



Western NEWS

JANUARY 24, 2008
volume 34, number 9

For and about WMU faculty and staff

Free employee photos available

All faculty and staff are eligible to have publicity photos taken Tuesday, Jan. 29, between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. in the Heinig Emeriti Lounge of Walwood. Photos will be used for WMU print and electronic publications. Employees may have digital copies of their photos for personal use at no charge.

University Relations conducts this type of general photo session throughout the year, usually the Tuesday before each Board of Trustees meeting. Contact Sue Beougher at sue.beougher@wmich.edu or 387-8402 if you plan on attending one of these sessions.

Open forum with Dunn slated

The Western Student Association and Graduate Student Advisory Committee are hosting a spring semester open forum with WMU President John M. Dunn at 5:30 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 5, in 208 Bernhard Center. Dunn has committed to participating each semester in open forums for students, faculty and staff of the University.

Stationery jobs assigned to lab

Purchasing has assigned the production of all business cards and letterhead solely to the Print Lab in the Department of Paper Engineering, Chemical Engineering and Imaging. The lab is located on the Parkview Campus.

It offers competitive prices for the University community in addition to providing part-time jobs and hands-on work experience for students. To place an order or obtain more information, contact Mark Cummins at mark.cummins@wmich.edu or 276-3527. Payment may be made by credit card or fund and cost center.

FYE Program seeking facilitators

Applications are being accepted through Friday, Jan. 25, for faculty facilitators to teach the 2008 First-Year Experience Seminar. More information and the application form are available online at www.wmich.edu/provost/announcements. For more information, contact Maleeka Love at maleeka.love@wmich.edu or 387-2167.

Research applications due Feb. 1

Applications for the next round of Research Development Awards are due by Friday, Feb. 1. These faculty and staff awards offer a series of development activities designed to facilitate the process of securing external funding for research projects.

Recipients will be announced Friday, March 14. Complete 2008-09 award guidelines are posted at www.wmich.edu/research/funding/internalfund as a Microsoft Word document. For more information, contact Leonard Ginsberg at leonard.ginsberg@wmich.edu.

Scholarship supports program for foster-care youth

The members of one of the nation's most underserved college-age populations will get help making their higher education dreams come true, thanks to a new scholarship and support initiative being launched at WMU this fall.

WMU's Foster Youth and Higher Education Initiative is an effort being launched in coordination with the Michigan Campus Compact and the Michigan Department of Human Services.

The pilot program is designed to recruit and offer a support structure and financial aid to young people who have aged out of foster care and who qualify for admission or transfer to WMU. While the intent is to target Michigan's foster care youth, the program is open to qualified students from any state.

The initiative will create a community of scholars among WMU students who grew

up in foster care, such as three-time WMU alumnus John Seita, who has become one of the nation's foremost experts on and advocates for foster youth.

Seita has published extensively on the topics of foster care and youth development and has a background that includes work with the W.K. Kellogg Foundation.

He was honored this month with the 2007 Ruth Massing Foster Care Alumni Award through Casey Family programs—an offshoot of the Annie E. Casey Foundation. Only one foster care alumnus a year is selected in the United States.

The initiative also will attempt to fill



Seita

continued on page 4



MARCHING IN UNISON—In addition to delivering the keynote speech for the Martin Luther King Multicultural Celebration Jan. 20, in Miller Auditorium, President Dunn (front, left) took part in Kalamazoo's communitywide march to MLK Park Jan. 21—Martin Luther King Jr. Day. (Photo courtesy of the Kalamazoo Gazette)

University's provost search moves into high gear

The University's search for a new provost is moving quickly, with more than 40 nominations in the hands of the search committee even before the position was advertised during January in national higher education media outlets.

"We're very pleased at the response so far, and in the coming weeks, we expect to have twice that number of names to consider," says Dean Earlie Washington, College of Health and Human Services, who chairs the 17-member search committee.

Washington says she and her committee members still want to encourage people to make any additional nominations they have by going to the provost search Web site at www.wmich.edu/provostsearch and locating the e-mail address in the middle of the page that goes directly to Bryan Hanson of Parker Executive Search of Atlanta. That firm is assisting WMU in the search, and the names of nominees may be sent to Hanson for inclusion in the candidate pool.

During January, Washington notes, the provost position was advertised in the *Chronicle of Higher Education*, *Diverse Issues in Higher Education*, *Women in Higher Education* and *Hispanic Outlook*, as well as on the careers and jobs sections of the *Science* and *Nature* Web sites.

"Once we have the results from that advertising and any additional nominations, we expect the search to move rapidly," says Washington. "The search firm has indicated we're in a very good position right now, especially in light of the holiday interruption to the process."

Around Campus

Ethics film series opens tonight

A screening and post-film discussion of "High Noon" opens WMU's new Ethics Film Series beginning at 6:30 p.m. tonight in 213 Bernhard Center. Admission is free. The series includes three other films through Sunday, April 13, all beginning at 6:30 p.m. in the same room.

English professor to give talk

Christopher Nagle, English, will discuss "Sexuality and the Culture of Sensibility in the British Romantic Era" and his new book by the same name in a free, public talk at 7 p.m. tonight on the 10th floor of Sprau Tower.

Copyright issues to be explored

The growing tension between copyright laws and creative license will be discussed in a lecture and film presentation for the WMU community from 12:15 to 1:45 p.m. Friday, Jan. 25, in 3226 Kohrman Hall. Attendees may bring a lunch and are asked to make a reservation by contacting Julie Apker at julie.apker@wmich.edu or 387-3140.

Faculty seminar series continues

The Haworth College of Business Faculty Enhancement Seminar Series continues from 2:30 to 4 p.m. Friday, Jan. 25, in 2145 Schneider with four sessions addressing contemporary content analysis. Presenters include JoAnn Atkin, marketing, and Tim Palmer and Sime Curkovic, management.

Medallion competition slated

Nearly 500 of the brightest high school seniors in Michigan and nine other states

as well as many of their parents will gather at WMU from 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 26, for the 24th annual Medallion Scholarship Competition. Most activities will take place in the Bernhard Center.

Japanese films spotlighted

The Japan Foundation Midwest Film Festival is visiting WMU through Tuesday, March 11. Four more films have been scheduled. Next up will be the comedy "Water Boys" on Tuesday, Feb 5. All screenings are open to the public free of charge and will begin at 7 p.m. in the Little Theatre.

Media's future is lecture topic

Gracie L. Lawson-Borders, director of African-American studies at the University of Wyoming, will speak on "The Future of Media: Convergence, Concentration, Technology and Regulation" from noon to 1 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 6, in 3512 Knauss. The free public lecture is a visiting scholar presentation sponsored by the Department of Communication.

2,000 expected for Career Fair

The 30th annual Career Fair will take place from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Thursday, Feb. 7, in the Bernhard Center. The event is free for job seekers and open to the public but tailored for WMU students and alumni. Some 160 employers will be on hand to meet with an expected 2,000 job candidates. More information is posted in the Career Fairs and Events section of the www.broncojobs.wmich.edu Web site.

Voice specialist earns fellowship

Micha Espinosa, theatre, was named a 2007 fellow by the Voice and Speech Trainers Association. The fellows program connects qualified VASTA representa-



Espinosa

tives with institutions and organizations in need of workshops, master classes and symposia. The purpose is to provide expertise in specific areas that may not be available in a given institution or organization.

Espinosa joined the WMU faculty in 2003 and serves as director of voice and speech for the theatre department. She has taught voice, speech and movement workshops nationally and internationally as well as performed in film, television, commercials and regional theatre. A VASTA officer since 2000, she also is a certified yoga instructor and a trainer for the Fitzmaurice Voice-work Teacher Certification Program.

Historian garners Fulbright chair

Nora Faires, history, has been awarded the prestigious Fulbright Distinguished Chair for a four-month residency at Toronto's York University to study clubs founded by U.S.



Faires

women living abroad. Faires will examine the relationship of gender, U.S. national identity, migration and internationalism and teach a graduate seminar on 20th-century gender and migration history.

A former Fulbright Distinguished Chair in North American Studies at the University of Calgary, Faires heads WMU's Canadian studies initiative. She is co-author of two award-winning books. In addition to her many other professional activities, she serves on the editorial boards of the *Journal of American Ethnic History* and the *Michigan Historical Review*.

Educator leading grant project

Marcia Feters, who has dual appointments in teaching, learning and educational studies as well as the Mallinson Institute for Science Education, is a principal investigator for "Alignment of Secondary Science Teacher Practice and Materials in the Battle Creek Region Michigan." The project is focusing on science teacher professional development for six Battle Creek-area schools.



Feters

The \$205,000 grant through the Department of Education Title II program for Improving Teacher Quality involves an interdisciplinary team of WMU faculty members researching the promotion of best practices for test writing, homework construction, formative assessments and supporting students in developing meta-cognitive skills. The project also is working to re-align Battle Creek regional curriculum with Michigan's new High School Content Expectations.

International office seeks student orientation leaders

International Student Services and Affairs is recruiting students to serve as leaders for the University's international student orientation program this coming fall.

Current WMU students interested in becoming a cultural bridge and experiencing inter-cultural teamwork are encouraged

to apply. Requirements are included in the application form posted at <http://international.wmich.edu/content/view/1033/2>. Completed applications should be returned to 4231 Ellsworth Hall by 5 p.m. Monday, Feb. 11.

For more information, contact Kimberly Ritter at kimberly.ritter@wmich.edu or 387-5859.



volume 34
number 9

EDITOR: Jeanne Baron. CONTRIBUTORS: Tonya R. Hernandez, Deanne Molinari, Thomas A. Myers, Cheryl P. Roland and Mark E. Schwerin. GRAPHIC DESIGN: Tammy M. Boneburg.

WESTERN NEWS (USPS 362-210) is published by the Office of University Relations, Walwood Hall, Western Michigan University, 1903 W. Michigan Ave., Kalamazoo, MI 49008-5433, every other week during the fall and spring semesters and Summer I session. Periodicals postage paid at Kalamazoo, MI 49008-5165.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to *Western News*, Office of University Relations, Western Michigan University, 1903 W. Michigan Ave., Kalamazoo, MI 49008-5433.

DEADLINE: Items to be considered for publication should be submitted to the Office of University Relations by 5 p.m. Friday the week preceding publication. Spring semester publication dates are Jan. 10, Jan. 24, Feb. 7, Feb. 21, March 13, March 27 and April 10. Items may be submitted by mail, fax (387-8422) or e-mail (jeanne.baron@wmich.edu).

WMU is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer consistent with applicable state and federal laws.



WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY

Exchange

For sale—Portable color TV/VCR player with car adapter and case for securing in vehicle. Great for trips, \$25. Call 720-0764.

Time Share—Lakefront, year-round cottage 30 minutes from Kalamazoo. \$3,500 per year for one week per month. Enjoy a quiet, lakefront getaway without the hassle of ownership. Call 387-7243.

Jobs

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

Public radio's Iraq correspondent to speak

Deborah Amos, foreign correspondent for National Public Radio and ABC News, will give a public lecture at 6 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 5, in Shaw Theatre.

Admission is \$5 for the general public and free to students, faculty and staff of WMU and Davenport and Kalamazoo colleges. A valid ID from one of the three schools is required.

Amos will speak on the U.S. conflict in Iraq in her presentation, "Iraq: No Exit in Sight." Her visit is part of the World Affairs Council of Western Michigan's Great Decisions Foreign Policy Lecture Series and is sponsored by the World Affairs Council, WMU's Haenicke Institute for Global Education and Kalamazoo College.

Covering Iraq for NPR News, Amos files reports that can be heard on NPR's "Morning Edition," "All Things Considered" and "Weekend Edition." She has returned to work with NPR after a decade in television news, including ABC's "Nightline" and "World News Tonight" and the PBS programs "NOW with Bill Moyers" and "Frontline."

Widely recognized for her coverage of the Gulf War in 1991, Amos has won several awards, including an Alfred I. duPont-Columbia Award and a Breakthru Award. She spent 1991-92 as a Nieman Fellow at Harvard University, and she wrote the 1992 book "Lines in the Sand: Desert Storm and the Remaking of the Arab World."

Her visit is the first of three programs in Kalamazoo sponsored by the World Affairs Council. Both of the other two events are panel discussions, "Putin's Long Shadow: Russia's Future" Tuesday, Feb. 19, in the Fetzer Center's Kirsch Auditorium and "Philanthropy: Does This New Global Player have the Power to Make a Global Difference?" Tuesday, Feb. 26, in Kalamazoo College's Stetson Chapel.



Amos

Influenza on the rise at WMU

Seasonal influenza has officially arrived at WMU.

Sindecuse Health Center clinicians are seeing an influx of students with influenza, and this influx is being seen earlier this year compared to previous years.

Students, faculty and staff who are experiencing fever, chills, coughing, headache, sore throat and muscle aches would benefit by seeking medical attention early in the illness, as treatment with antiviral medication is available within the first 72 hours of the illness.

For those who miss the 72 hour window, drinking plenty of fluids to prevent dehydration, using acetaminophen or ibuprofen to reduce fever and muscle aches, and avoiding smoking or alcohol are important steps to take for recovery.

There is still time to receive flu vaccine through Sindecuse. Those interested may call or walk in for a nurse appointment to be vaccinated. Go to www.sindecuse.com for more information.

Talk to assess Kalamazoo Promise

The first 2008 presentation in the Keystone Community Bank Breakfast Series will be on "The Kalamazoo Promise—Where We Started and Where We Are."

Robert Jorth, executive administrator of the Kalamazoo Promise, will present the talk at 8 a.m. Friday, Jan. 25, in the Dean's Conference Room of Schneider. A complimentary breakfast will be served beginning at 7:30 a.m.

As executive administrator, Jorth has established all of the processes and procedures for implementing this groundbreaking nationally recognized scholarship program. He earned his master's of public administration degree from WMU and formerly was a quality assurance professional in the aerospace industry for nearly 20 years.

His presentation is free and open to the public. Reservations are required and may be made by writing to Nicole Lockwood at nicole.lockwood@wmich.edu or calling 387-5050.

Dance department sets winter concert

The Department of Dance will present its Winter Concert of Dance at Chenery Auditorium on Friday and Saturday, Feb. 8-9. Performances are at 8 p.m. Friday and 2 and 8 p.m. Saturday.

Admission is \$8 for students; \$12 for faculty, staff, seniors and Partners in Dance members; and \$16 for other adults. Tickets are available at the door before each performance or in advance by calling the Miller Auditorium box office at 387-2300.

The concert will feature Anthony Tudor's "Dark Elegies," staged by Willy Shives, assistant ballet master and leading dancer with the Joffrey Ballet, as well as "Strict Love," choreographed by Doug Varone and staged by Eddie Taketa, a member of Doug Varone and Dancers.

WMU dance department faculty members and students also will be performing separate works.

Service

Note: The service anniversaries appearing in the Jan. 10 *Western News* are for January, not December as was stated in the issue.

Student award named for retiree; appreciation week slated



Belleville

A WMU retiree and thousands of student workers will be feted Monday through Friday, Feb. 11-15, during the 22nd annual Student Employee Appreciation Week.

The week recognizes student workers for their many contributions to the University. This year, it also recognizes Gary L. Belleville by naming the Student Employee of the Year award in his honor.

Belleville came to WMU in 1967 and retired in 1993 as director of the Student Employment Referral Service, which he founded as a unit within what is now Career and Student Employment Services.

CSES encourages all faculty and staff members to submit nominations for the supervisor and student employee of the year awards as well as to thank student workers in some way during Student Employee Appreciation Week.

Go to www.broncojobs.wmich.edu and click on "Nominate" for deadlines and other details concerning the week.

Short-term study abroad options abound for faculty, staff

WMU is offering 26 short-term study abroad programs this summer.

Most programs have a Friday, Feb. 15, application and are open to non-WMU students as well as adults who aren't in college but are interested in traveling and learning.

The programs, offered through the University's Haenicke Institute for Global Education, are convenient options for people who can't spend a long period overseas but want to immerse themselves in another country's language and culture.

They include the Grand Tour of Europe



led by Dean Emeritus Larry ten Harmsel, Lee Honors College, as well as studying art in France, business in Norway, engineering in China or Korea, creative writing in the Czech Republic, and language and culture in Russia.

Summer 2008 study abroad programs run from two to eight weeks, provide varying levels of academic credit and are eligible for financial aid funding.

Some programs offer classes in a broad range of disciplines or qualify for general education credit. A few offer scholarship opportunities.

For more information go online to www.wmich.edu/studyabroad or contact the study abroad office.

New overseas course has openings

Seats are still available for interested students wanting to participate in a summer Spanish language immersion program.

The Interdisciplinary Mexico Immersion in Health Care course runs from May 10 to June 21 and is suitable for students in a variety of majors.

To learn more about the course content, informational meeting set for Monday, Feb. 4, and other details, contact Kathi Fuller at kathi.fuller@wmich.edu or go to www.wmich.edu/hhs and click on "Attention HHS Students!"

Obituary

Borgia De Haan, blind rehabilitation, died Jan. 13 in Kalamazoo. She was 84.

A former administrative assistant, De Haan retired in 1992 after 10 years at WMU. Funeral services were held Jan. 16 in Kalamazoo.



Dehaan

On Campus with Gary Custer



ALWAYS COOL-HEADED
(Photo by Jeanne Baron)

Most people who've been to a WMU hockey game in Lawson Arena know Gary Custer. They just don't realize it. Custer operates the contraption that smoothes the ice between periods—in WMU's case, an Olympia resurfacer rather than the better known Zamboni.

"I don't think I've missed any games," he says. "I even have my own kind of cheering section, especially now that I'm back to throwing candy to the students."

Custer serves as the general maintenance person for Lawson, which is part of Auxiliary Services and as a self-supporting unit, is open year round to students and community members. He does basic maintenance on WMU's two ice resurfacers, cleans and shaves down the ice as necessary, and mends the bleachers as well as the rink's flooring and protective glass wall.

A certified ice technician II, Custer has completed enough specialized courses to also be certified by the National Hockey League. The designation, which took five years to obtain, means he's skilled at making and maintaining ice for rinks such as Lawson and building in all the requisite lines, logos and advertisements.

"I have the 'coolest' job on earth. I take pride and ownership in my work. I can't skate the way the boys do, but I can give them the best surface possible to skate on," Custer says, noting that keeping Lawson one of the best rinks around is no easy task because it's connected to Gable Natatorium.

"There's a lot to think about in terms of temperature and humidity because you have the arctic on one side and the tropics on the other. And whether we're repairing the resurfacers or shutting the entire facility down for a complete overhaul, it takes a lot of people behind the scenes, especially in the physical plant."

Custer came to WMU in 1989 as a custodian and was temporarily assigned to Lawson in 1995. A few weeks later, he was asked to stay on. He saw the job as a career move and liked tending the ice, so he decided to stay.

Once hockey season is over, the Portage resident goes back to a 40-hour work week, just in time for him and his wife, Judy, to climb on their motorcycles and indulge their passion for social riding and traveling.

Scholarship support for foster care

continued from page 1

the unique support needs that exist for the students who have no adult mentors and no permanent home outside their college residence and who have specialized legal, medical, counseling and financial needs.

The goal will be to help foster youth, who age out of care between the ages of 18 and 20, make the transition to adulthood through higher education.

"We cannot, as a society, afford to lose the potential these young people represent. At Western Michigan University, we are passionate about insuring that no segment of our society is kept from having access to higher education," says WMU President John M. Dunn.

"This University, with its broad range of programs, excellent faculty and strong support systems is well positioned to make

success for these young people a reality."

Chief among the tools WMU will use to support foster youth is the John Seita Scholarship.

The scholarship will provide foster youth aging out of care with undergraduate tuition. Recipients will be required to live on campus, and year-round, on-campus housing will be available, thus providing students with the stability of knowing they have a roof over their heads even during semester breaks.

Seita, now an associate professor of social work at Michigan State University, says people unfamiliar with the plight of former foster youths often underestimate the importance of housing stability for a student trying to pursue a college degree.

Before he became a student at WMU,

Seita briefly attended a small Michigan liberal arts college. When his fellow students went home for the holidays, he had no place to go. When college administrators could offer him no assistance, he spent his holiday recess sneaking in and out of a residence hall and scrambling to find a way to eat.

Annually, more than 500 young people age out of Michigan's foster care system. Nationally, the figure is about 20,000. While 70 percent aspire to go to college, only about 20 percent actually enroll and only a quarter of those students go on to earn a degree.

For more information about WMU's foster youth initiative, contact Penny Bundy, director of admissions; Mark Delorey, director of financial aid and scholarships; or Yvonne Unrau, social work.

Faculty, staff members leading two Reading Together events

Four WMU faculty and staff members will be featured in two of the programs slated for this year's Reading Together Series, which focuses on Barbara Kingsolver's novel "Animal Dreams."

Both of the programs are panel discussions and free and open to the public.

Stephen Cameron, geography, and Michael Millar, Spanish, will speak at noon Friday, Jan. 25, in the central Kalamazoo Public Library branch on events in Nicaragua as they are portrayed in Kingsolver's

novel. Their talk will address U.S. foreign policy and humanitarian involvement in Latin America and Central America during the 20th century.

Miranda Howard and James Dexheimer, University Libraries, will lead a discussion on the novel from noon to 1 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 6, in WMU's Stewart Tower, which is attached to Waldo Library. Their themes will center on family, caring for aging loved ones, community, the environment and Hispanic culture.

W-2 forms available early

Employees can get their W-2 forms up to two weeks early through the new "MyW-2" feature in GoWMU, the University's secure intranet portal.

Electronic copies of all 2007, 2006 and 2005 documents are available now. Traditionally mailed 2007 W-2 forms aren't expected to reach mailboxes until early February.

Go to www.wmich.edu/wmu/news/2008/01/037 for full details.