



Western NEWS

For and about WMU faculty and staff

NOVEMBER 29, 2007
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Computer sales office to move

Microcomputer Sales will close its University Computing Center location Friday, Dec. 14, and reopen in the WMU Bookstore in the Bernhard Center by Monday, Jan. 7. Personal purchases by WMU students, faculty and staff, and departmental orders by procurement card and purchase requisition may be made at the University Computing Center location until 5 p.m. Dec. 14.

Any items ordered and not received by Microcomputer Sales by that date will not be available for pick up until the new bookstore location opens. The same applies to items received by Microcomputer Sales and not picked up by customers by Dec. 14. For more information, call Microcomputer Sales at 387-5460.

Commencement ceremonies set

Three fall commencement ceremonies have been scheduled for Saturday, Dec. 15, in Miller Auditorium. This will be the first time WMU's new president, Dr. John M. Dunn, will be presiding over graduation exercises.

The first ceremony will start at 9 a.m. and is for business, engineering and applied sciences, and fine arts students. A noon ceremony has been set for aviation, education and Extended University Programs students. The final ceremony at 3 p.m. is for arts and sciences and health and human services students.

One-day Finals Finish scheduled

The 2007 fall Finals Finish will take place from 7 to 11 p.m. Friday, Dec. 7, at several venues around campus. Final exam week will begin Monday, Dec. 10. Finals Finish is held every fall and spring to give students a chance to rest, relax and revive so they can focus on their semester-end tests and projects. No more volunteers are needed for this year's fall event, but volunteers will be needed for the spring event, which will take place in April.

Dec. 14 trustees meeting slated

The next meeting of the WMU Board of Trustees will be held Friday, Dec. 14. The board usually meets in 157-159 of the Bernhard Center. Details and key agenda items will be posted online at www.wmich.edu/news closer to the meeting date.

Western News goes on hiatus

This is the final issue of *Western News* for the fall semester. *Western News* will resume its regular publication schedule Thursday, Jan. 10. The deadline to submit items for the issue is 5 p.m. Friday, Jan. 4. A list of publication dates for the spring semester is printed in the *Western News* production and postal notice, which appears on page 2 of each issue.

Granholm helps open new Kalexsyn facility

Gov. Jennifer Granholm joined WMU and local economic development officials Nov. 16 to celebrate the completion of a new home for life science startup Kalexsyn at the University's Business Technology and Research Park.

Granholm lauded what she called "a partnership of hope" created by WMU, Southwest Michigan First, the state, city and county, following a decision by Pfizer in 2003 to move some of its research operations out of Kalamazoo. She noted that Kalexsyn is one of 18 life science businesses that were started in the area following the Pfizer decision.

"Ann Arbor is trying to replicate what you have done," she said. "This is a model that can be replicated throughout the state... This is an example of how Michigan can rise from extremely challenging economic circumstances... It is time for this state to get to drink a bit of the Kalamazoo water."

Started in 2003, Kalexsyn was founded by long-time Pharmacia/Pfizer scientists David Zimmermann and Robert Gadwood. The company is a contract research organization of experienced medicinal chemists who work with pharma and biotech clients worldwide to expedite the development of new discoveries.

"Today we are thrilled to cut the ribbon and move into our new facility," said Zimmermann, who is the company's chief executive officer.

Gadwood, president and chief scientific officer, said their vision became a reality so quickly because of the dedication and hard work of staff members who made a commitment to the fledgling company and helped it grow. The firm now has 24 employees, including 15 research scientists. Its new 20,000-square-foot building will allow the company to increase the scientific staff to 32 people and the total staff to about 40.

Kalexsyn was established using laboratory space in the Southwest Michigan Innovation Center, also located at the BTR Park. It is the third company to graduate from the innova-

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NEW START—Participating in the opening of the new Kalexsyn facility were, from left, WMU Trustee William D. Johnston, WMU President John M. Dunn, Kalexsyn co-founder David Zimmermann, Gov. Jennifer Granholm, Kalexsyn co-founder Robert Gadwood and state Rep. Robert B. Jones. (Photo by Mike Lanka)



Thank you for welcoming us into this
wonderful community of friends and colleagues.

May your holiday season be filled with
good friends, good health and warm memories.

—John and Linda Dunn

Around Campus

Opera star to perform Friday

International opera star and WMU alumna Susan B. Anthony will perform with the University Symphony Orchestra at 8:15 p.m. Friday, Nov. 30, in the Dalton Center Recital Hall. The event is free.

'Real' art on display at center

A contemporary realist art exhibit is running through Friday, Dec. 21, in the Richmond Center. The exhibit, "Keeping it Real," is open from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Thursday, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Friday, and noon to 6 p.m. Saturday.

Popular holiday concert slated

The music school will present its popular, family-friendly "Jazz for the Holidays" concert at 3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 2, in Miller Auditorium. More than 100 musicians will present this year's free show.

CEAS presents senior projects

An "intelligent" aerobic shirt and an unmanned aircraft will be among the 42 projects presented Tuesday, Dec. 4, at the 41st annual Conference on Senior Engineering and Design Projects. The free event will be held from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the College of Engineering and Applied Sciences Building on the Parkview Campus.

Student safety forum to be held

An open forum featuring Kalamazoo Department of Public Safety leaders has been set for 7 p.m. Monday, Dec. 3, in the Bernhard Center's North Ballroom. The event will include a basic safety presentation and discussion of a Nov. 16 security incident near campus.

Emeriti slate two programs

The Emeriti Council will host a "Readings for the Holidays" gathering from 2 to 3:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 12, in Walwood Hall's west wing lobby. Retired WMUK staffer Garrard MacLeod will do the readings. The council will resume its traditional Wednesday II program with a presentation on "Hindus in Kalamazoo?" by Nancy Falk, emeritus in comparative religion, from 2 to 3:30 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 9, in the Heinig Emeriti Lounge of Walwood Hall.

APA reservations due today

The Administrative Professional Association will celebrate the holidays during an informal gathering in the Richmond Center for Visual Arts from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 14. Relax, enjoy the appetizers and view Richmond's galleries and exhibits. Reservations are due today. Visit www.wmich.edu/apa/latest for details.

Dec. 10 deadline for 2007 MLK celebration proposals

Students, faculty and members of the greater Kalamazoo community are encouraged to submit proposals for activities, programs and workshops relevant to this year's local Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration.

Event proposals, which may include a request for funding up to \$150, are due Monday, Dec. 10. Past activities have included a jazz/poetry slam, film showings and discussions, panel discussions, and a brown bag luncheon speakers series.

The 2008 MLK Celebration theme is "What King Wrought: Stand Up for Justice, Stand Up for Truth."



WMU, along with the City of Kalamazoo, Kalamazoo College and the Northside Ministerial Alliance, is putting on a variety of public events this January to celebrate King's life and work and foster dialog and understanding among area residents.

Visit www.wmich.edu/provost/announcements to obtain more details or a proposal application form.

Reception set for Aardema

A retirement reception will be held for Robert Aardema, aviation science, from 5 to 7 p.m. Friday, Dec. 7, in the Fetzer Center lobby. Aardema will retire Dec. 16 after 27-1/2 years of service to WMU.

Exchange

For sale—Like-new Whirlpool washer and gas dryer. White, three years old. Asking \$400 for pair. Call Dan at 353-3851.

For sale—25-inch Panasonic color TV. Five years old, built-in FM tuner. \$40. Call Gail at 381-6870.

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.

National peers honor staffer

Wil Emmert, Research and Sponsored Programs, has been named to a second term on the Research Administrators Certification Council Board of Directors. The



Emmert

national organization, which was formed by the Society of Research Administrators, certifies professionals in nonprofit, college and university research offices as well as grants and contracts offices.

Emmert, senior research and program officer at WMU, also was one of 10 members recognized for more than 30 years of service to the society during its October meeting in Nashville, Tenn. A video reflecting some of his activities during those years ran during a plaque presentation in his honor.

The certification council is composed of active certified research administrators whose role is to certify that an individual, through experience and testing, has the fundamental knowledge necessary to be a professional research or sponsored programs administrator. Emmert and others who earn research administrator certification have demonstrated knowledge of Federal Acquisition Regulations and other important regulations and policies. At WMU, only Emmert and Shelly Carpenter, College of Education, have the Certified Research Administrator designation.

Researcher leads \$9 million study

Richard Long, blindness and low vision studies, is leading a bioengineering research project that recently received an additional \$4.8 million to continue work



Long

on "Blind Pedestrians' Access to Complex Intersections." The funds were awarded by the National Eye Institute, a division of the National Institutes of Health. The project is studying approaches to ensure that complex

intersections are accessible for people who are blind or visually impaired.

Long, who also is associate dean of the College of Health and Human Services, is partnering on the project with a multi-disciplinary team of WMU professors as well as researchers at Boston College, the Maryland School for the Blind, North Carolina State University and Vanderbilt University. The collaborators are exploring a broad range of issues that people with vision problems face in crossing streets safely and efficiently at complex intersections.

The new five-year award comes on top of an initial \$4.1 million grant, also from the NEI, that started the research project in 2000. WMU was the logical institution to oversee the grant, Long says. "We're the oldest and largest training ground in blindness and low vision studies in the world," he notes. "The profession, to some degree, started here, at least on the academic preparation side. So we're sort of a big duck in a very small puddle and we were able to parlay that capacity into this challenging research project grant."



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WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY

Outstanding staffers honored

Six staff members were presented with fall Make a Difference awards during a reception Tuesday, Nov. 27. They each received \$250 and a commemorative certificate.

Receiving awards were: Laurie Foster, Registrar's Office; Michelle Hruska, English; Allan Kern, physics; Patrick Lem, physical plant-maintenance services; Melinda Lockett, College of Health and Human Services; and Surangi Pradhan, Career and Student Employment Services.

The WMU Make A Difference awards program is a campuswide peer-to-peer program that recognizes University staff members for their outstanding accomplishments and daily investment of energy and creativity. Visit www.wmich.edu/makeadifference for more information about the awards program.

Retirements accepted for longtime faculty, staff members

The retirements of one faculty member and three staff members were accepted by the WMU Board of Trustees at its Nov. 16 meeting. Trustees also accepted the resignation of one faculty member.

The faculty member who is retiring will do so on Dec. 31, with emeritus status. He is

L. John Link, professor of art, who served from 1977 to 1979, then continuously since 1980 for a total of 29-1/2 years.

The names of the staff members who are retiring, along with their positions, years of continuous service and effective dates of retirement, are: **Howard J. Ross**, lieutenant in public safety, 33-1/2 years, effective Feb. 29; **Danny L. Sluss**, pipefitter in physical plant-maintenance services, 28 years, effective Jan. 31; and **Teri L. Weese**, student application project lead in information technology, 21 years, effective March 25.

The faculty member resigning is: Mark F. Gillette, professor of physician assistant, effective Dec. 21.



Ross



Sluss



Weese

WMU community donates record amount to United Way

WMU community members have donated a record \$243,827 to the 2007 Greater Kalamazoo United Way campaign, surpassing the University's previous high of \$237,559 raised in 2002. This year's tally includes record giving by faculty and staff (\$212,002), emeriti and retirees (\$31,451), and students (\$254). The campus campaign's success was due in part to this year's steering committee: (pictured from left) Michele McLaughlin, Registrar's Office; Vice President Emeritus Bob Beam, committee chair; Craig Smith, GKUW associate; Susan Caulfield, sociology; Cam Vossen, public safety; (not pictured) John Boss, physical plant-



maintenance services; Sue Green, Bernhard Center; Celeste Glascock, Human Resources; Tonya Hernandez, university relations; Amy Huffman, Human Resources; Victoria Kennedy, physical plant-maintenance services; Thom Myers, university relations; Joe Reish, University Libraries; Sharon Van Dyken, College of Engineering and Applied Sciences; Martha Warfield, multicultural affairs; and Janice Weaver, auxiliary cash operations. (Photo by Jeanne Baron)

Service

The following faculty and staff members are recognized for 35, 30, 25, 20, 15, 10 and five years of service during December.

35 Years—Gail L. MacNellis, College of Fine Arts.

30 Years—Pearl L. DeVries, College of Engineering and Applied Sciences; Carolyn Kitchen, physical plant-building, custodial and support services; David K. Peterson, paper engineering, chemical engineering and imaging; and Nancy J. Salvaggio, Sindecuse Health Center.

25 Years—Mark Domlovil, information technology, and Sandra O. Glista, speech pathology and audiology.

20 Years—Thomas A. Myers, university relations; Julie A. Scrivener, Graduate College; Loisjean A. Shelton, physical plant-building, custodial and support services; and C. Richard Spates, psychology.

15 Years—Tony O. Dennis, Graduate College; Kerry L. Eldred, physical plant-building, custodial and support services; and James W. Kamman, mechanical and aeronautical engineering.

10 Years—Deanna D. Bowling, dining services-Burnham; June E. Clemence, institutional equity; Debra Demerly, physical plant-building, custodial and support services; Jacmauzs J. Juraudakarr, physical plant-building, custodial and support services; Maria T. Ruelas, WMU Bookstore; Celia L. Sykes, physical plant-building, custodial and support services; Brenda Wardlow, physical plant-building, custodial and support services; and Moon Yu, dining services-Davis.

Five Years—JoAnn L. Atkin, marketing; John M. Boss, physical plant-maintenance services; Susan E. Brand, dining services-Valley II; Mohsen Guizani, computer science; Suzanne E. Katje, WMU Bookstore; Mary Ann Konecki, Dining Services-Bernhard Center; Warren Lacefield, educational leadership, research and technology; Colleen F. Munson, intercollegiate athletics; and Shaila Rao, special education and literacy studies.

Correction

In the Nov. 15 issue of *Western News*, the wrong photo was used for Mary Jo Peterson, family and consumer sciences. The photo was actually of Mary E. Peterson, speech pathology and audiology. We regret the error.

New members set to be inducted into this year's 25 Year Club

More than 30 people who began their University service in 1982 are eligible for induction into WMU's 25 Year Club.

They will be recognized during the club's annual gala Tuesday, Dec. 4, in the Bernhard Center. Counting 2007's honorees, the organization has 400 members who are working at WMU and 564 who have retired.

Those eligible for induction this year are: **Robert J. Aardema**, College of Aviation; **Richard A. Aldrich Jr.**, public safety; **Carol A. Aslanian**, student financial aid and scholarships; **Margaret A. Binns**, Sindecuse Health Center; **Jeanne L. Bloemsmas**, health, physical education and recreation;

David Bonselaar, physical plant, maintenance services; **Jean E. Bowsky-Verschoof**, Bernhard Center;

Robert L. Campbell, student financial aid and scholarships; **Judith A. Canaan**, University Libraries; **Dace Copeland**, College of Aviation; **Dennis R. Corbin**, intercollegiate athletics; **Sharon L. Daughtry**, physical plant-landscape services; **Elise DeDoncker**, computer science; **Cynthia L. DeRyke**, College of Education; **Mark Domlovil**, information technology; **J. Patrick Forrest**, accountancy; **Francis Frazier**, physical plant-building, custodial and support services;

Sandra O. Glist, speech pathology and audiology; **Joanne Green**, Registrar's Office; **James R. Hiatt**, public safety; **Linda K. Judy**, Medieval Institute; **Marilyn S. Kritzman**, communication; **Elizabeth W. Kuhle**, intercollegiate athletics; **Lillian Y. Love**, First-Year Experience Programs;

Gayle S. McMillon, Lee Honors College; **Robin L. McPherson**, physical plant-building, custodial and support services; **Nina Nelson**, dance; **Vernon Payne**, student affairs; **Susan Pozo**, economics; **Margaret L. Springer**, College of Health and Human Services; **Daniel Tinkler**, physical plant-power plant; and **Shirley A. Vernia**, admissions.

Obituaries

Carole Lint, retired from Human Resources, will be remembered during a service at 10:30 a.m. Friday, Nov. 30, in Langeland Chapel, 622 S. Burdick St. Visitation is at the same location today from 6 to 8 p.m.

Richard C. Schubert, emeritus in mechanical and aeronautical engineering, will be remembered during a Saturday, Dec. 1, service at 1 p.m. in St. Joseph Catholic Church, 963 Lake St. Visitation is scheduled for 5 to 8 p.m. Friday, Nov. 30, at Betzler Life Story Funeral Home, 6080 Stadium Drive.

Visit www.wmich.edu/wmu/news/obituaries for more information.

On Campus with Michael VanPutten



CASTING A WIDE NET
(Photo by Jeanne Baron)

Michael VanPutten is a consummate multi-tasker.

As the Web developer for enrollment management in the Office of the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, VanPutten is in the forefront of WMU's ongoing recruitment and retention efforts.

His duties primarily involve designing, implementing, maintaining and supporting enrollment management-related Web sites and working with colleagues across campus to help unify the features and look of the University's online presence.

If that weren't enough, VanPutten also presides over the campus Web Users Group, serves on various other Internet-related committees, and operates his own Web-development and training business.

"You need to make a connection with prospective students soon after they visit WMU online, apply and arrive on campus," VanPutten says. "So we're trying to make visiting Western on the Web more interesting and fun. We want people to have an engaging experience. With so many innovative new initiatives under way at WMU, I wish there were 48 hours in a day."

VanPutten earned a bachelor's degree in philosophy from WMU in 2000. After graduating, he accepted a term appointment in media production in the Office of Information Technology, where he had worked while a student.

The Kalamazoo native became a full-time OIT staff member in 2001; joined Academic Technology and Instructional Services four years later as instructional services manager, overseeing development of online courses; and assumed his current post in 2006.

VanPutten lives in Kalamazoo with his wife, Nicole, and describes himself as a movie buff. He enjoys playing the guitar, reading nonfiction, and developing his photography and illustration skills.

He's been fitting in those hobbies while pursuing a master's degree in educational technology as well as new creative ventures, such as working on and appearing in one of WMU's fall concert of dance productions. Now bitten by the theater bug, he hopes to work on more productions in the future.

December good time to review weather closing procedures, snow removal plans

Winter weather rarely results in a decision to close WMU.

But when there is a shut down, news of the decision is posted on the University's home page at www.wmich.edu and emergency information line at 387-1001.

Once those initial notifications have been completed, authorized University employees will communicate closure details to local television and radio stations.

Official closure of the main campus means that WMU's branch campuses are also closed. However, closure of a branch campus

does not automatically mean that the main campus will shut down as well.

Winter hours will soon begin for WMU's snow removal crews. Plow schedules cover snow and ice removal activities 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Snow removal crews are responsible for clearing more than 23 miles of roads, 100 acres of parking, 39 miles of walks, 200,000 square feet of steps and ramps, and hundreds of doorways.

Even when it does not snow, freeze/thaw conditions create special ice management

challenges on all of these surfaces. Providing there is not a major storm, most areas will be clear of snow and ice before the majority of students and employees arrive on campus each day.

Various steps around the campus that are deemed to be a convenience rather than a necessity are closed for the winter, allowing crews to concentrate on major access areas.

Faculty, staff and students with special mobility needs should call Landscape Services at 387-8557, as snow and ice removal schedules can be adjusted to accommodate needs. Questions or concerns after normal business hours should be directed to public safety at 387-5555.

ENERGETIC LEARNER—U.S. Rep. Fred Upton, right, visited WMU Nov. 20 as part of his longstanding interest in energy issues. While on campus, Upton toured the Beam Power Plant and learned more about the state-of-the-art facility from Mike Walden, left, the plant's chief operating engineer. He also learned about the University's recent "green" initiatives and helped staff members relamp Schneider Hall with energy efficient compact fluorescent bulbs. The visit ended with Upton and WMU President John M. Dunn needing just two mouse clicks to jointly activate the University's computerized holiday setback program. The program automatically lowers some 3,000 thermostats in more than 100 buildings to 55 degrees over the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays. It affects about 6 million square feet of building space and will help WMU save an estimated \$285,000 in energy costs this academic year. (Photo by Mike Lanka)



Kalexsyn

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tion center, which is operated by economic development agency Southwest Michigan First, and it is the first graduate to build its own new facility at the BTR Park.

"Kalexsyn is a wonderful example of the kind of economic development WMU had in mind when it launched the Business Technology and Research Park seven years ago," said WMU President John M. Dunn. "They took enormous personal and professional risks. They didn't just dream about what the future could be. They created a future for themselves and for their employees and for this community."

WMU officials surveying students on living wage issues

WMU students are encouraged to participate in a brief, eight-question Living Wage Survey. The survey will remain available online until Friday, Dec. 7.

Access to the completely confidential poll

requires a valid student BroncoNet ID and password and is restricted to WMU students. Students may login at www.sais.wmich.edu/SelectSurvey or through GoWMU's Individualized Announcement channel.



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