed tremendously, also on a very positive note. Last year she married Ken Satir, an old friend from Penn State—they had known each other for 40 years—and they plan to build their married life together as retired folks with the ability and time to pursue dreams. They plan to travel the world together—the Canadian Rockies this summer and Costa Rica in November, with future plans to visit Australia, Africa, and Greece.

She has always believed that people are the most important aspects of life. Professionally, she is proud of the students that she taught here at WMU for 27 years. Personally, she is most proud of her 22-year old daughter, Marissa, who just graduated from George Washington University, with a major in international diplomacy for the Middle East. With her marriage also came two children and their spouses, and four grandchildren. She revels in being called Grandona!



## David K. Isaacson

Professor of Libraries



David K. Isaacson was born in Gary, Indiana. He earned his master of library science degree from the University of Illinois. David taught English literature and composition at MacMurray College, Jacksonville, Illinois, and Bradley University, Peoria, Illinois, before coming to Western Michigan University in 1973.

His first position was as a general reference librarian. Later he assumed the duties of humanities librarian and assistant head of reference.

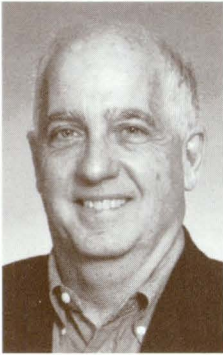
He is a member of Phi Beta Kappa, Phi Beta Mu, and Phi Kappa Phi. He has published numerous articles in library journals as well as other journal articles about language. Besides book reviews for *Library Journal* and *American Reference Books Annual*, for many years

David broadcast monthly reviews of new books in Western's libraries over the University's public radio station WMUK.

After retirement, David will be a docent for the Kalamazoo Institute of Arts, compile an annotated bibliography of the works of the essayist Joseph Epstein, and write essays on librarianship, language, and photography. He and his wife also want to travel and spend more time with their daughter and granddaughter.

## **F. William McCarty**

Professor of Finance and Commercial Law



F. William "Bill" McCarty was born and lived in Indiana then moved to East Lansing, Michigan. After graduating from East Lansing High School, he went to DePauw University where he graduated with a B.S. in economics. At DePauw, Bill first experienced international studies and travel as an exchange student at the Nijenrode College of International Business in the Netherlands. He learned a bit of Dutch and began a lifelong appreciation for the study of other cultures and love of travel.

After graduating from DePauw, he spent three years at the University of Michigan's Law School where he received the J.D. degree. Then, he headed back to the Netherlands on a Ford Foundation Fellowship to study the European community and international taxation. After his return from Europe, Bill accepted a legal position in the Trust Department of a large Chicago bank, followed by a position in a small LaSalle Street law firm. Licensed to practice law in both Michigan and Illinois, but looking for an opportunity to teach international business and to live in a more family friendly locale, Bill accepted an offer in 1970 to join Western Michigan University's faculty.

Bill's first decade at WMU focused on the research, teaching, and service activities expected of faculty. He joined both the Kalamazoo Rotary and local Bar Association to get active in the community. A few years into the next decade, Bill took on administrative positions beginning with interim executive director of the new Fetzer Conference Center, a position he held for about 15 months. Bill was next appointed chair of the Finance and Commercial Law Department. During his third decade, Bill returned to his international interests. In 1992, he spent a summer term teaching in Leicester, England, with about 20 WMU students. Just after stepping down as department chair in 1994, he became the first WMU faculty member and first business professor to be a visiting scholar at the Japan Center for Michigan Universities. The next term, he was a visiting lecturer at Aston University in England and an exchange professor at Passau University in Germany. He also served as a co-director on two international business grants the business college received from the U.S. Department of Education and returned to writing several textbooks and articles.

During 1996-97, Bill served as interim dean of the College of Business. During this time, Bill also accompanied Provost Tim Light and several administrators to India and Sri Lanka to look at possible partner institutions. Those institutions became major sources for large groups of international students at WMU.

Bill's work in the community includes service as president of the International Business Group of West Michigan and as a member of the finance committee of his church. His future plans include more rounds on the golf links, travel in the U.S. and abroad, and plans to help spoil 12 grandchildren. He also hopes to keep a boat ready for sunset cruises at his new home on Austin Lake. This summer, Bill will return to his law practice days, albeit on a much reduced schedule, by focusing on estate planning activities as a counsel member of the Deming Law Group.

## Janet I. Pisaneschi

Professor of Speech Pathology and Audiology



Born in Cumberland, Maryland, Janet I. Pisaneschi received her B.A. degree in biology at Ursuline College, Louisville, Kentucky. She received an M.A. in philosophy from St. John's University, Jamaica, New York, and a Ph.D. in philosophy from St. Louis University in Missouri.

Janet came to Kalamazoo in August 1989, to take the position of dean of the Western Michigan University College of Health and Human Services and held that position for 17 years, and has been WMU's longest serving dean. Prior to joining WMU, Janet was on the faculty at the University of Kentucky after having served as a special consultant to the American Foundation for AIDS Research in New York. Earlier in her career, Janet served as congressional fellow on the Majority Health

Staff of the U.S. Senate Labor and Human Resources Committee.

A recognized scholar in medical ethics, she has published widely and presented internationally on such topics as caring for the elderly in the U.S. and AIDS and the Allied Health Professions.

Since her arrival in 1989, she has been active in a number of community volunteer agencies. Janet currently serves as a member of the board of the Kalamazoo YWCA. She has also served as a member of the board (including a stint as board chair) of the Greater Kalamazoo Area American Red Cross, as a member of the Greater Kalamazoo United Way Board, and on several task forces.

Janet plans on moving to Kentucky within a year of retirement to join family and friends. She plans on visiting her family homesteads in Italy (both parents were born there) and also Greece. In addition to her love of travel, Janet enjoys Broadway shows, reading, music, and socializing with family and friends.

While Janet's accomplishments during her time at WMU are numerous, her swan song deserves a special mention. Janet had the wisdom and vision to recognize the value of providing a world-class facility to house the College of Health and Human Services and all of its programs. She championed the new CHHS building, which opened at the beginning of the Fall 2005 academic year. Her dedication and tenacity in seeing this project through to completion has resulted in an extremely cohesive state of the art learning environment which will benefit the college and its students, as well as the reputation of this University in the field of health and human services, for years to come.



## Mary E. Ross

Professor of Libraries



Mary E. Ross was born in Oconomowoc, Wisconsin, and grew up in Madison, Wisconsin. She received a bachelor of music, a master of arts in music, and a master of arts in library science degrees from the University of Wisconsin - Madison. She also spent one year at the Hochschule für Musik in West Berlin, arriving in West Berlin the fall that the wall was built between East and West Berlin.

Mary and her husband, Martin, moved to Kalamazoo when Martin accepted a position in the Sociology Department at Western Michigan University, where he taught until his retirement. Mary was a part-time assistant librarian at the Lawton, Michigan, Public Library for two years, and a rare book cataloger

(temporary position) at Kalamazoo College before joining the WMU libraries as a cataloger in 1979. When the libraries implemented the first automated library management system in 1989, Mary transferred to the newly created Systems Office to implement and manage the system. In 1998 she managed the migration and implementation of the current library system, *WestCat*.

Mary played an active role in the libraries, serving many years on the Merit; Tenure and Promotion; Executive; and Web committees, among others. She also was an AAUP representative, Faculty Senate committee reviewer of Teaching and Learning with Technology (TLT) grants, and elected a member of the recently established Faculty Senate International Education Council. She served on several Office of Information Technology committees. She received a federally funded grant to develop a means of searching *WestCat* using cell phones and PDAs.

In retirement Mary expects to be able to devote more time to her granddaughter and to music. Mary had been a member of the Kalamazoo Symphony Orchestra prior to joining WMU, and has played for many years with WMU's Collegium Musicum.

## Linda Trotter-Heger

Associate Professor of Music



Linda Trotter-Heger came to Western Michigan University in 1990 following a remarkable 21-year career in opera. From 1961 to 1982, she sang over 1,000 performances of 68 operatic roles in Austria, Germany, Switzerland, Italy, Spain, and Luxembourg. Her performances in the United States are highlighted by the world premiere of Andrew Porter's English translation of *Tristan and Isolde* with the Seattle Opera. As part of the Pacific Northwest Wagner Festival, the only festival at the time offering the complete Ring Cycle outside of Bayreuth, Germany, she sang the role of Sieglinde in *Die Walküre* in 1981 and 1982.

She has sung roles in operas by Auber, Bellini, Borodin, Britten, Cimarosa, Giordano, Gluck, Gounod, Hindemith, Lehar, Lortzing, Mascagni, Milhaud, Mussorgsky, Mozart, Offenbach, Puccini, Rossini, Smetana, Richard Strauss, Tchaikovsky, Verdi, and Weber. Her Wagner repertoire alone includes nine roles from seven of his masterworks. When asked about her most memorable performance, she selected her 1976 performance as Ortlinde in Wagner's *Die Walküre* with the Czech Philharmonic and Birgit Nilsson in the role of Brünnhilde. Her eyes also lit up when she recalled being second-soprano soloist for Mozart's *Great Mass in C Minor* with the Mozarteum Orchestra of Salzburg under the baton of Leopold Hager in 1973, with soprano Arleen Auger.

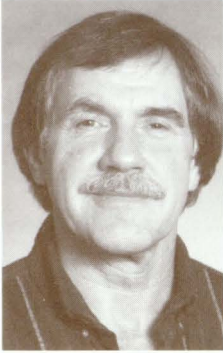
Her successful career in Europe came soon after receiving a bachelor of music degree in opera from the University of South Carolina in 1959. Some 23 years later, she resumed formal study at the USC where in twelve months she earned her master of music degree in vocal performance. As a teacher, she has held positions at the Konservatorium der Stadt Innsbruck, Austria; the Landeskonservatorium für Vorarlberg, Feldkirch, Austria; and, just prior to her WMU appointment, at Miami University of Ohio. In recent years, she is proud of her summer appointments on the faculty of the American Institute of Musical Studies in Graz, Austria, as well as her service to Western's SEMINAR summer music program for high school students.

In the early '60s she received three Martha Baird Rockefeller Grants for study at the International Opera Studio in Zurich. She was a 1963 semi-finalist and the only American woman in the International Music Competition in Geneva, Switzerland, and in 1976 she was listed in *Who's Who in Opera*. In 1997, she was appointed to the editorial board of *The American Music Teacher*, the monthly journal of the Music Teachers National Association.

Her retirement plans include relocating to Ft. Worth, Texas, where "Grandma Linda" will be near her adopted family. She plans to establish a voice studio there and also pursue contacts for doing voice overs for radio and television commercials. Although she will be happy to leave the snow and ice behind, she is most grateful for the collegial and administrative support she has enjoyed at Western Michigan University during this most recent chapter of an incredible professional journey.

## Edo Weits

### Master Faculty Specialist of Holistic Health Care



Edo Weits was born in the Netherlands and immigrated to the U.S. in 1956. He received his B.A. in psychology from Calvin College in 1967, his M.A. degree in clinical psychology from Western Michigan University in 1973, and his Ed.D. degree in counselor education and counseling psychology from WMU in 1979.

Edo was an officer in the U.S. Marine Corps for four years, served a tour of duty in Vietnam, and was honorably discharged as a captain in 1971. Edo has consulted with the Michigan Judicial Institute for 30 years, training probation officers in basic counseling and interviewing skills. He also works part time in private practice as a licensed professional counselor.

Edo joined the faculty at WMU in 1979 as an adjunct instructor and worked his way up to a full time master faculty specialist with tenure. He has worked full time in the graduate certificate program in Holistic Health Care since 1982, developed and taught eight different courses in this program, and served as the off-campus coordinator for this program since 1996.

In 2004, Edo received the Outstanding Alumnus Award from the Counselor Education and Counseling Psychology Department at WMU, an Outstanding Faculty Award from his department in 2002, and an Administrative Merit Award from WMU in 2000.

Edo plans to return and travel throughout Vietnam in 2006 and to attend an opening dedication ceremony of a primary school that he and a group of former USMC officers funded to be built. He also plans to attend a 50 year immigration family reunion in the Netherlands in 2006. His recreational interests are running, swimming, biking, and weight lifting.



## William R. Wiener

### Professor of Blindness and Low Vision Studies



William R. Wiener was born in Cleveland, Ohio, and holds a doctorate in counselor education and supervision from Kent State University, a master of arts degree in blind rehabilitation from Western Michigan University, and a master of arts degree in speech pathology and audiology from Cleveland State University. He is married to Dr. Margaret Bernhard and has three daughters – Susan married to son-in-law Steve; Gail married to son-in-law Paul; and Amy married to son-in-law Keith.

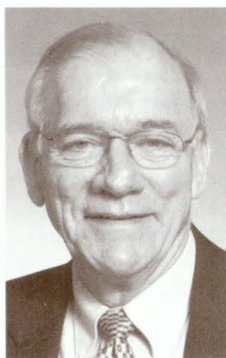
Bill began his teaching career at Cleveland State University where he served for 12 years as a faculty member and later as coordinator of blind rehabilitation until 1986 when he came to Western Michigan University as professor and chairperson of the Department of Blind Rehabilitation. He held a joint faculty appointment with the Department of Counselor Education and Counseling Psychology from 1999 to 2005. Bill served as senior associate dean for the Graduate College at WMU from 2000 to 2002 and then as dean from 2002 to 2005. Currently, he is vice provost for research and dean of the graduate school at Marquette University in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. His credentials include Certification as an Orientation and Mobility Specialist (COMS) and Certification as a Rehabilitation Counselor (CRC). He is a former president of the Association for Education and Rehabilitation of the Blind and Visually Impaired, the national professional organization in the field of blindness. He has served as the chairperson of the Editorial Advisory Board of the *Journal of Visual Impairment and Blindness*, as a board member of the Disability Resource Center of Western Michigan, as a member of the Board of the National Council on Rehabilitation Education, and currently as a board trustee of the American Foundation for the Blind. Bill has also served as coordinator of the Michigan Council of Graduate Deans. He is currently serving the Association of Travel Instruction as president-elect.

In 1996 he was the recipient of the Lawrence E. Blaha Award for outstanding contributions to the field of orientation and mobility for people who are blind. In 1996 and again in 2002 he was the recipient of the Newcomer-Hill Orientation and Mobility Service Award. In 2002 he was honored by the National Association of Graduate and Professional Students for his contributions to that organization. In 2003 he was awarded the Jim Neubacher Lifetime Achievement Award from the Disability Resource Center of Southwest Michigan. In 2004 he earned the Ambrose Shotwell Award, the highest honor in his discipline, for contributions to the field of blindness and low vision.

Bill's future professional plans are to increase the research productivity at Marquette University and grow the master's and doctoral programs. Additionally, he plans to complete a two volume text on orientation and mobility. His upcoming travel agenda includes a trip to Hong Kong to present a paper. While he enjoys several hobbies, including photography, cycling, and weight lifting, clearly there is no immediate plan to slip into a leisurely lifestyle. Although retired from Western Michigan University, he is very much still at work at Marquette University and pursuing his passionate interest in the field of orientation and mobility as he continues to help people who are blind and low visioned.

## Lawrence A. Williams

Assistant Professor of Industrial and Manufacturing Engineering



Lawrence A. Williams was born in Flint, Michigan, and graduated from Flint Public Schools. Larry earned both his bachelor's degree in petroleum marketing and M.B.A. from Western Michigan University.

From 1955-59 Larry was a member of the U.S. Air Force, three years of which was spent in England. Subsequent to receiving his bachelor's degree, he was employed by the Union Oil Company from 1964-67, functioning as a marketing representative at the retail level. Larry joined the Distributive Education Department at Western Michigan University in 1967 as an instructor in petroleum marketing. He taught in Distributive Education for 20 years until the petroleum marketing curriculum was phased out. Since that time he has

been the co-op director in the College of Engineering and Applied Sciences. Larry also served as the internship director in the Haworth College of Business for a number of years. He has been an academic advisor for the Department of Industrial and Manufacturing Engineering and the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering.

Publications include *Petroleum Marketing*, with co-author Dr. Jack Humbert, and a monograph on *Metric Pricing in the Retail Petroleum Market*, with the federal government. Larry was a co-author of two petroleum marketing simulations on retail and wholesale petroleum marketing. He has also served as an expert witness at a number of trials involving the petroleum industry.

Larry and his wife, Greta, have traveled to France, New Zealand, and Mexico in the last three years, and plan on continuing and expanding their travels in the next few years. He also plans to improve his golf handicap. Additional areas of interest include volunteering and trying his hand at woodworking, although he has no experience or skills in this area. Greta also has a rather large list of "honey-do's" that should help to keep him occupied.



## Benjamin C. Wilson

Professor of Africana Studies



Benjamin C. Wilson, former interim director of Africana Studies at Western Michigan University, received his Ph.D. from Michigan State University, with the ante bellum Black Experience, Pre-Colonial African history, and some aspects of Pan-Africanism as his fields of specialization. He has spent a significant part of the last 35 years teaching (30 years at WMU), researching, serving as a consultant and lecturer to various public and private organizations and agencies on racial issues, educational concerns, multiculturalism, African-American history in outstate Michigan, police-community relations, and more.

Ben has authored one book, co-authored two, and wrote numerous articles on various aspects of the African-American Heritage in Michigan. In addition, he has produced twelve audio-visual modules on Michigan's Black Experience. "Idlewild—the Apollo of Michigan" was a Philo T. Farnsworth Award Winner in 1984. He completed, with Dr. Lewis Walker, a chapter on African-Americans for a new book, *Building on Ethnic Diversity in Michigan*. They collaborated on another article, "Public Policy in the 1990's: The Health-Care System and African Americans—Importance of Home Remedies in Small Cities and Rural Regions." They also co-authored *African Americans in Michigan* and *The Black Eden: The Idlewild Community*. He is extremely proud that he played a vital role in helping the people of George, South Africa (Watsonsdorp Preto), reclaim their family land which was confiscated by the Group Areas Act of the former Apartheid South Africa Regime. He has participated in professional development seminars in Zimbabwe (1995), South Africa (1995, 1998), and Ghana (1999). He and his family have visited South Africa on five separate occasions since 2000. Twenty years ago, Ben was instrumental in helping Western Michigan University initiate a unique long-term minority recruitment program, called the Duane Roberts Memorial Junior/Senior High School Visitation Program.

Ben has received numerous awards, citations, and grants—but nothing is more important to this single parent than Nikki, Ayanna, and Danya—his daughters. His plans for the future include traveling, consulting, research and writing, creating an audio-visual documentary on Idlewild, and working with his daughters' foundation, "The Dream Makers Youth Foundation," in Atlanta, Georgia.





## ALMA MATER

### *Brown and Gold*

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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