



Western NEWS

JANUARY 10, 2008
volume 34, number 8

For and about WMU faculty and staff

WMU slates Dunn inauguration

The WMU Board of Trustees has scheduled an inauguration for President John M. Dunn for 4 p.m. Monday, March 24, in Miller Auditorium. Additional details about the event will be publicized in future issues of the *Western News* as they become available. Dunn officially became WMU's eighth president on July 1, 2007.

Microcomputer Sales relocates

Microcomputer Sales left its University Computing Center location in December and has reopened in the WMU Bookstore



on the main floor of the Bernhard Center. The new, more accessible location allows the Office of In-

formation Technology unit to provide more and better service to campus customers seeking to purchase educationally discounted computer hardware and software.

OIT's Microcomputer Repair unit is still stationed in the University Computing Center on the building's northwest side. More information about Microcomputer Sales is available by calling 387-5460. For information about Microcomputer Repair, call 387-HELP.

President named to state board

Gov. Jennifer Granholm has appointed WMU President John M. Dunn to serve on Michigan's Strategic Economic Investment and Commercialization Board. Dunn, who represents WMU on the board, will serve a term that expires Dec. 31, 2010. He succeeds President Emeritus Diether H. Haenicke, whose term had expired.

The board is an independent entity within the Michigan Strategic Fund that oversees the competitive grants and loans to Michigan institutions of higher education as well as state research institutions and nonprofit corporations for competitive-edge technology projects.

Athletic club looking for losers

Looking to shed extra holiday pounds and have fun at the same time? The West Hills Athletic Club invites all faculty and staff to participate in the WMU Biggest Loser competition. The contest features prizes for those losing the greatest percentage of body weight and will run from Jan. 21 to March 17. For more information, visit www.westhillsathletic.com/fitness/fitness_weight.html or contact Mark Szatkowski, director of weight management, at mark.szatkowski@wmich.edu or 387-0443, ext. 5.



will run from Jan. 21 to March 17. For more information, visit www.westhillsathletic.com/fitness/fitness_weight.html or contact Mark Szatkowski, director of weight management, at mark.szatkowski@wmich.edu or 387-0443, ext. 5.

Anonymous \$5 million bequest to boost faculty retention

An anonymous donor from southeast Michigan plans to leave \$5 million to WMU to significantly boost ongoing faculty recruitment and retention efforts.

The donor, an alumnus who majored in industrial psychology and social science with a personnel management minor, has funded the gift through a bequest, the proceeds of which will be distributed to the University after the donor's death.

Sixty percent of his gift will be designated for use in the College of Arts and Sciences, with 20 percent going directly to the college. Three of the college's departments will receive portions of the gift in these amounts: School of Communication, 20 percent; Department of Chemistry, 10 percent; and Department of Psychology, 10 percent.

In addition, 15 percent of the bequest will be designated for use by the Haworth College of Business, and 10 percent will

support the College of Health and Human Services. The remaining 15 percent will support University efforts campuswide.

"This is a wonderful gift that clearly reflects the value this generous donor sees in enhancing our students' ability to have ready access to the very best faculty," says WMU President John M. Dunn. "Time and again, our alumni tell us just how significant such relationships were during their student days and beyond. One-on-one interactions between our students and excellent faculty are part of what we call the Western Edge, and this donor has embraced and made an important commitment to this concept."

According to the terms of the bequest, up to one-half of the gift may be used to provide "topping off" incentives for the recruitment and retention of top faculty.

"The whole notion of 'topping off' drives at the very center of what we are doing to

continued on page 4



WMU PILOTS TAKE TURN PLAYING SANTA—Instead of sleighs, four pilots from the College of Aviation turned to high-tech aircraft Dec. 7 to help ensure a merry Christmas for foster children around Michigan. The four were taking part in Operation Good Cheer, a statewide effort begun in 1971 by Ford Motor Co. employees that now brings donated gifts by air to more than 4,600 foster children around the state. This is the third year WMU pilots have participated in the program. Aviation specialist G. Patrick Langworthy and flight instructor Todd Protacio picked up a load of gifts from Pontiac, Mich., and transported them to Kalamazoo in a college-owned Piper Seneca. Meanwhile, flight program managers Robert Bunday and Thomas McLaughlin (center, from left) picked up gifts in Pontiac and flew them to Port Huron, Mich., in the college's leased Cessna Conquest. Also pictured, from left, are McLaughlin's daughter, Rebecca, and wife, Terri. (Photo courtesy of the College of Aviation)

Faculty in four graduate programs earn high productivity grades

Faculty members in four graduate programs have earned top-10 rankings in an annual listing of research universities with the most productive faculty.

The third annual Faculty Scholarly Productivity Index ranks per-capita scholarly accomplishment by discipline at the nation's research universities. WMU's science education faculty ranked third in their discipline in the index, while the graduate faculty in educational evaluation and research, counselor education and applied economics ranked seventh, ninth and 10th, respectively.

The index is published by Academic Analytics, a Pennsylvania-based, for-profit organization owned in part by the State University of New York at Stony Brook. The third edition of the index was issued in late 2007, and results of the analysis were widely reported in higher education media, including the *Chronicle of Higher Education*.

The data is based on the number of books and journal articles written by faculty, the number of times their work is cited by other scholars, and the awards, honors and grant dollars they have received. The index rates the output of 164,843 faculty members in nearly 7,300 doctoral programs at 375 universities offering doctoral degrees.

Around Campus

Major art exhibits open today

Two major art exhibitions, "Sculptural Concepts: 1967-2007" and "Fiber Face: Cross Cultural Batik Collaborations," open in the Richmond Center for Visual Arts today. Both are free of charge.

"Sculptural Concepts" is a historical survey of minimalism and conceptual art in the Albertine Monroe-Brown Gallery through Feb. 16. A related panel discussion will be held at 5:30 tonight in the Richmond Center Lecture Hall.

"Fiber Face" runs through March 21 in the Kerr Gallery. It was organized by Mary Louise Totton, art history professor, and includes WMU artists-in-residence Nia Fliam and Agus Ismoyo Isnugroho.

Martin Luther King concert set

The Kalamazoo Symphony will present a "We Have a Dream" concert at 8 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 19, in Miller Auditorium. This special event, which will include a prelude at 7 p.m., is part of the greater Kalamazoo area's 2008 Martin Luther King Jr. celebration.

For tickets to the concert visit www.millerauditorium.com or call 387-2300. For more information about the many local events taking place this year in honor of King, visit the Web site at www.wmich.edu/mlk.

Spring grant workshops set

The Office of the Vice President for Research will begin its free grant development workshops for spring with "Career Development/How to Build a Research Program" on Friday, Jan. 18. The program will be from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. in Walwood Commons in Walwood.

Several other workshops also have been slated through mid-April and will be held at the same time in Walwood's Heinig Emeriti Lounge. Those participating in the workshops should bring a lunch and, when appropriate, a laptop computer. To register for any of the scheduled programs, visit www.wmich.edu/research/workshop-registration or call 387-8205.

CD release concert to be held

Allison Downey, teaching, learning and educational studies, has put out her second compact disc, this one featuring fellow faculty member John Austin, Downey's husband and musical partner. The two will introduce their new creation, "Across the Sea," with a CD-release concert at 8 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 26, in the Little Theatre. Tickets are available through the Miller Auditorium Ticket Office or at the door.

Prof earns national citation

Amos O. Aduroja, health, physical education and recreation, has received the prestigious Warren B. Schaller Presidential Citation from Eta Sigma Gamma, the



Aduroja

national health education honor society. This award recognizes a professional member's significant contributions to the discipline of health education.

Aduroja was presented with the award during the society's annual business meeting in Alexandria, Va., this past fall. Eta Sigma Gamma is the only professional organization devoted exclusively to professional development of preprofessional health education students.

PA named among first fellows

William H. Fenn, physician assistant, has been named one of the first Distinguished Fellows of the American Academy of Physician Assistants. A practicing PA for more



Fenn

than 30 years, Fenn has hailed for his contributions to patient care and the PA profession; expanding the discipline in the state, nation and international arena; demonstrating an exceptional commitment to all aspects

of health care; and serving in an AAPA leadership role.

AAPA, which is one of the largest medical societies in the United States, is the only national organization representing physician assistants in all medical and surgical specialties. Fenn joined WMU's physician assistant faculty in 1986 and previously served as chair of the department. He already is a fellow of several other professional groups, including the Michigan Academy of PAs and Society of Air Force PAs as well as a founding fellow of such organizations as the Veteran's Affairs Academy of Physician Assistants.

Jazz notable aids in TV victory

Internationally renowned vocal jazz professor Stephen Zegree was the "secret weapon" for the Cincinnati-based Nick Lachey choir's victory in the nationally



Zegree

televised "Clash of the Choirs Holiday Challenge," which aired live on NBC from New York City Dec. 17-20. Lachey tapped Zegree to help rehearse his choir, which competed against hometown

choirs put together by four other music superstars, including Patti LaBelle.

Zegree rehearsed Lachey's choir for more than a week in Cincinnati, traveled to New York for three more days of rehearsals prior to the live broadcasts, and remained in the city to work with Lachey and the singers throughout the competition. Viewers voted to eliminate one of the five choirs each of the four nights NBC aired the contest. Lachey's win brought home \$250,000 from General Electric for Cincinnati-area charities.



RECOGNIZED FOR LONGEVITY—The University honored 32 faculty and staff members Dec. 4 for a quarter-century of service to the University by inducting them into the 25 Year Club. President John M. Dunn, center, participated in the festivities, along with inductees, from left, Elizabeth W. Kuhle, women's tennis coach; Lillian Y. Love, office associate in First-Year Experience Programs; Susan Pozo, professor of economics; and Richard A. Aldrich Jr., retired public safety sergeant. (Photo by Neil Rankin)



volume 34
number 8

EDITOR: Cheryl P. Roland. ISSUE EDITOR: Jeanne Baron.

CONTRIBUTORS: Tonya R. Hernandez, Deanne Molinari, Thomas A. Myers and Mark E. Schwerin. GRAPHIC DESIGN: Tommy 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 (cheryl.roland@wmich.edu).

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



WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY

DeRight reception scheduled

Joyce DeRight, admissions and advising director in the College of Education, will be honored for 36 years of service to WMU during a retirement reception from 2 to 4 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 23, in the Oaklands.

Exchange

For sale—Excellent starter or retirement home in Oakwood Neighborhood. Close to campus with two bedrooms and huge privacy-fenced backyard. 700 square feet. All appliances stay. Eager to sell; asking \$63,000. Call Angie at 998-2969.

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.

Smorgasbord of events planned for 2008 Martin Luther King Jr. tribute

The Kalamazoo area will be hosting five major communitywide events this year to honor the life and legacy of slain civil rights leader Martin Luther King Jr.

All of the major events for the 2008 MLK celebration, "What King Wrought: Stand Up for Justice, Stand Up for Truth," are free and open to the public and being offered through a partnership between WMU, the Northside Ministerial Alliance, Kalamazoo College and the city of Kalamazoo.

First up at 4 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 13, will be the "MLK Kick-Off Celebration" at Galilee Baptist Church in Kalamazoo. This worship service will feature the Rev. Johnny Young, senior presiding bishop of the Church of God Pentecostal Inc. in Inglewood, Calif.

The service also will feature the 100-voice MLK Celebration Choir and other special guests.

At 4 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 20, WMU will host the "MLK Multicultural Celebration" in

Miller Auditorium featuring keynote speaker John M. Dunn, president of WMU.

The program also will highlight the talents of local artists, including WMU theatre



Young



Dunn



Oyalaran-Wilson

professor Von Washington, Ujima and the Ebony Vision Dance Troupes, and the 100-voice MLK Celebration Choir.

The final three major events will all take place Monday, Jan. 21, the national holiday honoring MLK.

The day, which also is earmarked locally as the "MLK Community-Wide Day of Service," will begin at 7 a.m. when registration opens in the Radisson Hotel and Suites in

Kalamazoo for volunteers to participate in social service projects.

Next up will be the "Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Convocation" at 10:50 a.m. in Kalamazoo College's Stetson Chapel. KC President Eileen Wilson-Oyalaran will speak on the 2008 celebration theme "What King Wrought: Stand Up for Justice, Stand Up for Truth."

The event also will include a performance by the 100-voice MLK Celebration Choir.

The day will end with a parade/march to MLK Park, beginning at 1:45 p.m. at WMU's Kanley Chapel.

Many other smaller events also have been scheduled this year at WMU and in the community, including speeches, discussions, film presentations and artistic performances.

Those events will be spread out over nine days from Jan. 13 and continue through Jan. 21. Visit www.wmich.edu/mlk for complete event details.

New director for Walker Institute comes on board Jan. 1



Ready

The former director of the University of Notre Dame's Institute of Latino Studies and research director for the Inter-University Program for Latino Research at the university has been tapped to head WMU's Lewis Walker Institute for the Study of Race and Ethnic Relations.

Timothy Ready began his new position Jan. 1, replacing interim director Lewis Walker, the WMU professor emeritus of sociology for whom the institute was named in 2000. Ready also was appointed to a tenure-track faculty position as an associate professor of anthropology.

"I look forward to doing all that I can to coalesce the talent and energy of this great University to support the institute's mission of teaching and research on issues related to race and ethnicity in our community, our state and around the world," says Ready. "While the institute's work will be grounded in solid scholarship, its agenda will be informed by an ethic of community service in support of a more just, equitable and prosperous society for all."

A teacher and author, Ready was chief designer and director of Project 3000 by 2000, a national diversity campaign of the Association of American Medical Colleges during the late 1990s. In addition, he was the administrator for an \$11 million grants program co-sponsored by the W.K. Kellogg and Robert Wood Johnson foundations that supported educational partnerships to enable more African American, Latino and Native American students to progress through high school and college into various health professions. Ready also was senior program officer at the National Research Council of the National Academies in Washington, where he directed three studies related to the education of minority and economically disadvantaged students. All three studies resulted in books published by National Academies Press.

Undergraduate research award applications due soon

Undergraduate students at WMU have until Monday, Jan. 21, to file the first round of applications for the Undergraduate Research Excellence Award program funded by the Office of the Vice President for Research.

Students apply for \$500 toward a stipend, travel or supplies for a mentored research project or creative experience with one of WMU's externally funded faculty members. Under the program, faculty members subsequently may apply for up to \$200 for additional supplies to support the student.

To determine which faculty members in their departments are externally funded, students should contact their department offices. Visit www.wmich.edu/research/undergraduate for more information or to download an application form.

Good time for faculty, staff to activate recreation center membership

Now is a good time for benefits-eligible faculty and non-bargaining staff to activate their Student Recreation Center membership.

Those who do will get a year's membership, valued at \$225, and pay nothing more than the taxes on that amount. Anyone wishing to activate their membership may do so from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday in the SRC office.

But sign up soon—the year's membership starts at the beginning of the semester or session faculty and staff join, and spring semester began Jan. 7.

The SRC is a convenient way to maintain a healthy lifestyle. For more information about this employment benefit, call 387-3115 or visit the Web site at www.src.wmich.edu and download the membership application.

Trustees set meeting dates

The WMU Board of Trustees will meet eight times during 2008.

The meetings will take place on the following Fridays: Feb. 1, when the board's annual election of officers will be held; March 14; May 2; June 13; July 25; Sept. 12; Nov. 7 and Dec. 12.

Most meetings are held on campus in the Bernhard Center.

Service

The following faculty and staff members are recognized for 35, 30, 20, 15, 10 and five years of service during December.

35 Years—Robin A. Williams, University Libraries.

30 Years—Victoria L. Beyene, physical plant-landscape services; Jerry W. Fulbright, physical plant-landscape services; Robert E. Norlin, physical plant-building custodial and support services; C. Dennis Simpson, SPADA/physician assistant; David H. Smith, university relations; and Cindy Lou Thorpe, physical plant-building custodial and support services.

20 Years—Donna G. Areaux, psychology; Connie S. Bashaw, financial aid and scholarships; Craig L. Boucher, information technology; Maria J. Saldivar, King/Chavez/Parks Program; and Denise S. Williams, physical plant-building, custodial and support services.

15 Years—Susan M. Alexander, public safety; Kathleen M. Cantley, physical plant-building, custodial and support services; Julie M. Christensen, occupational therapy; Carrie A. Cumming, Registrar's Office; Sandra Duke, theatre; Doris N. Ohler, dining services-cash operations; and Martha M. Szotek, dining services-Davis.

10 Years—Sarah Curry, College of Arts and Sciences advising, and Rose A. Hartung, physical plant-building, custodial and support services.

Five Years—Brett A. Berquist, Haenicke Institute; Gina M. Garza-Kling, mathematics; and Heather M. McGee, psychology.

On Campus with Laurie Foster



MAKING ROOM FOR EVERYONE
(Photo by Jeanne Baron)

Assigning general-use classrooms campuswide has its ups and downs. Although WMU employs a software program that simplifies the process, issues continually crop up.

Enter Laurie Foster, coordinator of classroom scheduling in the Registrar's Office. Foster tackles each issue—room by room. In some cases, assignments must be changed because faculty members have new course requirements or technology needs or require space for review sessions and tests. In other cases, a change is needed because of noisy nearby construction or a teacher's health situation.

"Faculty are approved for rooms based on what they need, and we try to make that come true for them," Foster says. "It seems like it should be easy—you just put the pegs in the right holes. But it's not as cut and dried as you'd think. There are a lot of details to consider, and things are always in flux."

Foster primarily works with academic units. But she also assists students and community members seeking meeting or event space, in addition to booking rooms for University-sponsored speakers and events such as the annual Medieval Congress and Medallion Scholarship competition.

"It's a challenge getting everybody in the best space. I can certainly understand what it would be like on the other side of the fence," Foster says. "The best part is when you can help somebody and know that you've made their day. It's little things that make people's days easier."

That kind of empathy and commitment to resolving problems were among the reasons Foster's peers selected the WMU alumna as one of this fall's semiannual Make a Difference Award winners.

Previously a retail fashion merchandiser, Foster has been in her current post for the past decade. She came to the University and the Registrar's Office in 1981 after being alerted to a job opening by a former college roommate, Dorothy Martin, a longtime staffer in the office who left the University a few years ago.

Foster and her husband, Ed, built a house on Muskrat Lake near Gobles two years ago and continue making home improvements. In her spare time, she enjoys traveling and outdoor activities such as walking, snow skiing and boating.

WMU, Malaysian school celebrate two-decades-long educational partnership

A 20th anniversary celebration was held Oct. 22 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, to mark both the founding of Sunway University College and a WMU collaboration that created the first TNE—transnational education—program for Sunway and WMU.

Sunway was born in 1987 in response to the demand for higher education in Malaysia and a Malaysian government appeal that private colleges be created to provide additional educational access. WMU helped develop the new private school and initially was its sole American TNE partner.

The 20th anniversary event kicked off Sunway's "American Week," which

increases understanding about U.S. culture. Representing WMU at the opening ceremonies were Dean Timothy Greene, engineering and applied sciences, and Associate Dean Bill Woods, Haenicke Institute for Global Education.

Greene and Woods presented a plaque to Sunway officials from WMU President John M. Dunn. Other participating dignitaries included Sunway's Jarlath Ronayne, vice chancellor, and Yoke Ying Liew, American Degree Transfer Program head.

WMU is one of the largest and oldest U.S. providers of TNE programs. At present, it hosts six such programs in Asia and Africa,

including the first U.S.-based TNE program in sub-Saharan Africa.



From left, Bill Woods, Jarlath Ronayne, Tim Greene and Yoke Ying Liew (photo courtesy of the Haenicke Institute)

University approves numerous sabbatical leaves

The WMU Board of Trustees granted sabbatical leaves for 32 faculty members at its Dec. 14 meeting.

Leaves went to: Marc Alspector-Kelly, philosophy; Michael J. Barcelona, chemistry; Todd J. Barkman, biological sciences; Steven B. Bertman, chemistry; David A. Burnie, finance and commercial law; Clement Burns, physics; Jonathan Bush, English; Paul Ciccantell, sociology;

Lisa M. DeChano, geography; Marianne Frauenknecht, health, physical education and recreation; Esther N. Gray, special education and literacy studies; Chansheng He, geography; Lynne Heasley, history;

Jean Kimmel, economics; Paula D. Kohler,

special education and literacy studies; Joseph Kretovics, educational leadership, research and technology; R. V. Krishnamurthy, geosciences; Jane-Jane Lo, mathematics; Irma M. Lopez, Spanish;

Larry A. Mallak, industrial and manufacturing engineering; Juanita Manning-Walsh, nursing; Lisa Paulius, physics; Arezoo Rojhani, family and consumer sciences; Michael J. Ryan, economics;

Christina Stamper, management; Jocelyn D. Steinke, communication; Grace C. Tiffany, English; Bret Wagner, management; Wilson J. Warren, history; Jennipher Wiebold, blindness and low vision studies; Stephen L. Zegree, music; and Qiji "Jim" Zhu, mathematics.

\$5 million gift

continued from page 1

enhance the quality of the WMU educational experience," says Dean Thomas Kent, arts and sciences. "It allows the college, and the University, to provide much needed start-up assistance in many areas affecting faculty teaching and research, and also enables us to supply scholarship and fellowship support for graduate students."

He added that the gift will allow his college to recognize excellence in new ways, such as the Dean's Appreciation Awards program Kent instituted last year.

That inaugural award went to **Michelle Hruska**, English, for performance well beyond the call of duty to help students and staff members. It provides recognition and modest stipends to faculty and staff.