



Western Michigan University  
ScholarWorks at WMU

---

Faculty Recognition

Western Michigan University

---

5-22-2008

## Faculty Retirement Recognition Dinner 2008

Western Michigan University

Follow this and additional works at: <https://scholarworks.wmich.edu/faculty-recognition>



Part of the Higher Education Commons

---

### WMU ScholarWorks Citation

Western Michigan University, "Faculty Retirement Recognition Dinner 2008" (2008). *Faculty Recognition*. 122.

<https://scholarworks.wmich.edu/faculty-recognition/122>

This Program is brought to you for free and open access by the Western Michigan University at ScholarWorks at WMU. It has been accepted for inclusion in Faculty Recognition by an authorized administrator of ScholarWorks at WMU. For more information, please contact [wmu-scholarworks@wmich.edu](mailto:wmu-scholarworks@wmich.edu).





WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY

*Faculty  
Retirement  
Recognition  
Dinner*

*May 22, 2008*



# WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY

---



May 22, 2008

Dear Colleagues and Friends,

Many have stated that the heart of a university is its faculty. I believe it. Surely, the corpus of Western Michigan University owes its long life and good health to its teachers—those who nurtured and protected its early years, those who stuck with it during the growth spurts and identity crises of its adolescence, and those, like you, who today shape and nourish the character of the vigorous, productive institution that Western has become.

Each of you, in your own time and in your own manner, will leave your mark on this university. Your devotion to learning and your leadership in your discipline have nourished and enhanced the body of knowledge we proudly offer to others. It is, though, your passion for teaching and scholarship, and your genuine caring for our students that measure the real capacity and strength of Western's healthy heart. While our university strides forward in the days ahead, we will do so with the confidence and stamina provided us by your life's work here.

As you step away from the classroom and into a life of new endeavors and unimagined opportunities, please know that you will remain an integral part of who we are. I thank you, from the bottom of *my heart*, for your countless kindnesses and sacrifices, and for the significant difference you each have made in the lives of our students.

Sincerely,

John M. Dunn  
President



**PROGRAM**

Trumpet Fanfare . . . . . Scott Thornburg  
Emcee . . . . . D. Terry Williams

**DINNER**

Greetings from the Faculty Senate . . . . . Mary Lagerwey  
Legislative Tributes . . . . . Robert Jones  
Recognition of the Honorees:  
    Presentation of the Certificates . . . . . John M. Dunn  
    Presentation of the Tributes . . . . . Robert Jones  
Welcome to the Ranks of Emeriti . . . . . Shirley Woodworth  
Honorees' Response . . . . . Ronald Winter  
Entertainment . . . . . Gold Company Sextet  
    Nathaniel Adams  
    Brian Hemstock  
    Patrick Laslie  
    Katie Seiler  
    Lara Wagner  
    Amy Yassinger  
  
WMU Alma Mater . . . . . Sung by All

## MENU



*Chilled Garden Salad*  
*with choice of dressing*

*Chicken Supreme with White Sauce*  
*served with Wild Rice Pilaf*

*Fresh Vegetables*

*Vegetarian:*  
*Mushroom Melange Ravioli*  
*with Sauce Provencal*

*Rolls and Butter*

*Lemon Chiffon Cream Cake*  
*or*  
*Double Chocolate Cake*

*Beverages*

## HONORED GUESTS

This evening we honor 16 of our faculty colleagues who are joining the ranks of Western Michigan University's retirees. This group, like so many before them, have contributed greatly to the growth and development of the University during their tenure here. They have witnessed countless changes which have guided the University through many interesting and challenging times.

We express our sincerest appreciation to these retiring faculty for their years of dedication to Western Michigan University and wish them a full and happy retirement. By honoring the accomplishments of our retired faculty, we also honor the accomplishments of Western, for the two are inextricably interwoven.

Robert J. Aardema

Eileen W. Buckley

Linda M. Delene

Diane B. Hamilton

Gerald Hardie

Alan C. Isaak

Joseph A. Kelemen

\*Lawrence John Link

S. Hossein Mousavinezhad

Willie Mae O'Neal

Mary Jo Peterson

Thomas F. Piatkowski

David L. Rozelle

Peter J. Schmitt

Lindsey Wilhite

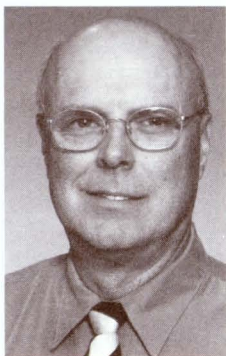
Ronald J. Winter





## **Robert J. Aardema**

Associate Professor of Aviation Science



Robert J. Aardema was born in Holland, Michigan. He attended Michigan State University and received a bachelor of arts degree from Hope College in 1969. After a tour of duty as a pilot in the United States Air Force, he returned to Michigan and enrolled as a student in the Aircraft Technology program at Western Michigan University. He completed this program in 1977 and earned a master of science degree from WMU in 1985.

Bob served as a pilot in the United States Air Force from 1970 to 1976. After returning to Michigan he continued to serve as a pilot, instructor pilot, and flight commander for the Michigan Air National Guard from 1976 until he retired in 1993. With time in such aircraft as the KC-135, O-2, A-37, and A-10, as well as numerous civilian aircraft, he holds an FAA Airline Transport Pilot certificate with Single and Multi-engine Land, Instrument rating. He is also a Certified Flight Instructor. Additionally, Bob holds an FAA A & P Mechanic Certificate with Inspection Authorization.

After working for a time as a corporate pilot and flight department manager, he joined the faculty at WMU in 1979. Bob taught courses in Aviation Flight Science and Aviation Maintenance Technology. Recent administrative assignments in the college include serving as the faculty chair and as interim dean.

Bob plans to continue teaching part time while enjoying his hobby of flying and building airplanes, traveling, and boating.

## **Eileen W. Buckley**

Faculty Specialist of Family and Consumer Sciences



Eileen W. Buckley has a well-established reputation as an innovative, challenging, and creative teacher educator. Ideally suited for her role as a teacher of future teachers, after graduating from California State College she taught in elementary, middle, and adult vocational education schools in Pennsylvania, Iowa, Florida, and Michigan. She received her master's degree from Western Michigan University and began teaching in the Department of Family and Consumer Sciences in 1997. She had the primary responsibility for placing and supervising student interns in Career and Technical Education. During her tenure, the program grew substantially and she developed training partnerships with over 100 schools in Michigan.

Eileen taught courses on campus, at Extended University sites, via compressed video, and web-based formats. She was an outstanding teacher who was a role model for other faculty and willingly mentored new faculty. She responded to challenges within her field and co-authored a new degree program in Occupational Education Studies. She developed articulation plans for 14 community colleges within the state. She also helped to develop the Post-Baccalaureate Master of Arts degree leading to teacher certification in Career and Technical Education and the highly innovative Troops to Teachers program for retiring military personnel.

Eileen has an extensive background in technology education and received six grants including a Microsoft grant in partnership with the Kalamazoo Public Schools. She co-authored a chapter and made multiple presentations concerned with developing curricula, creating teaching strategies, and understanding brain development.

The Family and Consumer Services Department wishes their colleague the very best in her retirement and sincerely thanks her for her excellence in teaching and her active support and mentorship. Eileen's plans for retirement include travel, enjoyment of her new lake home, and playing with her beautiful grandchildren.

## **Linda M. Delene**

Professor of Marketing



Linda M. Delene earned her B.B.A. degree from the University of Michigan, her M.B.A. from the University of Hawaii, and her Ph.D. from the University of Toledo. Prior to receiving her doctorate, Linda worked as an intelligence analyst with the National Security Agency and the Department of Defense, living in Washington DC and Tokyo. Before joining the WMU faculty, Linda held appointments at the University of Michigan, Michigan State University, Marygrove College (Detroit), Oberlin College (Ohio), and Kalamazoo College, where her senior appointment was as Vice President of Planning.

Linda joined the faculty of WMU in the fall of 1977 and served the University for 31 years in a variety of faculty and administrative roles. She received the

Outstanding Teaching Excellence Award in 1978 and always treasured her work with students. Her research and scholarship have been in the areas of quality in health care and higher education, and strategic marketing issues, including community-based, end-of-life, and hospice facility feasibility studies throughout the Midwest, one of which led to the establishment of Rose Arbor Hospice in Kalamazoo. She chaired the Undergraduate Studies Council for many years, the Research Policies Council, and many other Faculty Senate councils and committees. She is a past president of the Faculty Senate, served for years on both the Faculty Senate Executive Board and the AAUP Executive Committee, and worked on numerous task forces and special study committees. She served on several search and selection committees including those for one president, three provosts, and four academic deans. She was deeply involved in institutional mission and accreditation work as well as curricular and assessment policy, and was a consultant-evaluator for the Higher Learning Commission. Linda was appointed in 1998 as Assistant to the Provost for Strategic Planning and subsequently (2001) as Vice Provost for Academic Planning and Assessment. In 2003 Linda also accepted the appointment of Project Director for the replacement SIS (student information system). Her most recent administrative service was a two-year appointment as Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, 2004-2006.

Following retirement, Linda will continue to raise championship Morgan horses, pursue the sport of carriage driving, and enjoy international travel and attendance at theatrical and musical productions. Her writing will include fiction and non-fiction works of mystery and about academia. She will also sustain her forty-year affiliation with the Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary Congregation in Monroe, Michigan.



## Diane Bronkema Hamilton

Professor of Nursing



Diane Bronkema Hamilton was born in Clinton, Iowa. She earned a bachelor's degree and diploma in nursing from Northwestern University and Evanston Hospital; a master's degree in community mental health and gerontological nursing from the University of Iowa; and a Ph.D. in psychosocial nursing from the University of Virginia. She completed post-doctoral study in nursing history at the University of Pennsylvania.

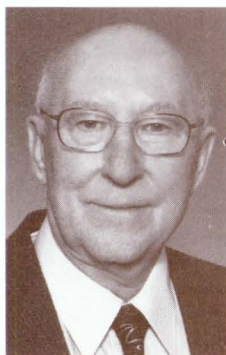
Diane began her career in psychiatric nursing at Illinois State Psychiatric Institute in Chicago, Illinois. She served in the United States Air Force during the Viet Nam era and served as a flight nurse and drug abuse nurse in Washington, D.C.; Viet Nam; San Antonio, Texas; and California. After the war, Diane worked with patients in various settings in acute care psychiatry in South Carolina, Virginia, Maryland, Iowa, New York, and Texas. In addition, she was an Attending Nurse at the Medical University of South Carolina with a joint appointment in the School of Nursing and the School of Medicine. Diane had a private practice which treated women with clinical depression. Prior to coming to Western Michigan University, she held academic positions at Mount Mercy College in Cedar Rapids, IA; the University of Virginia; the Medical University of South Carolina; and the University of Rochester in New York. Diane came to WMU in 1994 as one of two pioneer faculty members to establish the School of Nursing. She was instrumental in sculpting the school and served as the only tenured professor for the first six years of its growth. Ten years later, she participated in the launching of the master's program in the School of Nursing.

Diane has authored over 40 peer review publications and is co-author of *Pharmacology for Nursing*, a text book which is in its 7th edition. Her area of scholarship is nursing history and she has presented internationally, nationally, and locally. She is credited with seminal work in the area of the intellectual history of nursing. Her piece, "Constructing the Mind of Nursing," is required reading in many doctoral programs. She has been honored with the Lavinia Dock Award for Historical Scholarship from the American Association of the History of Nursing and the Best of *Image* award from Sigma Theta Tau International, the international honor society of nursing.

Diane and her husband, Bruce Kuipers, have three sons and two grandchildren. They plan to raise Wire Haired Pointing Griffon dogs, travel the world hunting large game, and grow spectacular flowers in the abundant gardens surrounding their home in Schoolcraft, Michigan.

## Gerald Hardie

Professor of Physics



Gerald Hardie was born in Canada. He received a B.S. (honors) in physics and mathematics from the University of Manitoba (Canada) in 1955, and an M.S. in physics from the same university two years later. He then came to the United States for graduate study at the University of Wisconsin (Madison). He did experimental work in a relatively large group during the heyday of nuclear physics, earning a Ph.D. in 1962. At that point, he took a physicist position at the Illinois Institute of Technology Research Institute (Chicago). He soon realized that he preferred to work in a university setting. So when his graduate school colleague Larry Oppliger told him that Western Michigan University was hiring, he applied and joined the physics faculty in January of 1965.

In his long career at Western, Gerald has excelled in all three traditional areas of faculty work. For his research he performed nuclear physics experiments at multiple particle accelerator facilities, including the Argonne National Laboratory and the Indiana University Cyclotron Facility, as well as being a key member of the team that procured and utilized the tandem Van de Graaff accelerator here at WMU. His publication record spans four decades and a number of fundamental nuclear processes. For many years, Gerald collaborated with Luise Meyer-Schutzmeister, a respected scientist at the Argonne National Laboratory. Her untimely death in 1981 led to the establishment of a national award in her memory, an annual award which Gerald now administers on behalf of the Association of Women in Science. In addition to this, he has served on many committees at department, college, and University level, and has been the assistant chair of the Physics Department since 2002.

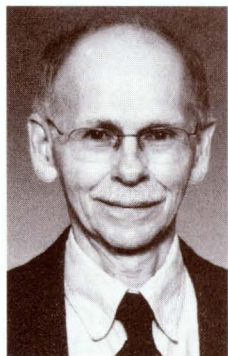
Throughout his career, Gerald taught a wide range of physics courses, from the introductory to the senior level, abstract to more applied, with consistently excellent results. He was recognized with an Alumni Teaching Excellence Award from WMU in 1991.

Gerald plans to remain in Kalamazoo after retirement, although he and his wife will likely continue to enjoy traveling to Europe and elsewhere. He enjoys literature and music, but has a special affection for the land and the creatures which inhabit it. He will certainly spend much of his retirement outdoors.



## Alan C. Isaak

Professor of Political Science



Alan Isaak is a native of Cleveland and a graduate of Adelbert College of Western Reserve University. He completed his graduate work at the University of Indiana and started his career at Western Michigan University in 1966.

Alan published two books that have been widely adopted in political science courses: *Scope and Methods of Political Science* and *An Introduction to Politics*. *Scope and Methods*, in particular, received widespread adoption. *Scope and Methods* takes on questions about explanation, prediction, and theorizing that are at the core of thinking about a “science” of politics. Alan bridged the gap between the traditional study of government as political theory and the empirical

discipline of political science that emerged in the 1950s and 1960s. His work has been cited in an incredible range of journals—to name a handful: *World Politics*, *Comparative Politics*, *Polity*, *Political Theory*, *the Journal of Politics*, *the Leadership Quarterly*, *Security Studies*, *the European Journal of Political Research*, *the Australian Journal of Political Science*, *the British Journal of Political Science*, and *the Journal of Forest Economics*. The wide application and adoption of his work is an indicator of the importance and contribution of his ideas about the intersections of science and politics.

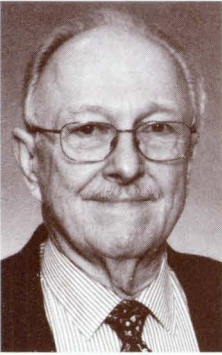
Over the course of his career Alan was recognized by the department, the college, and the University for his teaching excellence. He won the Alumni Association Award for Teaching Excellence in 1985. Alan’s courses reach, in one way or another, almost every student in the department. His *Scope and Methods* is required of every major and taken by a number of political science minors. Plus, he offered a graduate teaching excellence course required of all M.A. and Ph.D. students.

Alan’s service record to the University is also impressive—at various times he served on the College Curriculum Committee, the College Promotion Committee, the Faculty Research and Creative Activity Fund Review, the Social Science Review Board, the Human Subjects Institutional Review Board, the Steering Committee to re-form the major (with the Association for American Colleges), the Selection Committee for the Alumni Teaching Award, and the Phi Beta Kappa Application Committee.

Alan is an indefatigable supporter of the Cleveland Indians.

## Joseph A. Kelemen

Associate Professor of Electrical and Computer Engineering



Joseph A. Kelemen was born in St. Louis. He received his bachelor of science and master's (research) degrees in electrical engineering from St. Louis University.

After receiving his bachelor's degree, Joe began his career as a transformer design engineer for the Maloney Electric Company in St. Louis. He designed transformers and specialty transformers used by the electric utilities. He pioneered in the writing of software to automate the design of iron-core reactors and transformers in the 1950s. He was a registered professional engineer and served as a consulting engineer for 35 years. He was the resident consulting engineer specializing in high performance motors for NWL Control Systems in Kalamazoo from 1978 to 1991. Notable among his

many consulting jobs were Harley-Davidson in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, and Moog Industries in Buffalo, New York.

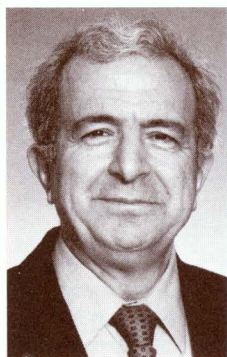
Joe was invited in 1960 to join the faculty of St. Louis University where he taught Electric Machinery for six years. He and his family joined Western Michigan University in 1966 as members of the USAID-Nigerian Project Team. Upon the successful completion of the Nigerian Project in 1968, Joe and his family moved from Nigeria to Kalamazoo where he joined the Industrial Engineering and Technology Department (Electrical Engineering Technology Group) as associate professor of Engineering and Technology. He taught electric circuits, machinery, power electronics, power systems and developed the electric machinery laboratory. He wrote the accompanying laboratory manual, which is currently being used. He also taught the refresher course for practicing engineers preparing them to take the State of Michigan's examinations for their professional engineer licenses. He served as the faculty advisor to the student branch of the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers. He also was the electrical engineering advisor for WMU's first solar powered race car that eventually competed internationally in Australia. Joe received the Sigma Xi award for the outstanding research dissertation, a number of National Science Foundation grants, and was named a Schmidt Scholar.

Joe's wife, Marcella, who retired from the Office of Marriage and Family Ministry in the Catholic Diocese of Kalamazoo, has been the bedrock of his career. They plan to remain in Kalamazoo but frequently visit their three children and their families who are scattered from Kalamazoo to Wisconsin to Delaware. Joe and Marcella will continue visiting relatives in Austria, and perhaps explore Southeast Asia where a number of Joe's former students reside and have extended open invitations to visit. Joe will continue gardening and plans to take oil painting classes at the Kalamazoo Institute of Arts with hopes of reviving his passion for oils after a 50 year hiatus.



## **S. Hossein Mousavinezhad**

Professor of Electrical and Computer Engineering



S. Hossein Mousavinezhad received a B.S.E.E. degree from National Taiwan University, Taipei, and M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in electrical engineering from Michigan State University.

From 1967 to 1972 he was the recipient of a Sino-Iranian exchange program scholarship during which he spent the first year learning Chinese. He started teaching in 1977 as an assistant professor of Electrical Engineering at Ferdowsi University, Mashhad, Iran. In 1982, he joined the Electrical Engineering program at Western Michigan University. In 1995, Hossein accepted the position as chair of the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering. He returned to faculty in 2004 and retired from WMU on June 30, 2007.

His research interests include digital signal processing, bioelectromagnetics, and communications systems. Hossein is a recipient of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) Third Millennium Medal. He received the American Society for Engineering Education (ASEE) Electrical and Computer Engineering Division's Meritorious Service Award in June 2007. He is a program evaluator for the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology (ABET).

In the summer of 2007, Hossein joined Idaho State University as chair in its Department of Electrical Engineering.

## **Willie Mae O'Neal**

Assistant Professor of Libraries

Willie Mae O'Neal retired from Western Michigan University effective May 31, 2007, after 19¾ years of service. She held a variety of positions within the University Libraries during her tenure as a faculty member.

Mae joined the University Libraries in July 1988 as Librarian for Minority and Non-Traditional Students Services. In 1990, she was appointed head of the Libraries Circulation and Reserves Department. In 1992, she became the head of Library Instruction Services where she worked with Library Public Services Departments to coordinate outreach programs within their respective areas.

A natural segue was Mae's next position as the Continuing Education Library Services Librarian for the Division of Continuing Education, which she assumed in August 1992. Her responsibilities included on-site library instruction for the five WMU regional centers. From 2006-2007, Mae worked in Central Reference, providing Reference Desk research and assistance.

Mae received her B.A. in social work from WMU and an M.L.S. in Information and Library Studies from the University of Michigan-Ann Arbor.

Since 2004, Mae has served on the Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Activities Committee in the library. She chaired the commemoration events in 2007 and was a frequent volunteer at the fall book sales of the Friends of the Western Michigan University Libraries.

In retirement Mae will continue to provide loving support for her family and grandchildren.

## **Mary Jo Peterson**

Associate Professor of Family and Consumer Sciences

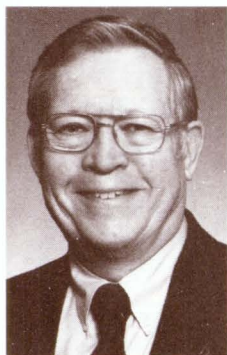
Mary Jo Peterson received her B.S. degree in interior design from the University of Minnesota. She earned her M.S. degree from Bank Street College and Parson's School of Design in New York City. She began teaching at Western Michigan University in 1991 in the Department of Family and Consumer Sciences. While teaching she also worked as a free-lance artist and exhibited her paintings and handmade paper collages. Her artwork has been accepted in juried exhibitions in California, Maryland, Michigan, Mississippi, New Mexico, New York, Ohio, and Wisconsin. Additionally, her work has been commissioned for several corporate collections.

As an artist, Mary Jo effectively taught sketching, materials, period interiors, and introductory courses for the interior design program. She frequently traveled and created an extensive collection of slides of design period styles for use in the period interior classes. The interior design program received accreditation from the Council for Interior Design Accreditation during Mary Jo's tenure. She coordinated design exhibits for the department and also served on the external professional design advisory committee. She helped to plan and supervise several student trips to New York City to visit design firms. Mary Jo is an active member of the Handmade Paper Guild of Kalamazoo, Interior Design Educators Council, and the American Society of Interior Designers.

Her retirement plans include travel, enjoying her grandchildren, and devoting more time to her studio.

## Thomas F. Piatkowski

Professor of Computer Science



Thomas F. Piatkowski was born in Ann Arbor. He received a B.S.E. degree in Science Engineering in 1960, an M.S.E. degree in Electrical Engineering in 1961, and a Ph.D. in Electrical Engineering in 1963, all from the University of Michigan.

Following completion of his Ph.D. degree, Thomas was employed by the Tuskegee Institute in Alabama as an assistant professor of engineering and director of the computer center from 1964 to 1966. He then spent a year as a research associate in the Systems Engineering Laboratory at the University of Michigan. In 1967, he joined the Thayer School of Engineering at Dartmouth College in Hanover, New Hampshire, where he served until 1972. From 1972 to 1976 he held the position of

advisory engineer in the System Communications Division of IBM at Research Triangle Park in North Carolina. From 1976 to 1978 he held the position of manager, Communication Systems Architecture in the Computer Systems Group of Burroughs Corporation in Radnor, Pennsylvania. In 1978, he joined the faculty of Electrical and Computer Engineering at Iowa State University as associate professor of electrical engineering and was promoted to full professor in 1983. In 1985 he was appointed as professor and chair of the Department of Computer Science at the State University of New York at Binghamton.

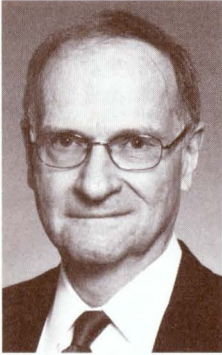
Thomas came to Western Michigan University in 1990 as professor and chair of the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering and held a joint appointment as professor in the Department of Computer Science. After spending a year as a visiting professor in the Department of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science at the University of Michigan, he joined the Department of Computer Science as professor of computer science in 1995. His teaching and research interests include formal methods in computer science and computer engineering, software engineering, distributed systems, and computer networking. He has had over thirty refereed publications in journals, conference proceedings, and symposia.

He is a member of the ACM, the IEEE (senior member), Eta Kappa Nu, Phi Eta Sigma, Sigma Xi, Tau Beta Pi, and Upsilon Pi Epsilon.



## David L. Rozelle

Associate Professor of Accountancy



David L. Rozelle is not a boomer, having been born in Cleveland before the last “good” war.

Educated at the University of Toledo and Michigan State University in history, he came to Western Michigan University in 1970 as one of 11 EBDs on annual appointments who taught two semesters of Western Civilization, a required course for all students. When it was decided that students no longer should be required to know anything about the world in which they lived, this requirement was lifted and the EBDs scattered to the winds, except for David.

Fearful of being forced to leave the ivory tower, he went to the business college to learn something that would prepare him for life in the real world. Counseled by Ernst Breisach, then chairman of the History Department, to take accounting, David completed the M.S.A. program. In 1974 he became a teaching assistant in the accounting department and became a tenured associate professor in 1981.

David became a named professor in 1998, the Beulah I. Kendall Professor of Accountancy. He has been awarded the University’s Teaching Excellence Award twice, along with the University’s Distinguished Service Award.

Since December 31, 2007, his official retirement date, he has rearranged his modest wine cellar, spent a month in Nice, France, seen several movies, read several books and argued with health insurance companies. He has enjoyed all of this and plans to do it for the rest of his days along with napping on a beautiful yard swing given to him by his students.

## Peter J. Schmitt

Professor of History



Peter J. Schmitt earned a B.A. degree in history from the University of Minnesota in 1958, and two M.A. degrees, one in history and one in English, both in 1960 from the University of Iowa. He then returned to the University of Minnesota where he earned a Ph.D. in American studies in 1966.

Peter joined the faculty of the Department of History at Western Michigan University in 1965 and has spent his entire career here. He was promoted to full professor in 1976. During his 43-year career at WMU, in addition to teaching and researching in the History Department, he served for eleven years (1973-1984) as faculty associate for Regional History in the WMU Archives.

While working with the archives he was director of "Insights: the Data Bank for Living History," an oral history program. Between 1966 and 1979 he served as director of the American Studies Program. In the 1990s he was a member of the Environmental Studies Executive Committee.

Peter is recognized in the profession as a pioneer in Environmental History, especially for his book, *Back to Nature: The Arcadian Myth in Urban America*, published in 1969 and in a second edition in 1990. He is also widely respected as an expert on the built environment of Kalamazoo and vicinity. His *Kalamazoo: Nineteenth-Century Homes in a Midwestern Village* (1976) and *Kalamazoo: The Place Behind the Products* (1981), the latter co-authored with Larry B. Massie, a graduate of the WMU History Department, contribute to Peter's widespread reputation as an expert on the history of our region. He also co-authored with Larry Massie, *Battle Creek: The Place Behind the Products*, published in 1984. He has amassed a long list of articles, reviews, and scholarly presentations at state and national levels, primarily on the themes of environmental history, local history, and history of the built environment. Additionally, he served as a consultant to the Kalamazoo City Commission, as a member of and consultant to the Kalamazoo Historic District Study Committee, and a member of the South Street Historic District Commission. He was also a member of the Kalamazoo City Bicentennial Committee in 1976. Thousands of WMU students and former students admire Peter as the instructor of the always filled course, "Popular Art and Architecture in America." The enrollments in this course are so high that he has been called the "Student Credit Hour King" by a WMU administrator. He has taught a variety of other courses, including several in Public History, History of the American West, and, early in his career, a pioneering course on African American history.

Peter is an outdoorsman, a lover of nature, and an avid gatherer of wild cranberries. His colleagues and students in the History Department will miss his cheerful presence in Friedmann Hall and wish him well in his retirement.

## **Lindsey Wilhite**

Assistant Professor of Foreign Languages

Lindsey Wilhite received his undergraduate education at Western Michigan University, where he majored in French. He then taught French and Spanish at Muskegon Central High School.

In 1965 Lindsey became an M.A. candidate and instructor in French at WMU, receiving his degree in 1967. By virtue of his excellent performance in his graduate work as well as his teaching, he was invited to join the French faculty in the then Department of Languages and Linguistics. Lindsey distinguished himself through his teaching, becoming one of the department's most beloved and influential professors. He became known for his rapid delivery of the language in beginning, intermediate, and conversation courses, along with his ability to draw out individual students through his engaging teaching style.

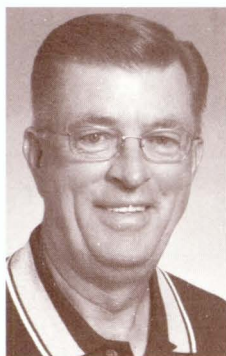
Lindsey has especially enjoyed teaching literature, including analyzing literary language, and discussing the philosophical and psychological questions raised by the works in his courses. He has been the department's main professor of French literature in translation, introducing many students from across the University to the excitement of reading French novels, drama, and poetry, and exploring their cultural context. Lindsey's main research area was Creole French in Louisiana, which informed his teaching in the foreign languages department and, later on, was the subject of classes that he gave through continuing education and Elderhostel. He also taught courses on opera, his passion.

Lindsey served as head of the French Section of the foreign languages department and as a member of the Western Michigan University Black Caucus and the NAACP. He led several WMU study abroad programs in France. He retires with memories of excellent students and transformational moments in the classroom, ready to spend more time traveling, reading, and attending performances of opera.



## Ronald J. Winter

Associate Professor of Health, Physical Education, and Recreation



Ronald J. Winter was born in Flint, Michigan. He was awarded a B.S. and an M.A. from Michigan State University in physical education.

Ron was hired in the fall of 1969 as an instructor in the Physical Education Department. He taught a variety of classes including Intramurals, Sports Officiating, General Program Activities, Foundations in Health, Physical Education and Recreation, Foundations in Exercise Science, Health and Wellness, Introduction to Recreation, Management and Planning of Sport Facilities, Public Relations, Recreation Areas and Facilities, and the Theory of Coaching. In 1970 he was assigned as director of Intramural Activities and in 1974 was granted tenure and promoted to assistant professor.

During the 1979 academic year, the Intramurals program was transferred to the Student Services Division and renamed Campus Recreational Activities with Ron serving as director. He retained his rank and tenure in the HPER Department and continued to teach voluntarily in the department. He was promoted to associate professor in 1981 and subsequently returned to the faculty full time in 1992.

Ron has served as a clinician for many officials' clinics/camps over the years including the Big Ten Football, Big Ten Basketball, GLIAC Football, MHSAA, MIAA, Michigan Junior College Athletic Association, World League of American Football, Michigan Community College Athletic Association Basketball, Great Lakes Football and Basketball, and Midwest Football.

Ron kept very busy officiating Big Ten football and basketball; MIAA basketball; and MJCAA basketball. Ron has graced the fields of the 50th annual Sun Bowl (1983); the Rose Bowl (1985); the Peach Bowl (1986); the Orange Bowl (1992 and 1995); the NIT basketball tournament (1987); NAIA and MIAA basketball tournaments (1992); NCAA Division III basketball championship (1990 and 1991); NJCAA Division II basketball championship (1990 and 1991); and the Coca-Cola Bowl in Tokyo, Japan (1993). The pinnacle of his officiating career is his involvement as an NFL referee in the National Football League since 1996. Ron has been on the field for some classic football battles over the years, including the AFC championship game, Pittsburgh vs. Denver (1997).

Ron contributes to his community through his involvement as a consultant for Corporate Olympics and for Special Olympics Regional Field Day. He has acted as a volunteer umpire and coach with Westwood Little League, MHSAA Girls Regional Golf Tournament, Kalamazoo Central H.S. Giant Best Ball Golf Tournament, and the Martin Luther King, Jr. in Westwood Playground Committee.







## 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)

**THE FACULTY RETIREMENT RECOGNITION  
COMMITTEE  
of the  
Faculty Senate**

Darryl A. Salisbury (Chair)  
Career English Language Center for International Students

Beth Amidon  
Department of English

Ruth Heinig  
Emeriti Council

Mark Liermann  
Department of Theatre

**SPECIAL APPRECIATION  
IS EXTENDED TO**

The Office of the President  
Suzanne M. Davenport, Faculty Senate Office  
WMU Catering Services  
University Relations  
J.B. Printing Company  
and all of the others who  
participated in planning this event.



