



Western NEWS

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For and about WMU faculty and staff

WMU seeks United Way leaders

Planning is well under way for WMU's 2006 United Way campaign, and volunteers are needed to serve as department



fund-raisers. The campus campaign, which runs about six weeks, will not begin until late September. However, valuable

training and planning sessions are taking place this summer, says campaign co-chair Lynn Kelly-Albertson, Career and Student Employment Services.

Total time commitment for department fund-raisers is about eight hours. Those who volunteer will be invited to attend training sessions and a special July 20 bus tour of three United Way agencies. The tour will include a complimentary lunch at the Kalamazoo YWCA and visits to new facilities for Goodwill Industries and the Boys & Girls Club of Greater Kalamazoo.

"This is a great opportunity to meet people from across campus, learn about the community resources available to all of us through the Greater Kalamazoo United Way and contribute to an important campus-community effort," says Kelly-Albertson.

To volunteer, respond by June 16 to lynn.kelly-albertson@wmich.edu with your name, contact information and the exact name of the department or office you will represent.

Western News to go on hiatus

The next issue of *Western News* will be distributed on June 22. This will be the last issue for the summer. The deadline to submit items for this issue is 5 p.m. Friday, June 16.

Western News will resume its regular publication schedule after the start of the fall semester.

Honorary degree policy adjusted

WMU trustees, acting at their April 28 meeting, approved revised guidelines for recognizing individuals with an honorary degree from WMU. The new guidelines spell out such details as the award purpose, criteria, and procedure for nomination and consideration.

According to the new guidelines, honorary degrees are used to recognize people of outstanding achievement who exemplify the mission and purpose of WMU and whose exemplary lives and distinguished achievements serve as models of the University's ideals and aspirations for students, faculty, staff and alumni.

Over the years, WMU has awarded honorary degrees to individuals ranging from WMU Theatre patriarch Zack York and Kalamazoo Symphony conductor Yoshimi Takeda to Michigan artist Gwen Frostic and South African president Nelson Mandela.

Pisaneschi named to one-year term as provost

Janet I. Pisaneschi, the University's longest-serving college dean, was named to a one-year term as provost and vice president for academic affairs, effective May 30.

Pisaneschi had served as dean of the College of Health and Human Services since 1989. Her new appointment is pending approval of the WMU Board of Trustees. The University will launch a national search for a provost to succeed her when the appointment ends.



Pisaneschi

"Dean Pisaneschi is well known and highly respected by her colleagues across the University," President Judith I. Bailey said in announcing the appointment. "She has been a strong and steady presence in the academic community and has successfully guided one of our finest academic units through a period of great change and growth. Her work has made the College of Health and Human Services stronger, and I am delighted she will bring her leadership talents to the role of moving the entire University's academic agenda forward."

Pisaneschi, who had planned to retire from WMU in June, says she's honored to take on a final leadership role, but part of

her agreement with the president is that she will not become a candidate for the position during the search process.

"I truly love this University and am pleased to have this opportunity to serve through this period of transition," Pisaneschi says. "The excellence and dedication of our faculty and staff and the caliber of the students we attract are the reasons I've chosen to stay here for as long as I have. I strongly believe in shared governance and transparency, and I'm looking forward to forging strong relationships with my colleagues in every part of the University."

During her tenure as dean of the College of Health and Human Services, Pisaneschi oversaw creation of WMU's Bronson School of Nursing, development of WMU's Unified Clinics in the University Medical and Health Sciences Center, and construction of a home for her college that in 2005 brought all of its programs together in one place.

The college also grew in stature and productivity during her tenure. Its graduate programs have consistently been ranked among the best of their kind in the nation, and the college moved into the top 10 of allied health professions colleges receiving research funding from the Department of Health and Human Services' National Institutes of Health.

Bailey unveils results of latest Michigan business survey

Acting as spokesperson and advocate for Michigan's Your Child Coalition, President Judith I. Bailey June 1 unveiled the results of a statewide survey detailing the education views of Michigan's business community.

Speaking to a session of the Detroit Regional Chamber's Mackinac Policy Conference under way on Mackinac Island, Bailey shared details of the latest Your Child study of 850 Michigan businesses. Completed in late May by Lansing polling firm EPIC-MRA, the survey shows that Michigan businesses need to do more to build an education culture in Michigan.

"Michigan businesses can do so much more to develop the kind of workforce we need to thrive in the knowledge economy," Bailey said. "Business must not only demand high standards of K-12 schools, colleges and universities, business also must uphold those standards in hiring and supporting its workforce."

Bailey unveiled the Your Child survey during a panel presentation titled "Competing in a Flat World—Getting Michigan Ready for a High Skill/High Wage Economy." Panelists included Robert T. Jones, co-author of "The Job Revolution: Changing How America Works"; Mike Schmidt, director of education and community development for Ford Motor Co.; and Moderator Nolan



Noteworthy survey findings

- Michigan employers are dissatisfied with Michigan's schools, but those most vocal about their dissatisfaction are least likely to demand advanced educational credentials from prospective employees.
- Michigan businesses do place a higher value on education than do Michigan families, with 60 percent of business respondents saying everyone should get an education beyond high school.
- Employees with the lowest level of education have the least job security. Those with only a high school degree are about six times as vulnerable to layoffs as those with college degrees.
- Even though business associations pushed hard for the state's rigorous new high school graduation requirements, support for those standards is just lukewarm among Michigan businesses.
- Michigan employers are unlikely to help push employees toward educational achievement. Only half (51 percent) expect to spend any money on employee education or training during the coming year.

Penny Bundy appointed admissions director

A professional with broad experience in the recruitment and retention of students has been selected to direct WMU's admissions efforts.



Bundy

Penny Bundy comes to the University after an extensive nationwide search and brings to her new position 19 years of recruiting and retention experience.

Bundy will oversee the undergraduate, graduate and international admissions application process, as well as coordinate the University's undergraduate recruiting activities.

She will begin her duties Aug. 1 and make several trips to campus to meet with staff prior to that date.

For the past 11 years, Bundy has worked at Ball State University, where she began as assistant director of admissions. Since 1999, she has served as BSU's associate director of admissions for high school and college relations.

"We are very fortunate to have found someone with Penny's depth of experience who comes to us from a university with many of the same goals and with similar student characteristics," says John Beacon, vice provost for enrollment management. "I look forward to welcoming Penny to the enrollment management team when she arrives later this summer. I am confident in the leadership skills she brings to this important position."

Bundy earned a bachelor's degree from Defiance College and a master's degree from BSU.

History magazine features 'fruits' of WMU faculty, student work

"Voices of the Growers," a feature in the May/June issue of *Michigan History* magazine, focuses on work done by students and faculty in WMU's public history graduate and undergraduate programs.

The article, written by Kristin Szylvian, history, and recent master's graduate Jennifer Gaydos, is one of several stories in the magazine that reflects work done over the past two years by nearly 100 WMU students.

The students and their faculty mentors helped prepare an exhibit about southwest Michigan's fruit-growing history for the Fort Miami Heritage Society at the society's Priscilla U. Byrns Heritage Center in St. Joseph, Mich.

Another article in the issue by Szylvian, "The Joads Come to Michigan," chronicles agricultural workers' lives in Michigan during the 1930s and 1940s. A sidebar to the "Voices" story details a WMU oral history project that began in 2004 under the direction of Szylvian and Lynne Heasley, history.

That project involved conducting 26 in-depth interviews that influenced the direction of the current Fort Miami exhibit and were used as the basis for the WMUK radio documentary "A Fruitful Land."



APA elects 2006-07 leaders, selects two scholarship recipients



Emmert

The Administrative Professional Association has announced the results of its annual election.

The newly elected APA leaders began their 2006-07 terms of office during the

organization's general membership meeting May 24.

Officers elected to one-year terms were: president, Wil Emmert, Research and Sponsored Programs; vice president, Michele McLaughlin, registrar's office; treasurer, Joe Odehnal, physical plant-remodeling services; corresponding secretary, Sue Oole, Lee Honors College; and recording secretary, Faith Wicklund, Miller Auditorium.

Mary Ramlow, Evaluation Center, was elected to a two-year term on the Executive Board and Julie Scrivener, Medieval Institute, is serving as past president.

Also during the May 24 meeting, a drawing was held to select two APA Scholarship recipients. The \$500 award provides assistance to children of APA members who study at WMU at either the undergraduate or graduate level.

One scholarship went to Amanda "Amy" O'Bryan, a senior majoring in psychology and English. She is the daughter of Joan O'Bryan, Office of Information Technology.

The other APA scholarship will be presented to David Holysz, a junior majoring in business sales and marketing. He is the son of Tim Holysz, physical plant-landscape services.

For more information about APA, visit its Web site at www.wmich.edu/apa.

Adkison-Bradley honored by KSU

Carla Adkison-Bradley, counselor education and counseling psychology, is the recipient of Kent State University's 2006



Adkison-Bradley

Counseling and Human Development Services Dr. Dwight L. Arnold Outstanding Alumni Award. The award, given in recognition of Adkison-Bradley's work as a counselor educator, was presented during the American

Counseling Association Conference in Montréal in April.

Adkison-Bradley serves as director of training for WMU's doctoral program in counselor education. Her areas of professional interests include doctoral student preparation, faculty development and child-rearing practices in families.

Joslin, Dybek star at Chicago fair

Katherine Joslin and Stuart Dybek, English, were among the principal authors featured June 3 and 4 at Chicago's Printers Row Book Fair, one of the nation's leading book expositions.

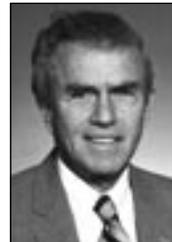
The annual fair is the largest outdoor literary event in the Midwest. Some 85,000 people turn out to hear readings by the nation's leading authors, peruse books and enjoy family entertainment.

Joslin appeared in one of Saturday's main events with author Louise W. Knight. Both women read from their books about Chicago's Jane Addams, a peace activist and social reformer. Joslin read from her 2004 biography, titled "Jane Addams, a Writer's Life." The session was scheduled for taping by C-SPAN 2 for future showing on Book TV.

Dybek, a native Chicagoan, was another featured author at the fair. His 1990 collection of short stories, "Coast of Chicago," was adapted for the stage and premiered in Chicago earlier this year. The book also was a recent selection for the award-winning One Book, One Chicago citywide reading program. Dybek's most recent work, "Streets in Their Own Ink," is a book of poetry.

Maier graces pages of *People*

Paul Maier, history, shares the pages of the June 5 edition of *People* magazine with the likes of Paul McCartney, Katie Couric



Maier

and the killer grannies of Los Angeles. Playing to the popularity of the movie version of "The Da Vinci Code," a two-page article in the pop culture magazine enlists Maier's aid to zero in on the question "Who was Mary Magdalene?"

Maier is an expert on early Christianity and a well-known critic of the Dan Brown book on which the movie is based. He is quoted in the piece along with scholars from the Yale Divinity School and Union Theological Seminary. He co-wrote the 2004 book "The Da Vinci Code: Fact or Fiction?" Over the months leading up to the May 19 release of the movie and in the weeks since, he has been quoted in newspapers around the nation.



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



Pilot program giving faculty, staff time to study new wellness benefit

WMU is participating in a pilot program to determine the feasibility of offering a new health-related benefit that takes a holistic approach to improving the overall wellness of faculty and staff.

The one-year program, called Western Wellness—Improving on a Good Thing, was launched in March 2006 and will run through March 2007. It is being offered through and managed by Holtyn & Associates, a health promotion consulting firm in Kalamazoo that provides science-based, well-implemented and periodically evaluated work site wellness programs.

Western Wellness is a confidential, voluntary program that has been customized for WMU. The free program helps people set achievable as well as measurable goals, based

on their individual physical, emotional and mental health needs and preferences. It's also designed to consolidate information about all of the University's wellness-related services and resources, making this information easier to locate and use.

Jen Bailey, University Recreation, is serving as chairperson of the 11-member committee of WMU employees who have volunteered to oversee Western Wellness during the pilot period.

"Our goal is to give faculty and staff the tools and knowledge they need to take better advantage of the programs and resources already available on campus," Bailey says. "We want to encourage individuals to pursue a lifestyle of wellness, leading us toward a healthier campus community."

The Western Wellness health benefit has been approved for 500 participants during the pilot period. Currently, 340 people are taking part in the program.

"With growing health care costs across the nation, the need to address health care issues has become crucial," Bailey says. "Issues plaguing rising health care costs locally revolve around obesity levels, stress, and diabetes and various other physical ailments."

A key feature of Western Wellness is its individual focus. Participants decide what areas they want to zero in on, then work with a consultant to create a personalized wellness plan.

The consultant not only provides hints and guidelines participants can follow to achieve their goals, but also contacts participants every six months to monitor progress and provide ongoing support and encouragement.

To begin the program, faculty and staff complete a five- to 10-minute online health survey questionnaire and take part in a 30-minute on-site wellness screening session.

Bailey notes that participants access their wellness data via their own secured Web sites. WMU does not have access to anyone's data, nor does it keep a list of program participants.

"Through Western Wellness, we're learning healthier habits and improving our overall health," Bailey says. "The really neat thing is that this is a guided self-help program, so we get to go at our own pace and we can monitor our personal progress by repeating the health questionnaire and the health screening tests."

More information about Western Wellness is available online at www.holtynhpc.com or by calling Jen Bailey at 387-3762.



LOCK STEP—Many Western Wellness participants are motivating themselves by exercising in groups. Among them are, from left: Gail Kurtz, Anne Wagner and Angela Miller, all of whom work in the administration building under the associate vice president for finance. Schedules permitting, the informal team traverses Siebert's main stairwell four times each morning. The workout provides healthy indoor exercise and helps ensure that members meet their goal of registering at least 10,000 steps per day on their pedometers. The trio says tackling the stairs can be a bit tiring, but the workout increases their mental alertness while improving their physical stamina. (Photo by Jeanne Baron)

AAHC reaccredits Sindecuse Health Center as quality ambulatory health care organization

The Sindecuse Health Center has been reaccredited by the Accreditation Association for Ambulatory Health Care.

Carol Eddy, executive director of Sindecuse, says the reaccreditation followed a February 2006 evaluation. It means the health center has passed a series of rigorous and nationally recognized AAAHC standards for the provision of quality health care.

"Accreditation underscores our long-standing commitment to providing the

highest possible levels of quality care to the community we serve," Eddy says.

The Sindecuse Health Center was first accredited by the AAAHC in 1997 and is reviewed for reaccreditations every three years.

The specific areas evaluated during the accreditation process include rights of patients, governance, administration, services, quality of care provided, quality management and improvement, clinical records

and health information, and facilities and environment.

Ambulatory health care organizations seeking AAAHC accreditation undergo an extensive on-site, peer-based survey of their facilities and services. Among the types of organizations that can seek AAAHC accreditation are ambulatory and office-based surgery centers, single and multi-specialty group practices, and community health centers.

Your child survey

continued from page 1

Finley, editorial page editor of the *Detroit News*.

Your Child is a coalition of Michigan-based education and family organizations that examines the factors that contribute to or stand in the way of Michigan's children being successful in their academic careers. The coalition is out to build public awareness about these factors, strengthen the state's culture of education, spark community conversations about education and increase citizen commitment to education.

For complete details of the study, go online to www.epicmra.com or contact Ed Sarpolus, vice president of EPIC-MRA, at (517) 331-3313 or Margaret Trimer-Hartley, coordinator of Your Child, at (517) 204-0963.

Service

The following employees are recognized for 40, 35, 30, 25, 20, 10 and five years of service during June.

40 Years—Joseph A. Kelemen, electrical and computer engineering.

35 Years—David H. McKee, University Libraries, and Joseph P. Stoltman, geography.

30 Years—Willard E. Breur, logistical services; Thomas E. Campbell, physical plant-landscape services; Dona G. Icabone, University Ombuds; and Laura Latulippe, Career English Language Center for International Students.

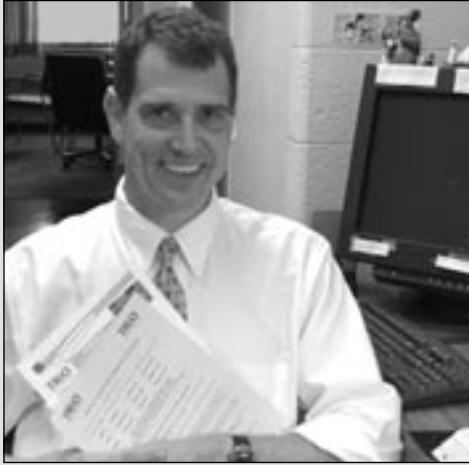
25 Years—Mary A. Warren, physical plant-building custodial and support services.

20 Years—Randolph Bortolussi, physical plant-power plant, and Sara L. Wick, University Libraries.

10 Years—Gordon Frederick Evans, WMUK; Joan F. Herrington, theatre; Susan Longjohn, Center for Disability Services; David R. Morin, intercollegiate athletics; and Lester W. Wright Jr., psychology.

Five Years—Cathy Igea Colella, Extended University Programs; Margaret H. Dupuis, English; Marion W. Gray, history; Norman Lee Johncock, physical plant-building custodial and support services; Melissa A. Logan, public safety; Teresa A. Schrimpf, Extended University Programs; and Edmund Tsang, engineering and applied sciences.

On Campus with Richard McMullen



SWEET SUCCESS
(Photo by Jeanne Baron)

"It really was fortuitous. This was a perfect job for me," says Richard McMullen, academic services coordinator for the TRIO Student Success Program.

The SSP is one of seven federally funded educational opportunity programs—collectively called TRIO programs—that help students overcome class, social, academic and cultural barriers to higher education. McMullen was working in the TRIO unit of a small New York college when his wife, Ann Miles, joined WMU's faculty in 1994. A year after moving to Kalamazoo, the University's SSP had an opening, and McMullen jumped at it.

"Traditionally, college has been a place which students have to adjust to," he says. "But the role of a program like ours is to meet our students where they are and help get them to where they need to be in order to succeed."

One of McMullen's main tasks is hiring, training and supervising student mentors for University 1010. He also teaches that courses, as well as a general education section of anthropology designed just for TRIO students.

His other duties include assessing students' learning styles, assisting with registration and schedule setting, providing workshops on everything from managing money to how to apply to graduate schools, evaluating the SSP's effectiveness, preparing governmental reports, and rewriting SSP grant proposals.

"I've always found the interplay of education and culture interesting," says McMullen, who has bachelor's and master's degrees in anthropology. "Helping students transition to college is sort of anthropological. It's a lot like moving from one culture to another and having to learn new rules."

McMullen has an 11-year-old daughter and is a runner. He has run marathons in Boston, New York, Chicago and Detroit, to name a few cities. Some day he says he might earn a doctoral degree in sociology, but for now, he's content to enroll in Spanish classes and use his vacation time to join his wife in Ecuador, where she frequently conducts research.

Waldo birthday party slated

Members of the campus community will celebrate the 142nd anniversary of the birth of WMU's founding president, Dwight B. Waldo, Tuesday, June 13, on the grounds of East Campus.

The event, which is set for 4 to 6 p.m., is being sponsored by the Friends of Historic East Campus and is intended as a celebration of WMU's contributions to higher education. For more information, contact alumnus Dick Barron at 373-6154 or dbarron20@sbcglobal.net.

Edwards to be feted at reception

The Haworth College of Business invites the University community to a retirement celebration honoring Adrian "Ed" Edwards, who has been serving as the college's interim dean.

The event will be from 3 to 5 p.m. Wednesday, June 21, in the Oaklands. Edwards has served on the business faculty for 42 years. During that time, he has served WMU in a variety of administrative and volunteer capacities.

Exchange

For Sale—1998 Toyota RAV4. 4 wheel drive, 115,000 miles. \$5,600. Call 387-8424 or 649-0062.

For Sale—Totally remodeled home. 4 bedrooms, 1.5 baths, corner lot, close to campus, 2,300 square feet. \$169,900. Open house noon to 2 p.m. Sunday, June 11. This listing, 2613529 (MLS number), can be viewed at www.precar.com.

Aviators ready to compete in 2006 air race

Two staffers will head West next week for the start of the 2006 Air Race Classic, a women's cross-country event June 20-23 that will take competitors across the center of the nation from Arizona to Michigan.

Courtney Hedlund, a WMU flight instructor and a December 2004 graduate of the College of Aviation, will share piloting duties with Leslie Treppa, a December 2005 graduate who is also a flight instructor.

This is the seventh year WMU has entered a team in the race which has attracted aviators from across the nation since

the days of Amelia Earhart.

A map of the For the 2,156-mile race route and additional information can be found at www.airraceclassic.org/. Hedlund and Treppa expect to file daily reports on their progress once the race begins. The reports will be published online in WMU News at www.wmich.edu/wmu/news.



Leslie Treppa and Courtney Hedlund (Photo by Cheryl Roland)

Automotive representatives to confer on simulation technology

Automotive companies from around the region will gather at a by-invitation-only event on Friday, June 9, to learn more about how computer simulation can help them boost competitiveness. The CaViDS 2006 workshop will run from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the College of Engineering and Applied Sciences on the Parkview Campus.

The workshop is being hosted by WMU's Center for Advanced Vehicle Design and Simulation, which was formed earlier this year. The center aims to provide breakthrough applied computer simulation

technology and knowledge to the automotive industry, especially in the areas of vehicle design and analysis.

More than 60 participants are expected to attend the event. They have been asked to share their immediate and long-term technology needs in such areas as engineering analysis, computer modeling and simulations. Dana Corp. and Eaton Corp., two frequent University partners in research and other projects, will be displaying their wares in the form of three massive truck trailers that sport their latest technologies and innovations.