



Western NEWS

JANUARY 25, 2007
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For and about WMU faculty and staff

WMU trustees to meet Friday

The election of new officers for 2007 tops the agenda for the formal annual meeting of the WMU Board of Trustees set for 11 a.m. Friday, Jan. 26. Convening in 157-159 Bernhard Center, trustees will elect a chair and vice chair to serve for one-year terms.

Also on the agenda is a lease agreement involving WMU's biodiesel production initiative that will fuel Kalamazoo city buses and a recommendation to approve a new contract with the Police Officer's Association. In addition, the board will be updated on the University's presidential search as well as hear other reports.

29th Career Fair set for February

A record number of organizations have registered to participate in WMU's 29th annual Career Fair from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Thursday, Feb. 1, in the Bernhard Center. Some 160 employers will be on hand, along with representatives from several Michigan schools that offer graduate programs.

This free event is open to the public, but tailored for WMU internship candidates, graduating students and alumni. Advance registration is not required. For a list of employers and information about preparatory events like resume critiquing sessions, visit www.broncojobs.wmich.edu/EVENTS/career_fairs.html.

Medallion competition scheduled

Hundreds of prospective students and their parents will be visiting campus for the 2007 Medallion Scholarship Competition. The event will be held from 8:45 a.m. to 1:45 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 27, primarily in the Bernhard Center. The one-day competition is expected to draw close to 600 academically talented high school students to campus to vie for four-year scholarships valued at more than \$40,000 each. Nearly 150 WMU faculty and staff are involved in this year's competition activities.

Award nominations due Feb. 8

Career and Student Employment Services is accepting nominations through Feb. 8 for Student Employee of the Year and Supervisor of the Year. The awards will be presented at a reception during the 21st annual Student Employee Appreciation Week, Monday through Friday, Feb. 12-16.

Online nomination forms are available at broncojobs.wmich.edu. CSES encourages all faculty and staff to submit nominations as well as to thank student workers in some way during appreciation week. Visit broncojobs.wmich.edu/StudentEmployment/SOTY.html to obtain thank-you suggestions, forms to request certificates of appreciation provided by CSES and other appreciation week materials. Certificate requests must be made by **Feb. 2**. For more information, call Brenda Case-Parris at 387-2745.

Governor appoints two to Board of Trustees

Michigan Gov. Jennifer Granholm announced Jan. 18 the appointments of Jeanne H. Carlson of Novi, Mich., and William D. Johnston of Portage, Mich., as new members of the WMU Board of Trustees.



Carlson



Johnston

Carlson is president and chief executive officer of Blue Care Network of Michigan, headquartered in Southfield. She is a 1968 graduate of WMU and has served on the WMU Alumni Association Board of Directors, most recently, in 2000-01, as association president. Her appointment as a trustee runs through 2014, and she succeeds Peter L. Aseritis of Williamsburg, Mich., whose term expired at the end of 2006.

Prior to assuming her current role at BCN in September 2006, Carlson had served as chief operating officer for BCN since July 2002. Before that, she served in several major capacities at Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan. She was vice president for Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act compliance and operational effectiveness for the company. She also was vice president of several key areas, including the General Motors account, PPO and ancillary services, provider relations, provider contracting, and the Ford/AutoAlliance/Rouge Steel accounts.

Johnston is president and CEO of Greenleaf Companies of Kalamazoo. He earned his bachelor's and master's degrees from WMU in 1970 and 1974, respectively. Johnston, whose term as a trustee also will run through 2014, replaces James Holden of Bloomfield Hills, Mich., whose term expired in December.

Johnston launched Greenleaf in 1991 after spending 15 years in education. Today the collective Greenleaf Companies includes Greenleaf Trust; Greenleaf Ventures Inc.; Greenleaf Holdings, LLC; and Greenleaf Capital Inc. Johnston is also chairman of Southwest Michigan First Economic Development Corp., chairman of the board/director of SofTech Inc., director of Special-Lite Corp., and director and past president of the WMU Foundation.

Open house to showcase University's new chemistry building

The completion of WMU's new chemistry building will be celebrated from 2 to 4 p.m. Friday, Jan. 26, with a public ceremony, an open house and guided tours.

The new \$28.5 million building, which opened for classes Jan. 8, is located at the center of the WMU campus between Waldo Library and the Dalton Center. It has an aerial walkway connecting it to Wood Hall, and it joins other buildings in the University's science quadrangle.

The opening event will feature brief remarks at 2:15 p.m. by President Diether H. Haenicke, Trustee

Dan Pero, Trustee Emeritus Peter Aseritis, arts and sciences Dean Thomas Kent and senior Loren Lapointe. Student guides will take visitors on 15-minute tours beginning at 2:30 p.m., and a slide show documenting the building's development will run continuously during the afternoon in Room 1270.

The new instructional facility replaces the aging McCracken Hall, which was built 58 years ago as the University's first "million

dollar building" and the first major facility on land that has since become WMU's central campus. The new, three-story, 83,000-square-foot building was begun in April 2005 and completed last December.

Built on a fast-track construction schedule

to meet the need for top-notch student instruction space, it will see nearly 4,000 students enjoying its classroom facilities each semester. In addition to chemistry, biochemistry, science, engineering and health studies majors, the new labs and classrooms will serve students who take chemistry

to fulfill general education or other course requirements.

"This building, with its focus on visual learning, energy efficiency and safety, will be a learning resource for many decades to come," says Michael Barcelona, chemistry department chair.

"Students have walked into this building for class over the past two weeks and they are simply awestruck by what they find. We



James Kiddle, chemistry, is making good use of the new building's advanced technology. (Photo by John Gilroy)

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Around Campus

Film series resumes today

The Russian film series opens its spring schedule with a two-part screening of the classic Oscar-winning film "Dr. Zhivago" at 6 p.m. today and Feb. 8 in the D-109 auditorium of the College of Engineering Building. Admission is free.

Award nominations sought

The College of Fine Arts is accepting nominations for the 2007 Dean's Teaching Award through Friday, Feb. 2. Now in its third year, the annual award recognizes outstanding teaching and dedication to student development.

WMU faculty, students and alumni are asked to make their nominations in writing to Dean Margaret Merrion at margaret.merrion@wmich.edu. Self-nominations are welcome.

Symphony orchestra to perform

The University Symphony Orchestra will perform with guest violinist Steven Copes, St. Paul Chamber Orchestra concertmaster, at 3 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 4, in Miller Auditorium. Bruce Uchimura, music, will lead the free performance.

Haworth series goes global

Seizing global opportunities will be the focus of the next presentation in this year's Haworth College of Business Distinguished Speakers Series at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 6, in Schneider Hall's Brown Auditorium. The presentation is open to WMU community members and

will be given by Robert Graham, financial consultant and president and chief executive officer of the financial management firm RG Capital in Scottsdale, Ariz.

Talk examines collaborations

Joann Keyton, professor of communication at the University of Kansas and an internationally recognized communication researcher, will speak on "Uncovering the Public-Private Tensions in the Collaborative Process" from noon to 1 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 7, in 3508 Knauss. Her presentation is part of the 2006-07 Visiting Scholars and Artists Series.

Pyenson to give ethics talk

The Center for the Study of Ethics in Society will present its second lecture this spring semester at 3:30 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 7, in 242 Bernhard Center. Lewis Pyenson, dean of the Graduate College, will expand "On the Ethical Foundation of a Scholarly Discipline: George Sarton as a Moral Man."

Annual dance concert slated

The annual Winter Concert of Dance will be Thursday through Sunday, Feb. 8-11, in Shaw Theatre. Performances are at 8 p.m. Thursday through Saturday, and 2 p.m. Sunday. A Great Works dinner will be held prior to Friday's concert. Discounted tickets for faculty and staff are available through the Gilmore box office at 387-6222. For more information, call 387-5830.

National event being planned

James Bosco, emeritus in educational studies, is helping plan the Consortium for School Networking's 6th Annual International Symposium March 27. Bosco co-chairs the International Committee for CoSN, which is the country's premier voice in education technology leadership. He is a former director of external technology relations for WMU's College of Education.



Bosco

The upcoming symposium will focus on the theme "Using Games and Simulations for Engaged Learning." The event will bring together thought leaders in education technology from across the globe. Given that gaming has become one of the many activities children identify with, the symposium will explore if there are effective strategies for stimulating greater synergy between the gaming and education sectors, with the goal of providing more compelling and engaging learning environments for children.

Journal appointment announced

Linda LeBlanc, psychology, has been appointed associate editor of the journal *Education and Treatment of Children*, effective spring 2007. The publication is devoted to disseminating information concerning the development of services for children to educators and other child-care professionals.



LeBlanc

LeBlanc also was recently appointed to the editorial board of the *European Journal of Behavior Analysis*, an international scientific journal published by the Norwegian Association for Behavior Analysis.

A WMU faculty member since 1999, she advises graduate students in the clinical and behavior analysis programs and serves as co-director of the WMU Center for Autism, an outpatient clinic for families of children with autism spectrum disorders.

Research on bats taking off

Maarten Vonnhof, biological sciences, is part of an international group of scientists that has uncovered the mystery of how bats navigate long distances in the dark—a discovery that could influence the development of future technology. The group includes scientists from Princeton University, the Illinois Natural History Survey, the University of Copenhagen and the University of Leeds in England.



Vonnhof

Vonnhof and his colleagues believe big brown bats, *Eptesicus fuscus*, depend on the Earth's magnetic field to stay on course in the night sky. Their findings were reported in the Dec. 7 issue of *Nature* and have implications not only for how habitat changes can affect the migration of bats, but also for the possibility that this navigation technique can be mimicked by technology.

Service

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

30 Years—Connie L. Altman, information technology; Joan D. Bynum, music; and Karen S. McDougall, Institute of Cistercian Studies.

25 Years—Richard A. Aldrich Jr., public safety; Margaret A. Binns, Sindecuse Health Center; and Sharon L. Daughtry, physical plant-maintenance services.

20 Years—Valerie Armstrong, physi-

cal plant-building, custodial and support services; Jerry R. Burhans, physical plant-maintenance services; Shelly Carpenter, Tate Center for Research; Brian E. Crandall, public safety; Deborah J. Hallock, physical plant-building, custodial and support services; Beverly C. Houghton, Registrar's Office; Suzanne Husband, Archives and Regional History Collections; and Teri L. Weese, information technology.

15 Years—Satit Chamigranont, University Libraries; Barbara J. Cockrell, University Libraries; Melissa L. Porter, Development Office; Sam N. Ramrattan, industrial and manufacturing engineering; and Gladys A. Wierenga, Sindecuse Health Center.

10 Years—Carl M. "Bud" Bender, Development Office; Cindy K. Clegg, Sindecuse Health Center; Amy Huffman, human resources; Margaret Joyce, paper engineering, chemical engineering and imaging; Allan Kern, physics; James K. Laser, mathematics; Radu Teodorescu, mathematics; Johanna E. Wells, College of Engineering and Applied Sciences; and Leah L. Wiser, Sindecuse Health Center.

Five Years—Maria Juanita Berry, dining services-Davis; Luacia Allyn Dixon, student financial aid and scholarships; Nancy T. Landsberger, Extended University Programs; Devin L. LeDoux, dining services-Valley #2; Judy Ann Northey, dining services-cash operations; Joyce Pratt, dining services-Bernhard Center; and Kathleen Marie Wiest, Fetzer Center.



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WMU is an equal opportunity/employer/affirmative action institution.



University trustees approve retirements of 13 faculty, staff members



Guichelaar



Rozelle



Beam



Clark



Harrison



Murphy



Paul



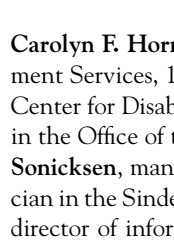
Sonicksen



Staufer



Trembley



Hornev

The retirements of two faculty members and 11 staff members were approved by the WMU Board of Trustees at its Dec. 14 meeting. Trustees also accepted the resignation of one faculty member.

Both of the faculty members are retiring with emeriti status. Their names, positions, years of continuous service and effective dates of retirement are: **Philip J. Guichelaar**, professor of mechanical and aeronautical engineering, 19-1/2 years, effective Dec. 31, 2006, and **David L. Rozelle**, associate professor of accountancy, 36-1/2 years, effective Dec. 31, 2007.

The staff members retiring are: **Vimla Bafna**, credit and collection clerk in accounts receivable, 20 years, effective Jan. 31, 2007; **Robert M. Beam**, vice president for business and finance, 42 years, effective June 30, 2007; **Thomas W. Clark**, groundskeeper II in physical plant-landscape services, 41 years, effective March 31, 2007; **Guy Q. Harrison**, telecommunication technician in the Office of Information Technology, 20 years, effective Feb. 28, 2007;

Carolyn F. Hornev (change in retirement date), career advisor in Career and Student Employment Services, 11 years, effective April 30, 2007; **Cleandress Murphy**, activity therapist in the Center for Disability Services, 13-1/2 years, effective Jan. 31, 2007; **Lila J. Paul**, office associate in the Office of the Vice President for Research, 26 years, effective March 31, 2007; **Patricia L. Sonicksen**, manager of cashiering, 37 years, effective April 30, 2007; **W. Bryan Staufer**, physician in the Sindecuse Health Center, 13-1/2 years, effective Jan. 31, 2007; **Pauline M. Trembley**, director of information systems in human resources, 28-1/2 years, effective Jan. 31, 2007; and **Carole A. VanDyken**, custodian in physical plant-building, custodial and support services, 32 years, effective Dec. 31, 2006.

The faculty member resigning is Phyllis Belt-Beyan, assistant professor of special education and literacy studies, effective Aug. 30, 2006.

Two public forums set to garner NCAA recertification input

The University community will have an opportunity to weigh in on WMU's current NCAA recertification process by reviewing draft reports written by the campus committee managing the effort and by attending either of two public forums on campus Feb. 7.

Unedited draft reports from each of WMU's three NCAA recertification subcommittees will be posted online Friday, Jan. 26 at www.wmich.edu/poapa/NCAAcertification.

Suggestions or comments regarding report content may be sent to Jonathan Pugh in the Office of Institutional Effectiveness at jonathan.pugh@wmich.edu. He will forward all comments received during the

Jan. 26 through Feb. 14 period for public comment to the appropriate committee members.

Meanwhile, two one-hour sessions will be held Wednesday, Feb. 7, in 204 Bernhard Center to allow for additional public comment. The sessions will begin at noon and 1:15 p.m.

An 18-person steering committee is overseeing the recertification process, which occurs every 10 years. In addition to the steering committee, three subcommittees have been formed to focus on the NCAA's three major areas of focus: governance and commitment to rules compliance; academic integrity; and equity and student-athlete well-being.

Event will highlight Sindecuse's new look, expanded services

Many of the changes that have been taking place at the Sindecuse Health Center this past year will be highlighted during an open house from 2 to 5 p.m. Friday, Feb. 2.

One of the biggest changes that members of the WMU community who attend the event will notice is the completion of a major remodeling project.

The project has resulted in improved patient privacy, increased student parking, a new drive-through prescription drug pick-up window, and a remodeled main entrance, pharmacy and Office of Health Promotion and Education facilities.

Other new health center features being publicized include the introduction of early morning hours on Tuesdays for lab appointments, implementation of an electronic medical records system and use of high-tech computed radiography.

Open house attendees also will learn more about Sindecuse's enhanced services, such as the participation agreements that the center has entered into with several insurance carriers.

Those partnerships enable patients to use health center services and still receive the maximum reimbursement from their carriers.

Additionally, Sindecuse staff will now file insurance claims for all of the U.S. and Canadian carriers with which it partners.

As of Jan. 1, both the health center and its Sports Medicine Clinic had participation agreements with numerous carriers, including Aetna, traditional Blue Cross and Blue Shield, traditional Federal Blue Cross and Blue Shield, the WMU employee Blue Cross and Blue Shield plan, Chickering, traditional MESSA, Medicaid (non-HMO), Medicare, PPOM (non-HMO), and Tricare.

Participation with the non-WMU Blue Cross and Blue Shield PPO plan, the Health Alliance Plan or HAP, and various other insurance carriers is expected in the near future.

For more information and a complete list of insurance partners, visit www.sindecuse.com.

Time to activate 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 nearly 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.

However, the year's membership starts at the beginning of the semester or session faculty and staff join, and spring semester began Jan. 8. So sign up now. The SRC is a convenient way to maintain a healthy lifestyle. For more information, call 387-3115 or visit the Website at www.src.wmich.edu to fill out the membership application.

Exchange

For sale—House on corner lot in Winchell area. 2 stories, large rooms, wood floors, molded plaster, stainless steel appliances. Living room, dining room, den, 3 bedrooms, partially finished basement. \$185,000. Call 349-8433.

For sale—(by owner) Quail Meadows luxury condo overlooking pond. 2,000 sq. ft., 3 bedrooms, 2-1/2 baths, 3-seasons room. Many upgrades. End unit. Call 372-7323.

For sale—Metal-frame bunk bed, bright red. Full-size bed on bottom bunk, twin size on top. Pictures available upon request. \$75. Call 501-2291.

Jobs

Current job opportunities at WMU are announced every Monday on the human resources Web site at www.wmich.edu/hr/job.htm and the Applicant Information Service phone line at 387-3669. Applications are accepted for posted jobs only and must be submitted by the stated deadline. Complete application procedures are included on each posting.

On Campus with Jim Laser



HUMMING ALONG
(Photo by Jeanne Baron)

Jim Laser listens to music most of his waking moments, but instead of being distracting, this passionate pastime helps him maintain a fast tempo.

"I thrive on multitasking," he says, "and I have a multifaceted job."

Laser is technical coordinator for the Core-Plus Mathematics Project, a curriculum research and development project funded by the National Science Foundation. The project is developing and testing the second edition of a four-year high school curriculum that integrates important topics from algebra, geometry, statistics, and discrete mathematics.

One of Laser's main duties is working with the team of authors from WMU and other universities on preparation of curricular units, from the writing and revision process to in-school field testing and, finally, to the publisher—Glencoe/McGraw-Hill. The end result is creation of software and print-quality Core-Plus Mathematics publications, such as student and teacher books and teaching resources and assessment guides.

"The curriculum is in use across the country and has garnered interest from overseas," Laser says. "Basically, I'm the funnel all this stuff comes through. I work with the author team so the various units flow as if they were developed by one person."

Laser, who's celebrating his 10th anniversary as a WMU employee this month, also serves as the Core-Plus Mathematics Web master and as the math department's unofficial computer technician. He joined the University staff soon after earning a bachelor's degree here in secondary education and has never looked back.

"For me, it was always a job where I could learn something new and that's still true today. I really enjoy being in a vibrant campus environment. It's nice to be around students and people who are here to learn."

A self-proclaimed perpetual student, Laser picked up a master's degree in mathematics from WMU in 2001 and is in the process of completing a second master's in computer engineering. He and his wife, Heidi, live in Kalamazoo.

Chemistry building

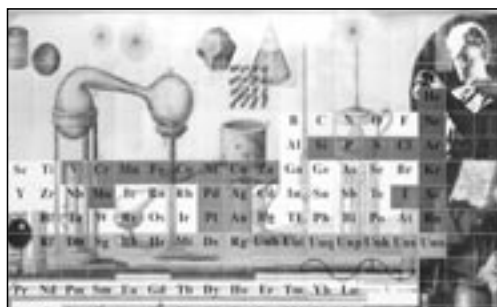
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have the capability to broadcast lab demos and lectures anywhere in the world, and we can receive broadcast materials that will materially improve our ability to deliver modern science education."

The new classroom technology includes built-in teaching podiums with document cameras, DVD players and computer projection on dual screens. The technology will allow instructors to cater to students who solve problems visually as well as those who solve problems numerically.

Other building features include a main-floor auditorium and two large lecture halls, small conference rooms, instructional laboratories, a student lounge, a teaching assistants briefing room and spaces dedicated for use by student organizations.

Future students will benefit from a fund-raising effort built into the facility. Okemos, Mich., artists Amy Baur and Brian Boldon



The "Knowledge Made Matter" mural (Photo by John Gilroy)

created the building's large-scale signature artwork—a mural for the main foyer called "Knowledge Made Matter" that is based on the Periodic Table of the Elements. Donors may select an element to "buy" with a donation in the amount of \$500, \$1,000, \$5,000 or \$10,000. All funds raised will go to WMU's "Elemental Fund" to assist students who find themselves in personal or financial difficulty and who would otherwise have to interrupt their studies.

WMU community participating in, volunteering for Heart Walk

The WMU community will get moving next month with more than 1 million other Americans taking part in some 600 American Heart Association Heart Walk events across the country.

The walk is the signature fund-raising event for the American Heart Association. Everyone is invited to join one of two groups in the Kalamazoo area from 8 to 10 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 17, at Crossroads Mall in Portage or Lakeview Square Mall in Battle Creek. On-site registration for the indoor, non-competitive walks will begin at 7:45 a.m.

Leading up to the event, participants are asked to collect monetary pledges to benefit the American Heart Association. Various prizes are available to those who raise \$100 or more. The University needs volunteers to serve as Heart Walk team captains. WMU faculty, staff or students interested in organizing a group should contact Shannon Landis at shannon.landis@wmich.edu or 387-2361.

Lectures offered for credit

A series of free talks exploring the relationship between education and social justice as a value has been slated from 7 to 9 p.m. over seven Wednesdays in the Fetzer Center's Kirsch Auditorium.

The Education for Social Justice Lecture Series will take place on Jan. 31, Feb. 7, Feb. 21, March 14, March 28, April 4 and April 11. Pre-registration is not required unless attendees wish to pay for academic credit by enrolling in ED 5000, In-service Professional Development I.

The lecture series is an offshoot of a seminar course taught by Joseph Kretovics, educational leadership, research and technology, and W.F. Santiago-Valles, Africana studies. For details, visit www.eup.wmich.edu/olle/programs/socialjustice.

Campus prize winners announced

Creative writing graduate student Cindy St. John won a \$500 gift card to Amazon.com for participating in the December survey associated with the University's ongoing branding initiative.

Also, a WMU Catering holiday promotion resulted in a first-place gift certificate going to Dorla Evans, Development Office. The second-place prize winners in the promotion were: Scott Hennessy, admissions; Marianne DiPierro, Graduate College; Kathleen Kallen, College of Engineering and Applied Sciences; Brenda Case-Parris, Career and Student Employment Services; Tom Marquardt, Student Academic and Institutional Research; and Hanna Wells, College of Engineering and Applied Sciences.