



Western NEWS

NOVEMBER 1, 2007
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For and about WMU faculty and staff

Timely brown-bag talks scheduled

Greg Rosine, senior vice president for advancement and legislative affairs, will talk about the recently launched marketing campaign Monday, Nov. 5, in 157 Bernhard Center. Additionally, Keith Hearit, interim vice provost for enrollment management, will speak about the *Western Edge* Tuesday, Nov. 13, in 106 Bernhard Center.

Both programs will take place at noon and are being sponsored by the Administrative Professional Association. Those attending may bring their lunches to the presentations.

PSSO holding poinsettia sale

The Professional Support Staff Organization is sponsoring its annual poinsettia sale and accepting orders through Wednesday, Nov. 21. An order form is available online at www.wmich.edu/pssso.



Poinsettias are \$9 each and available in red, white, pink, marble, jingle bells and Monet. Payment must accompany all orders (make

checks payable to PSSO).

Poinsettias may be picked up between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 29, in 105 Bernhard Center. Plants not picked up by 5 p.m. will be donated.

Send completed order forms with payment by campus mail to Celeste Glascock, Human Resources, mail stop 5217. For more information, e-mail celeste.glascock@wmich.edu.

Trustees approve labor contract; keep Sangren rehab high priority

During its Oct. 12 meeting, the WMU Board of Trustees OK'd a three-year labor contract with the University's 15 power plant employees, who are represented by the Michigan State Employees Association.

The agreement provides for a 1 percent across-the-board pay increase in each year of the contract. It also brings power plant workers under the same health care plan as other University employees and improves certain leave-related benefits.



In other action, trustees agreed to leave Sangren at the top of its list of building priorities and again made renovating the 44-year-old instructional facility the project for which it is seeking state

funding. Michigan requires universities to submit one request for capital outlay funding each year.

Dunn gives State of the University address

"Western Michigan University is strong and vibrant," declared President John M. Dunn in his first State of the University address during the annual Academic Convocation Oct. 25.

Dunn went on to recognize the University's excellence, strengths and people; share his developing vision for WMU; and address opportunities and challenges. The complete text of the president's speech is posted online at www.wmich.edu/wmu/news/2007/10/075.



Dunn

The convocation included an awards ceremony recognizing this year's winners of the Emerging Scholar, Distinguished Faculty Scholar, Distinguished Service and Distinguished Teaching awards. In addition, Dunn announced during his address that one of the 2007 Emerging

Scholars, Stephen Covell, was selected by Interim President Diether H. Haenicke to be WMU's Mary Meader Professor of Comparative Religion.

Dunn stressed in his remarks that WMU is

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Western Edge to be focus of campus, community forum

The potential impact of WMU's new *Western Edge* initiative will be examined in a public forum set for Thursday, Nov. 8.

The event, which will be held at 3 p.m. in the Fetzer Center, is titled "Sharpening the Edge, WMU's Strategy for the Future." It will feature a panel composed of state Sen. Tom George; Dan Pero, chair of the WMU Board of Trustees; WMU President John M. Dunn; and Andrew Bowne, executive director of college advancement for Grand Rapids Community College, WMU's third largest source of transfer students.

Announced in July, the *Western Edge* is a strategic plan that promotes student success.

It gives students who enter into a graduation compact with the University a chance to complete their degrees in the shortest time their programs allow.



The initiative also includes a retention scholarship for qualifying second-year students, enhanced advising, and a freeze in room-and-board costs for up to four years for residence hall students.

During the forum, Dunn will elaborate

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WMU rounds third base in United Way campaign

WMU is three-quarters of the way to its \$215,000 goal with about two weeks left in the 2007 United Way campaign.

An October pep rally called "7th Inning Stretch" helped to push the total gifts and pledges past the \$150,000 mark.

WMU's president and first lady, John M. and Linda Dunn, hosted the event. Many of this year's faculty and staff campaign volunteers took part in the festivities.

Those planning to donate during the official campaign period should complete and

return their pledge cards by Tuesday, Nov. 13—the last day of the campaign.

In anticipation that WMU will reach its goal by then, a victory celebration has been planned for 3 to 4 p.m. Monday, Nov. 19, in the President's Dining Room in the Bernhard Center. The campus community is invited to attend the event, which will include a raffle for those who turned in their pledge cards by Nov. 13.



Susan Caulfield, Office of the Provost (Photo by Thom Myers)



From left: Cam Vossen, public safety; Sharon Van Dyken, College of Engineering and Applied Sciences; Sue Green, Bernhard Center; Michele McLaughlin, Registrar's Office; Amy Huffman, Human Resources; Craig Smith, alumnus and United Way campaign associate; and Robert Beam, vice president emeritus and 2007 campus campaign chair (Photo by Thom Myers)

Around Campus

Final football luncheon slated

Monday, Nov. 5, is the last chance for football fans to lunch with Coach Bill Cubit and hear about the upcoming home contest. The lunch, slated for noon in the Seeyle Center, will take place prior to the Central Michigan University game. The cost is \$10 per person, payable at the door. Reservations are not required.

Counseling expert to speak

Cheryl Holcomb-McCoy, a nationally known expert in school counseling from the University of Maryland at College Park, will present a free public talk from 5 to 6 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 8, in 208 and 209 Bernhard Center. Holcomb will speak on the frequently cited achievement gap in the United States and the social justice goal of helping professionals combat educational disparities.

Talk to address excessive force

Charles Dix, a former Florida police officer, will address "Excessive Force and Police Department Culture" during the upcoming Criminal Justice Student Association meeting at 7 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 8, in the Bernhard Center's Brown and Gold Room. Dix pleaded guilty to willfully using excessive force in a 2004 incident involving the use of a stun gun on a citizen. There will be an open discussion and question-and-answer session after the free presentation.

Week showcases many nations

WMU will showcase a variety of countries and cultures during International Education Week, which runs from Monday through Friday, Nov. 12-16. Related scheduled events include a Russian festival Friday, Nov. 9; a Japan festival and talk by Mexico's former secretary of foreign affairs Monday, Nov. 12; and a French culture night Tuesday, Nov. 13. Visit www.wmich.edu/news for more information.

Program examines Van Riper

This month's Wednesdays II informal talk for WMU emeriti and friends will feature John Hanley, emeritus in speech pathology and audiology, discussing Charles Van Riper's professional history and his engaging writings about his childhood in the Upper Peninsula, under the pen name of Cully Gage. The program will be from 2 to 3:30 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 14, in the Heinig Emeriti Lounge in Walwood.

Chemist to discuss biofuels

Steven Bertman, chemistry, will talk on "What Biofuels Are in Your Future?" at 4 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 14, in 1220 Chemistry Building. Bertman co-directs Bronco Biodiesel, a WMU faculty team initiative that uses restaurant trap grease to create low-polluting biodiesel that is being pilot tested in Kalamazoo buses.

Designer wins national awards

Sheri Harper, remodelingservices, picked up four major awards in the Association of University Interior Designers' annual design competition in September. Harper



Harper

took first place in the "Renovation \$50,000 to \$150,000" category for a project that enhanced the Human Resources office. The project also earned "Best of Show" in the same category.

In the "Renovation Under \$50,000" category, Harper brought home a second-place award for improving Dunbar's Media Studio "C" and a third-place award for improving the College of Arts and Sciences' Dean's Lobby. In 2005, she captured a Best of Show honor in the "new construction" division for her work on the WMU-Southwest campus facility.

Catering team takes top prizes

The WMU Catering staff and Executive Chef Nick Petruska were recognized during the March of Dimes Signature Chef's Auction Oct. 24 in Kalamazoo's Radisson



Petruska

Plaza Hotel. The event featured 16 local chefs and area restaurants providing samples of their culinary specialties and donating other items for a live auction to support the March of Dimes in its mission to improve infant health.

The WMU Catering team received a first-place prize for best display and also took second place in the best dessert category. Petruska and the team prepared some of their finest signature crepes desserts with a host of unique fillings as well as gourmet sorbets and additional special presentations.

Petruska has participated in the chef's auction for three years. His 2007 team was composed of catering managers and student staff. Visit www.wmich.edu/catering/awards for more information about the event.

Staffer lauded for getting involved

Leonard Seawood, director of WMU-Southwest, was prominently featured in the October cover story for the *Cooperative Edge Magazine*. In "The Men Who Came Out of the Storm," Seawood and barber shop owner Clarence Hardin were pictured on the cover and praised in the text for helping to revitalize Benton Harbor, Mich.



Seawood

The two are key figures in supporting the \$450 million Harbor

Shores Golf Club project planned by Jack Nicklaus. They also have worked diligently to bring business, government and community leaders together and helped found the Band of Brethren in Christ organization.

Cooperative Edge, www.thecooperativeedge.com, is a monthly business-profile publication based in St. Joseph, Mich. It focuses on small businesses within local communities.

NCAA peer-review team concluding recertification site visit

The University's bid for recertification by the National Collegiate Athletic Association moved forward this week with a visit from a four-member peer-review team made up of educators from around the nation.

The team's visit began Oct. 30 and runs through today.

The recertification and self-study process, which occurs on a 10-year cycle, is meant to ensure the University is in compliance with the NCAA's commitment to integrity in intercollegiate athletics. WMU's recerti-

fication initiative has been under way since summer 2006 and is led by Eileen Evans, vice provost for institutional effectiveness.

The recertification team is accompanied by two NCAA officials and is spending its time on campus conducting interviews with a number of students as well as faculty and staff members.

Its goal is to verify that the information presented in the University's report is an accurate reflection of the operation of WMU's athletic programs and that the information was gathered in a process that involved campuswide participation.



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WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY

Exchange

For sale or lease—Well-kept, two-story condo near WMU. Many updates. Convenient housing with one bedroom, tile floor in kitchen and large closets. Slider door to enclosed patio with outdoor lighting. Reserved parking. Call 342-8362.

For rent/services provided—Cheapest heated storage for cars, boats, RVs and more. Call 998-3822. Rooms for rent and house and dog sitting. Call 998-1349.

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.

Annual faculty, staff giving campaign gets under way for 2007

WMU will officially kick off its 2007-08 faculty and staff giving campaign today.

The goal of "We Are Western: The 2007-08 Faculty/Staff Campaign for WMU" is to realize a 50 percent increase in the number of faculty and staff who donate to the University this fiscal year. The drive has the potential to benefit the entire institution because donors may designate their gifts to any area or areas they wish.

"I think that is one of the most commonly misunderstood things about faculty and staff giving," says Suzanne Beals, director of the WMU Annual Fund. "We are often asked, 'Does my gift to WMUK Radio count toward the faculty and staff campaign?' and the answer is, yes. The same goes for gifts to the Gary Fund, and any other area that supports the University."

Beals says increasing participation in the faculty and staff campaign is important because many donors and prospective students view it as a gauge of how well WMU employees support the University's mission and students.

In addition, she notes that WMU employs many of its alumni, and alumni employees who participate in the faculty and staff campaign are counted toward the alumni participation totals that U.S. News and World Report uses as part of its criteria for

ranking colleges and universities.

Steve Macomber, staff chair for the "We Are Western" campaign, adds that he and many others have a more personal reason for giving back to the University.

"I'm often asked why I give to WMU," says Macomber, a maintenance services technician who has been a WMU employee for nine years. "The most compelling reason is that my employment and association with WMU has made a significant difference in my life as well as the lives of my family members. Through giving, I can help others in a similar and positive way. Giving is also a way to establish a stronger connection with the University."

Beals says numerous WMU faculty and staff already regularly support specific travel abroad programs, research activities, internships and other initiatives that strengthen the overall University community. She reports that last fiscal year in fact, 97 percent of the funds raised through the faculty and staff campaign were restricted to particular colleges and programs.

"It's wonderful to know that when our



Macomber

faculty and staff see the funding needs within their departments or other departments on campus, they're ready to step up and financially support them," Beals says. "Providing that kind of support creates many opportunities for our students that they would not otherwise have."

Information regarding "We Are Western" will be sent soon to employees through campus mail as well as e-mail. Gifts that count toward this year's campaign may be made through the WMU Foundation's secure online site at www.wmich.edu/foundation/gift. All faculty and staff contributions received through June 30, 2008, will be recognized as gifts to "We Are Western."

Health and Wellness Fair open to campus community

WMU will hold its 2007 Health and Wellness Fair for students, faculty, staff, retirees and emeriti from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 7, in the Student Recreation Center.

This free event strengthens the health of the WMU community by increasing awareness about and use of programs, organizations and resources available on and off campus.

Some 50 exhibitors from WMU and the greater Kalamazoo area will be at the fair to answer questions and provide information about health- and wellness-related services, including those that impact financial health.

The fair will cover topics such as nutrition, exercise, back care, diabetes and saving for retirement. Healthy food samples will be available, and attendees will be able to experience acupuncture and chair-massage demonstrations. An influenza and meningitis vaccination clinic also will be part of the fair.

Free parking will be available in Lot 13 near the recreation center and Parking Structure #1 by Ellsworth.

For more information, visit www.src.wmich.edu/healthwellnessfair.html or contact Amy Seth, director of University Recreation, at amy.seth@wmich.edu or 387-3759.

University community shows pride at homecoming race

WMU students took the top finishes in this year's Campus Classic 5K race, including the top female and male winners. WMU students comprised more than one-third of the participants—393 out of a total of 1,108 runners—in the 1K and 5K races held during the annual homecoming event. They also volunteered in droves, with about 110 of the event's 150 volunteers being students. Patricia Montilla, Spanish, says student participation in the race has steadily grown during the four years her department has recruited teams. This year, the department entered three teams, named the Tortugas (Turtles), each with five students, faculty and alumni. Started in 1999, the Campus Classic is annually one of the four largest events of homecoming weekend. With an estimated 250 spectators at the event Oct. 20, total attendance topped 1,500. WMU faculty and staff accounted for 48 of the runners and walkers in



this year's event, a number that has been increasing slightly over the years. For some employees, like Shannon Landis, Office of the President, the race is a family affair and an annual tradition. Complete race results are available online at www.wmich.edu/race. (Photo by Mike Lanka)

Obituaries



Urich

Roger R. Urich, emeritus in engineering technology, died Oct. 21, 2007, at Munson Medical Center in Traverse City, Mich. He was 71.

Urich joined the WMU faculty as an assistant professor of metallurgy and metal casting in 1967 and retired as an associate professor in 1992.

During his career, he served as industrial engineering advisor and coordinator of engineering cooperative education. He also was active in several professional associations and served a term as chair of the West Michigan Chapter of the American Society for Metals.

Prior to coming to WMU, Urich worked in industry in such roles as company technical director, metallurgical laboratory supervisor

and metallurgist.

The Ishpeming, Mich., native served in the U.S. Air Force for four years during the late 1950s. He earned bachelor's and master's degrees from Michigan Technological University in 1961 and 1964, respectively.



Wallace

Roger L. Wallace, emeritus in management, died Oct. 19, 2007, at his home in Kalamazoo. He was 85.

Wallace joined the WMU faculty as an instructor in 1966 and retired as a professor in 1986. He served as chair of the Department of Management from 1973 to 1975, received a WMU Alumni Association Teaching Excellence Award in 1981, and served on more than 30 different committees and councils.

A leading expert on cost reduction sharing plans, Wallace was in demand as a consultant, speaker and presenter while his scholarly work appeared in a variety of books and journals. He also served on such professional associations as the Academy of International Business and Academy of Management and was active in numerous local organizations, co-founding the Kalamazoo Area Parkinson's Support Group with his wife, Alice.

Wallace served in the U.S. Army Air Corps during WWII and spent 27 years in industry, beginning his career as a moulder-core maker and machinist and moving up the corporate ladder as a metallurgist and eventually a manufacturing manager. He earned two degrees from WMU, a bachelor's degree magna cum laude in 1964 and a Master of Business Administration degree in 1967, as well as a doctoral degree from Michigan State University in 1971.

On Campus with Margaret Watson



BEHIND THE PANIC BUTTON
(Photo by Jeanne Baron)

"It's a good feeling when you provide the help people need," says Margaret Watson, classroom technical consultant lead in the Office of Information Technology. "When a faculty member is standing in front of 200 students and the technology doesn't work, you can relate and don't mind rushing off to help."

As a member of the Classroom Technology Support team, Watson's primary responsibility is to make sure that the 63 technology carts on WMU's main campus are functioning properly. The system allows the University to put sophisticated classroom technology like document cameras for overhead projection on carts that include many of the latest teaching technologies.

As added services, Watson developed the original instruction manuals for each cart and provides one-on-one training for teachers at their convenience in the specific rooms where they'll be using the carts. She also makes sure the technology is installed correctly and monitors it from her Dunbar office.

"I can monitor all the carts from here on my computer and trouble-shoot problems by phone," Watson says. "I know when someone pushes the 'panic' button, and can go immediately to their classroom."

Watson says more carts are put into service as additional faculty members choose to employ them and more classroom buildings are constructed or renovated.

"There were about 135 faculty members using the cart system last year, and about 700 are using it this year," she says, noting that WMU is a higher education leader in incorporating this technology.

Watson earned a Master of Library Science degree from WMU and joined the staff in 1981. She was manager of the student-centered multimedia lab before assuming her current post in 2004. She is an active WMU volunteer and was on the team that started Finals Finish as well as served for several years on the Presidential Spirit Committee.

An Oshtemo resident and avid golfer, Watson enjoys applying her penchant for hands-on technical work in her daily life. She rebuilt a 1978 Triumph Spitfire sports car and worked with her father to build her own home.

State of the University address

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good at what it does and is known nationally and internationally.

"One thing rarely well understood from the outside of an organization is the caliber of its people," he told convocation attendees. "I now know that this University's strength and vibrancy is the result of the people here who have committed themselves to excellence, to the success of our students and to the belief in the power of education to transform lives."

In terms of his vision for the University,

Western Edge

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on the University's commitment to its students, while Pero is expected to discuss the significance of the initiative from the board's perspective. George is expected to describe how the *Western Edge* fits into the state's higher education goals, and Bowne will comment on what it will mean to students who move from a community college into the University setting in pursuit of a four-year degree.

Other topics to be covered include changes to faculty and student interaction, and the changing public expectations of public universities.

The forum is being sponsored by the Emeriti Council and Western Association of Retired Faculty. The panel discussion will allow ample opportunity for questions from those in attendance.

Dunn said it revolves around growing the number of students; the WMU community's pride in the University; WMU's reputation as a model of shared governance, civil discourse and inclusive behavior on campus; support for research and scholarships; and WMU's commitment to making student success the center of each and every action employees take.

As for opportunities and challenges, Dunn noted that WMU needs to be stronger, more resilient, more adaptable and more agile to face a changing environment. He said it also needs to focus on activities such as working within the realities of Michigan's economy while reinforcing its role as an essential element in the state's strategic planning; friend raising and fund raising, given that

primary funding no longer comes from the state; growing the research enterprise; and sharing with others the accomplishments of WMU faculty, staff and students.

"We have a strong, well-deserved reputation now. Our focus must be on finding ways to enhance that reputation," he said. "Each of you will play an important role in doing so...You make the difference with the story that you tell and the internal pride that you demonstrate."

Growth is the right path for WMU, Dunn said in closing.

"Every action we take to secure growth in our enrollment, in our reputation, in research and in private partnerships is an investment in securing our future...This University's future is in our hands."

WMU partnering to bring national race exhibit to Kalamazoo

Race as a sociological phenomenon rather than a biological fact is explored in a new national touring exhibit coming to Kalamazoo in fall 2010. WMU and the Kalamazoo



Valley Museum, part of Kalamazoo Valley Community College, are collaborating to bring "RACE: Are We So Different?" for four months to the museum.

This will be one of the biggest exhibits to come to Kalamazoo in some time, and planning is already under way. WMU and KVCC are seeking campus and communitywide involvement in planning programming to precede, coincide with, and possibly last beyond the exhibit's visit.

The exhibit is designed to help stimulate a national dialogue about race. It explores three themes: the everyday experience of race, the contemporary science that is challenging common ideas about race and the history of this idea in the United States. Visit www.understandingrace.org or www.wmich.edu/cas for more information.



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