



# Western NEWS

For and about WMU faculty and staff

JUNE 22, 2006

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## Western News going on hiatus

Today's issue of *Western News* is the last issue for the summer. *Western News* will resume its regular publication schedule after Sept. 5—the start of the fall semester. During the hiatus, faculty and staff can keep up with everything happening around campus by visiting the WMU News Web site at [www.wmich.edu/wmu/news](http://www.wmich.edu/wmu/news).

## Two commencement times set



The University will hold summer graduation exercises Saturday, July 1, in Miller Auditorium.

President Judith I. Bailey will preside over two ceremonies. Faculty are asked to assemble in Shaw Theatre's Green Room 45 minutes prior to each ceremony.

The morning exercise will start at 9 a.m. and is for graduates of the College of Education, Extended University Programs, the College of Fine Arts and the Haworth College of Business. The second ceremony will start at noon and is for graduates of the colleges of Arts and Sciences, Aviation, Engineering and Applied Sciences, and Health and Human Services.

## Trustees meeting set for July 14

The WMU Board of Trustees will meet Friday, July 14, in 157-159 Bernhard Center. The board's formal public session will be held in the morning that day. Agenda items were not available at *Western News* press time.

## Top staff awards announced



Four exceptional employees have received WMU's presti-

gious annual Make a Difference award, which comes with a \$1,000 prize. A luncheon has been scheduled for Tuesday, June 27, to honor the quartet for representing WMU's most outstanding staff members.

The 2006 award recipients are: Donna Kim Ballard, Academic Support Programs writing lab; Brenda Case-Parris, Career and Student Employment Services; Judy Northey, University Dining Services-Parkview Campus; and Donald Scott Paff, physical plant-landscape services.

MAD is a campuswide recognition program for staff members that features two rounds of semiannual awards, from which four annual award winners are selected each year. More information is available online at [www.wmich.edu/makeadifference](http://www.wmich.edu/makeadifference).

## Johnson to head WMU's regional efforts

Veteran administrator Darrell Johnson has been named to a two-year appointment as dean of Extended University Programs, effective June 15 and pending approval of the WMU Board of Trustees.



Johnson

Johnson replaces Nicholas Andreadis, who had served as dean of EUP for the past year. Andreadis announced last month he would step down for personal reasons and, after a six-month administrative leave, plans to return to the faculty in time for the spring 2007 semester.

"Darrell Johnson brings a wealth of experience in higher education and extensive knowledge of WMU's regional efforts to his new position," Provost Janet I. Pisaneschi said in announcing the appointment.

"He has earned the respect of the EUP staff, and I have great confidence in his ability to lead this important part of our University."

Johnson served as director of WMU-Battle Creek and WMU-Lansing before being named associate dean of EUP earlier this year. He has been at WMU since 2000, spending his first three years on campus as a graduate student and completing a doctoral degree in counselor education in 2003. From 2001 to 2003, he served as a doctoral intern and then a doctoral associate in the Division of Multicultural Affairs.

Prior to coming to WMU, Johnson served from 1998 to 2000 as manager of recruitment and retention for the Graduate Education for Minorities Consortium at the University of Notre Dame in South Bend, Ind. He also was coordinator of engineering recruitment

and admissions at the University of Central Florida in Orlando, Fla., from 1997 to 1998 and associate director of admissions and coordinator of minority recruitment at Grand Valley State University in Allendale, Mich., from 1990 to 1997.

In addition to his doctorate, Johnson has a master's degree in counseling in higher education administration from WMU, a master's degree in educational leadership and higher education administration from GVSU, and a bachelor's degree in psychology from Michigan State University. He is a licensed professional counselor as well as a nationally certified counselor.

## New director tapped to oversee Battle Creek, Lansing campuses

The new director for WMU-Battle Creek and WMU-Lansing is Sharon Russell, a business professional who has extensive background in



Russell

finance and marketing and 16 years of experience at the University.

Russell assumed her role with EUP on June 19. She will oversee both the Battle Creek and Lansing campuses and lead their strategic business development, community relations and marketing efforts.

In addition to professional staff positions with the Department of Theatre and Alumni Association, Russell has served the Division of Student Affairs as director of development and marketing and, most recently, as the business manager for University Recreation. In addition, she is a part-time faculty member, teaching courses in interpersonal communication and public speaking.

Russell earned a bachelor's degree in theatre arts from Loyola University in Chicago and a master's degree in communication from the University of Illinois.

WALDO'S HERE—A 142nd birthday party for founding president Dwight B. Waldo was held June 13 outside East Hall.

The event was sponsored by FOHEC—Friends of Historic East Campus—as a celebration of WMU's contributions to higher education and a way to honor its first buildings. Waldo, who died in 1939 at age 75, served as president for 32 years. During the birthday celebration, a wreath

was placed near the East Hall cornerstone overlooking Prospect Hill where his ashes are interred. David Isaacson, emeritus of University Libraries, addressed the crowd as Waldo, whom he began portraying during WMU's centennial celebration in 2003. Also making remarks were current president Judith I. Bailey; Randy Horvat, FOHEC chairperson; Dean Gary Wegenke, College of Education; and William Whitbeck, chief judge of the Michigan Court of Appeals and an alumnus of WMU's Campus School and State High School. The WMU Choral Group provided the music. (Photo by Tammy M. Boneburg)



# Merrion leads search committee for provost



Merrion

Dean Margaret Merrion, College of Fine Arts, has been appointed head of the provost search advisory committee.

WMU launched its search for a new provost June 15 with a public forum featuring a consultant from one of the nation's leading academic search firms.

James B. Appleberry of Academic Search Consultation Service led the forum, during which attendees were invited to offer opinions of the types of experiences and qualifications that would be desirable in a candidate, issues a new provost must address, and reasons why top-flight candidates would vie for the provost position at WMU.

Appleberry has been hired to assist the University in its search to identify a successor to Janet I. Pisaneschi, who late last month accepted a one-year appointment as provost and vice president for academic affairs after the resignation of Linda M. Delene. While on campus for the forum, he met with WMU and Kalamazoo community members as well as the campuswide advisory committee assisting with the search.

A Web site detailing the provost search process will be available soon. The site will include a timeline, the position description, the charge to the committee and the ethics statement each committee member was asked to sign.

The 23-member search committee includes faculty, staff, administrators and students. For a complete list of committee members, go online to [www.wmich.edu/wmu/news/2006/06/029.html](http://www.wmich.edu/wmu/news/2006/06/029.html) to read a news story about the launch of the provost search process.

## New Undergraduate Program Review details explained

Provost Janet I. Pisaneschi announced three measures on June 16 that will affect the comprehensive Undergraduate Program Review scheduled for 2006-07.

The measures, which are designed to help faculty, staff and administrators plan their work for the coming academic year, are:

- The review will be deferred until the Graduate Program Review concludes and attendant curricular and organizational changes are in place.
- During 2007-08, the new provost will confer with appropriate administrative and faculty governing bodies to establish the timing and parameters of the undergraduate review process.
- The regular University curriculum review process will be reopened to receive all program proposals at the beginning of the 2006-2007 academic year.

"Taken together, these actions remove the immediate challenge of Universitywide program review while offering us the opportunity to examine undergraduate processes and curricula at the program and college levels," Pisaneschi said.

"Thus, instead of moving forward with undergraduate review this academic year, I am asking that deans responsible for undergraduate academic programming devote 2006-07 to improving program processes and examining curricula. The results of the year's work are to facilitate the achievement of our enrollment goals, specifically to impact fall 2007 enrollment positively."

Pisaneschi said she has asked the deans to lead that effort in their respective colleges, working with chairs/directors and faculty to shape a process apropos to their undergraduate programs.

## HCOB senior earns prestigious management scholarship

For the second year in a row, a student in the Haworth College of Business has been awarded a prestigious R. Gene Richter Scholarship, named for a leading force in the supply chain management profession.

Elizabeth Aven, a senior from Edwardsburg, Mich., is one of six students nation-

wide to receive the honor for 2006. Other 2006 recipients represent schools such as the University of Maryland and Arizona State and Pennsylvania State universities.

Richter Scholars are selected based on their academic achievement, leadership potential and high ethical standards from some of America's top-accredited university supply chain management programs.

The 3-year-old Richter Scholarship Program is the largest nationally recognized scholarship program in the field of supply chain management. It was created to identify future supply management leaders and fast-track them into the profession through a combination of tuition assistance and mentoring programs.

### Exchange

**For Sale**—Barska 8X32 roof prism binoculars with 3.0 megapixel digital camera. Hardly used. \$90. E-mail [micklin@wmich.edu](mailto:micklin@wmich.edu) or call 345-6541.

**For Sale**—Newly remodeled manufactured home in Oshtemo. Kalamazoo Promise eligible, 10 minutes from campus. Includes 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, central air, ceiling fans, skylights, fireplace, patio and deck. Excellent condition, must be seen. Asking \$69,900. Call 375-2952.

## Aller awarded two new grants

Betsy Aller, industrial and manufacturing engineering, has received a grant from the Michigan Space Grant Consortium for her project "Engineering as an Everyday Activity: Community Outreach and Exploration."



Aller

The project, which started last month, includes offering a series of discussions and hands-on engineering activities at the

Parkview Campus to teachers and parents, who studies show have a low understanding of engineering. The goal is to improve those groups' understanding of engineering so they can promote and support students going into the field."

Aller, along with co-principal investigator, Larry Mallak, industrial and manufacturing engineering, has also received a grant from AlcoaEPC of Mattawan, Mich., for "Improving Global Workplace Skills Through the Enhancement of the Senior Engineering Technology Experience."

## Carr, LeBlanc named editors of national psychology journal

James Carr and Linda LeBlanc, psychology, have been appointed associate editors of the *Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis*. *Applied Behavior Analysis* is the flagship applied journal in the behavior analysis discipline.

The duo has also been named to the editorial boards of *Research and Developmental Disabilities* and *Research in Autism Spectrum Disorders*, which are published by Elsevier, the world's largest scientific journal publisher.

Carr and LeBlanc co-direct the WMU Center for Autism, an outpatient clinic

for families of children with autism spectrum disorders. Both advise graduate students—Carr for the behavior analysis program and LeBlanc for the behavior analysis and clinical programs.



Carr



LeBlanc

## Lancendorfer study goes mobile

Karen M. Lancendorfer, marketing, has won a Faculty Research and Creative Activities Support Fund grant to collect data this summer in South Korea. Lancendorfer is collaborating with Byoungkwan Lee in Hanyang University's advertising department.



Lancendorfer

Her research will explore the effectiveness of advertising on mobile devices, and consumers' perceptions of such advertising. Mobile commerce, which is known as m-commerce and has emerged as a new type of e-commerce transaction, refers to any transaction with monetary value that is conducted through mobile devices using wireless telecommunications networks.



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



**Audrey J. Davidson**, emerita in music, died June 11 at her home in Kalamazoo. She was 75.

A WMU faculty member from 1965 until her retirement in 1999, Davidson was a renowned musicologist and expert on early music. She helped build WMU's Congress on Medieval Studies to international stature and founded the Society for Old Music, which performed under her direction for some 25 years.

Davidson was a frequent traveler to international conferences and workshops, in spite of being confined to a wheelchair because of a hereditary bone disease. An inveterate researcher in libraries in England, Sweden, Denmark and Germany, she was a "regular" at the British Library music reading room nearly every summer for 20 years. In addition, she was an activist for the rights of the disabled.



Davidson

Her numerous publications include a performing edition of Hildegard of Bingen's "Ordo Virtutum" which has been used as a basis for performances at Lincoln Center in New York, at Atlanta by the Atlanta Camerata, at the Peabody Conservatory in Baltimore, and at other locations. Her most recent book, "Olivier Messiaen and the Tristan Myth," was a study of the modern French composer and mystic.

A Minnesota native, Davidson attended Bethel College, St. Cloud State College and Wayne State University, where she earned both a bachelor's and master's degree. She earned a doctoral degree from the University of Minnesota.

Davidson's memberships included the Medieval Academy, the American Musicological Society, the Renaissance Society of America, the Plainsong and Medieval Music Society, Vasa Satellite Lodge 661, the Askeladden Lodge of the Sons of Norway and St. Luke's Episcopal Church. She is survived by her husband, Clifford Davidson, WMU professor emeritus in medieval studies.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Audrey Davidson Early Music Endowment at WMU, St. Luke's Episcopal Church in Kalamazoo or St. Gregory's Abbey in Three Rivers.

**Amy Kizziee**, assignment supervisor in the Office of Residence Life, died June 19 at her home in Kalamazoo. She was 45.

A University employee since 1987, she worked in a variety of offices, including cashiering, accounts payable, building custodial and support services, and student financial aid and scholarships. She had been a staff member in residence life in 2001.

A student as well as an employee, Kizziee was nearing completion of a bachelor's degree in family studies and planned to graduate in December. Her degree will be awarded posthumously.

Funeral services are set for 11 a.m. Monday, June 26, at Kizziee's church, Galilee Baptist Church, 1216 N. Westnedge, Kalamazoo.

**Max O. McKittrick**, emeritus of business education and administrative services, died June 6, it has been learned. He was 88.

McKittrick came to WMU in 1964 and retired in 1982. He developed the graduate program in business teacher education as well as undergraduate and graduate courses in consumer principles. In addition, he co-

wrote "The Contemporary Consumer," a modular series of consumer education textbooks for secondary schools, and in 1974, conducted a significant study of Norway's mandated consumer education program.



McKittrick

A member of numerous professional organizations, McKittrick received the Michigan Business Education Association Award in 1980 for distinguished service to business education in the state.

McKittrick earned a bachelor's degree from Wittenberg University in 1939, a master's degree from Ohio State University in 1947 and a doctoral degree from the University of Northern Colorado in 1960.

Prior to joining WMU's faculty, he was a business education analyst at the U.S. Armed Forces Institute and taught at West Liberty State College, Defiance College and Ohio Northern University.

## Kelly-Albertson chairing GoWMU Advisory Board

Lynn Kelly-Albertson, Career and Student Employment Services, is the new chair of the advisory board for GoWMU, the University's secure intranet portal.

Kelly-Albertson has served on the advisory board since its inception in 2004. She



replaces James Gilchrist, Student Academic and Institutional Research, who will remain a board member.

The GoWMU Advisory Board receives and evaluates suggestions from students, faculty and staff with regard to services and content offered through the portal. The board, in turn, makes recommendations for changes to the system administrators and is responsible for drafting policy to deal with broader issues.

In addition to Gilchrist and Kelly-Albertson, regular members of the advisory board are Keith Hearit, Lee Honors College; Greg Lozeau, information technology; Thom Myers, university relations; Lauren Summerville, human resources; Michael VanPutten, Academic Technology and Instructional Services; and Michael Whang, University Libraries.

The board also has two student members. These members typically serve for one academic year.

## Conference teaches importance of link between health, literacy

A conference on "Linking Literacy and Health...A Formula for Quality Care and Patient Safety," will be held Thursday and Friday, July 13-14, in the Fetzer Center.

The conference recognizes that a high level of health literacy is essential for patients in the United States to understand instructions well enough that they can safely follow prescribed regimens and, ultimately, improve their health.

The event will provide an easy and cost-effective way to learn more about health

literacy, successful strategies to use with patients, and activities taking place at the local, state and national levels.

Training sessions throughout the conference will address getting started—within health professions education programs as well as in clinical settings—and will teach participants how to write materials at appropriate literacy levels. These sessions make "Linking Literacy and Health" an important conference to attend for anyone involved in health care and health care education.

For cost and other information or to register, visit [www.wmich-ahec.org](http://www.wmich-ahec.org) or contact Cheri Lay by sending e-mail to [cheri.lay@wmich.edu](mailto:cheri.lay@wmich.edu) or calling (269) 387-4174.

## On campus memorial service being planned for Judy Wolpe

A memorial service for Judy Wolpe, wife of former state and U.S. Rep. Howard Wolpe, will be held at 2 p.m. Saturday, June 24, in Miller Auditorium.

Judy Wolpe, 62, drowned in a vacation swimming accident June 16 in Guatemala. She was regional outreach director for the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards in Arlington, Va., and was a cabinet member of two former governors—Michigan's James Blanchard and Indiana's Evan Bayh.

The Wolpes were married in 1992 at WMU. Judy earned a master's degree from WMU and a bachelor's degree from Michigan State University.

Howard was a member WMU's political science faculty from 1967 to 1972 and was named the University's first distinguished visiting professor in 1993. He is director for the Africa Program of the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars.

For more funeral details, visit [www.judywolpe.homestead.com](http://www.judywolpe.homestead.com).

## Jobs

Western News will not be published again until the fall semester. Faculty and staff may learn about the weekly job postings, which are updated every Monday, by visiting [www.wmich.edu/hr/job.htm](http://www.wmich.edu/hr/job.htm) or calling the Applicant Information Service at 387-3669. The service is available seven days a week, 24 hours a day from a TouchTone phone.

Benefits-eligible employees interested in a position should submit a Job Opportunity Transfer Application during the posting period. Those interested in faculty positions should send a letter of application to the appropriate dean or chairperson.

Currently, there are no open positions for which applications are being accepted. For more information, call 387-3620.

# On Campus with Elena Wood



ADMITTEDLY HELPFUL  
(Photo by Jeanne Baron)

This August, Elena Wood will celebrate her 11th anniversary as a WMU staff member in the Office of Admissions.

"This is a great office to work for. Everybody is really focused on helping students through the admission process," she says. "And I love interacting with the students. It's a great feeling to be able to help them."

Wood, who earned a bachelor's and master's degree in history from WMU, started in the Operations Center then took a part-time receptionist post in 1998 so she could spend more time with her first child. Now, with her daughters Emily and Sheridan age 6 and 8, she isn't looking to return to full-time work soon.

At present, Wood works five days every two weeks, taking overflow calls and backing up Operations Center staffers as necessary. Her primary duty, though, is using her agile memory, the Student Information System, and printed as well as online materials to dispense information about the University to prospective students, parents and anyone else who comes in the door.

"We're the first point of contact for many students," she says. "We get a lot of inquiries so you have to have a lot of general knowledge about the campus."

Due to ongoing remodeling, she's currently stationed at the Siebert Administration Building's new Welcome Center desk. But she'll be greeting visitors from a new reception area when the project to transform Siebert's former Graduate College entrance into a new entry for admissions and orientation is completed prior to the start of fall semester.

Wood lives in Plainwell and is a certified massage therapist and Reiki practitioner with an in-home office. She says she plans to build up the office's clientele when her youngest child starts attending a full day of school. In the meantime, she enjoys spending her spare time gardening, camping, reading and taking trips with her husband Bruce—on the seat of his motorcycle.

## Czech literary, political figures to receive honorary degrees in July

WMU will present honorary degrees in Prague July 3 to two leading Czech figures who have distinguished themselves in both literature and politics.

The degrees are being awarded to Vaclav Havel and Arnost Lustig and stem from the duo's association with the University's Prague Summer Program. PSP, which WMU has administered since 2002, is the premiere summer creative writing program in the Czech Republic. It will run from July 1 through 29 this year.



Havel

Many consider Havel the father of his country. He was its first president and in 1989, led what he termed the Velvet Revolution, the bloodless movement resulting in the republic's independence and peaceful dissociation with the Slovaks. He is one of the most celebrated dissidents of his generation and spent several years in communist prisons.

A playwright, Havel penned such major works for the stage as "The Memorandum," "A Hotel in the Hills," and "Protest." His many

essays include "Letters to Olga," the collected letters to his wife from prison.

Lustig, who has been on the PSP faculty since the program's inception 13 years ago, is professor of film and literature at American University in Washington, D.C. He founded the celebrated Czech New Wave cinema in the 1960s, and is the author of numerous stories and 14 books, five of which were made into films in the Czech Republic.

An Emmy winner, Lustig has received the Carl Capek Award, one of Central Europe's most prestigious literary awards, and an award from the American Institute of Arts and Letters. He, too, has been on the short list for the Nobel Prize for Literature.

Lustig opposed the communist government's anti-Israeli policies and in 1967, was proclaimed an "enemy of the people." He is a survivor of Theresienstadt, Buchenwald and Auschwitz, and has made the Holocaust the exclusive subject of his fiction.

## Hearing aid semi-finalist in 'Modern Marvel' challenge

A hearing device developed by a Kalamazoo businessman with the help of a WMU engineering student was recently named a semi-finalist in The History Channel's Modern Marvels Invent Now Challenge.

Known as the "Liperator," the computerized device attaches to a telephone and uses sound from the phone to generate realistic lip movements on a video screen, enabling someone with a hearing impairment to lip-read their phone conversation.

The Liperator was one of 25 semi-finalists in the Modern Marvel contest, which drew more than 4,000 entries. Four inventions were named finalists and one was chosen as the 2006 Modern Marvel of the Year. All of the inventions named as finalists and semi-finalists were included in an exhibition traveling across the country to five major cities. The exhibit currently is at the National Inventors Hall of Fame in Akron, Ohio.

The Liperator was developed in the early 1990s by Yair Mendelowitsch, who was then studying for a master's degree in electrical engineering at WMU, and Robert P. Slager, then a hearing aid specialist at the Hearing Aid Center of Kalamazoo. Slager came up with the idea for the product and enlisted the aid of the University's College of Engineering and Applied Sciences.

Slager's idea came from his own experience. After he began losing his hearing, he learned to lip-read, but could not do that over the phone. He began looking for ways to make lip-reading over the phone possible. Mendelowitsch received his master's degree from WMU in 1991.

## Two retirement receptions set

A retirement reception recognizing Donna Icabone for 30 years of service will be held from 3 to 5 p.m. Tuesday, June 27, in the Oaklands. Icabone is an associate professor of educational studies and most recently served for three years as University ombuds.

On Wednesday, June 28, a retirement reception recognizing Rollin Douma's 36 years of service will also be held from 3 to 5 p.m. in the Oaklands. Douma is an associate professor of English and currently serves as associate vice president for academic affairs. He also has been Graduate College dean and interim College of Education dean.



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