



Western NEWS

NOVEMBER 10, 2005
volume 32, number 6

For and about WMU faculty and staff

Stryker CEO to speak Nov. 17

Stephen P. MacMillan, president and chief executive officer of Stryker Corp., will focus on "Competing in a Global Market" when he speaks at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 17, in Schneider's Brown Auditorium as part of the Haworth College of Business Distinguished Speaker Series. To reserve a spot, faculty, staff and students should call 7-5052.

MacMillan joined Stryker in 2003 and was named to his current post this year. He began his career in marketing with Proctor & Gamble and has held executive positions in the international operations of Johnson & Johnson, Merck and Pharmacia.

United Way celebration planned

President Judi Bailey plans to congratulate volunteers and donors Thursday, Nov. 17, at a victory celebration for WMU's 2005 United Way campaign. The campus community is invited to the celebration from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. in 157 Bernhard. Bailey will acknowledge fund raisers and contributors for a successful campaign, and light refreshments will be served. Departments with 100-percent giving will receive a certificate suitable for framing.

WMU stands at more than 90 percent of its \$210,000 United Way goal. As of Friday, Nov. 4, a total of \$193,244 in gifts and pledges had been received from 1,386 WMU donors. Faculty, staff, retirees and emeriti who have not already turned in their pledge cards are encouraged to do so now.

Physics, Einstein focus of talk

WMU's local celebration of the 2005 World Year of Physics and the centennial of some of Albert Einstein's most important contributions will continue with a general-audience lecture by one of the nation's premier physicists.

Timothy Gay, professor of physics at the University of Nebraska, will present "What Makes Einstein So Smart?" at 7 p.m. Monday, Nov. 21, in 1104 Rood. Gay is well known for engaging in what he calls "physics propaganda" to interest lay audiences in the discipline. A specialist in the scattering of electrons by atomic and molecular targets, he is more popularly known for exploring the physics of football for an NFL short film series and for his book, "Football Physics."

Dec. 1 issue is year's last News

The next issue of *Western News* will be distributed on Dec. 1 and is the last issue for the fall semester. Because of the Thanksgiving holiday weekend, the deadline for the Dec. 1 issue has been pushed back to 5 p.m. Monday, Nov. 28. The *News* will resume regular publication Jan. 12 with the start of the spring semester.

President to fund 'transformational' ideas

President Judith I. Bailey is looking for a few good ideas—and she's willing to provide funding to put them into practice.

Guidelines for the President's 2005 Innovation Fund were announced last week. Faculty and staff members have until 5 p.m. Monday, Jan. 16, to submit proposals for consideration in a competitive process designed to provide cash awards to turn good ideas into reality.

The initiative was first announced by Bailey in her Sept. 27 State of the University address, when she said she would use unrestricted gifts to establish a pool of \$2 million for a series of one-time awards over the next two years. Bailey said her intent is to fund the implementation of innovative ideas that will "challenge us to achieve the highest standard of quality."

Ideas submitted for funding should be designed to improve the quality of instruction, research, student life, administrative operations, excellence in service or any other aspect of WMU's core mission.

One-time monetary awards that could range from \$100,000 to \$1 million will be made in a peer-reviewed competitive process that the president vows will be "wide open."

"We're looking for ideas that will be truly transformational," Bailey says. "This will be

continued on page 4

Care packages brighten day for Broncos called up for active duty

The floor in front of Dori LaChance's desk in the Registrar's Office is neatly lined with snack foods, toothpaste, puzzles and dozens of other items commonly found on convenience store shelves.

But the commodities aren't for sale. They're destined for WMU community members who have been deployed to the Middle East and hurricane-ravaged U.S. Gulf Coast.

LaChance began collecting items like those in 2002. As WMU's Veterans Administration clerk, she was familiar with the many students, faculty and staff who were being called up for active duty.

"It was an emotional thing because I knew them," she says. "The people over there fighting in the war aren't somebody else. They're us. They're people we see every day."

LaChance says about 30 people have been sent packages since the project began, and now she and her growing cadre of campus volunteers are stocking up for a new round of care package shipments for Christmas.



Numerous thank-you notes line the wall above Dori LaChance and her stockpile of care package items. (Photo by Jeanne Baron).

News of the effort has spread by word of mouth and three months ago, the Registrar's Office began picking up the shipping costs. LaChance still boxes up the packages, which have to go through customs, and takes care of the necessary paperwork.

She also maintains an e-mail list of employees from across campus who want to contribute, and when stocks are running low, puts out a call for donations. In addition, she welcomes the submission of addresses of WMU-affiliated service members, particularly alumni, as she isn't always aware of who has been called up.

continued on page 4

Noted diversity expert featured speaker for MLK celebration



Wu

A series of free, public events honoring the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. will be taking place Jan. 8-20 sponsored by WMU's MLK Committee and the Northside Ministerial Alliance. The theme for this year's joint MLK Celebration, now in its fourth year, is "Recovering a Lost Dream: Community, Faith and Vision."

WMU will hold a Campus Community Day on Sunday, Jan. 15, that will bring high school students to campus to learn more about the University and include a campuswide multicultural celebration at 4 p.m. in Miller Auditorium.

The featured speaker for the multicultural celebration will be Frank H. Wu, dean of the Wayne State University Law School. Wu, a diversity expert and former civil attorney, also will present an on-campus talk on Saturday, Jan. 14.

continued on page 4

Around Campus

Second Sichel series lecture set

Sociologist Leah VanWey will speak on "The Power of Home: Remittances to Families and Communities" at 3 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 16, in 3508 Knauss as part of the 2005-06 Werner Sichel Lecture Series, which focuses on "Immigrants and Their International Money Flows."

VanWey of Indiana University has studied international and internal migration in Thailand, Mexico and Brazil and mobility and intergenerational wealth transfers in the United States.

Activist to talk about education

A social and civil rights activist will give her views on the nation's education system at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 16, in the south side of the Bernhard Center's East Ballroom. Grace Boggs, a former Detroit school teacher, will address "The Schools Crisis: Danger and Opportunity."

Boggs founded Detroit's Boggs Center to Nurture Community Leadership and helped found its Asian Political Alliance. She will argue that it is an opportunity and a challenge to create more activist and participatory forms of education.

Upjohn economist to examine Michigan's past, prospects

Randall W. Eberts, W.E. Upjohn Institute for Employment Research executive director, will discuss "Michigan's Economy: Trends, Legacies and Prospects" at 7:30 p.m. Friday, Nov. 18, in 2150 Schneider. The talk is part of the Keystone Community Bank Breakfast Speaker Series.

Eberts joined the Upjohn Institute in 1993. Previously, he was an assistant vice president and economist at the Federal Reserve Bank in Cleveland, an economics professor at the University of Oregon, and a senior staff economist on the President's Council of Economic Advisors.

RSVP by calling 7-5050.

Design projects showcased

The 37th Conference on Senior Design Projects will be held from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Tuesday, Nov. 29, at the engineering building on the Parkview Campus. A total of 35 projects will showcase the work of 113 engineering students. For more information about the free and open event, call 6-3244.

Waldo Library proves point by 'going downhill' the fastest

Dwight B. Waldo Library is not your father's college library—but boy does it have resources.

That's the message library staffers are sharing these days, and they're ready to test their moxie against any comers. In fact, they took on WMU's student engineers and a raft of fraternities last month in the Soapbox Derby, a 30-year homecoming weekend tradition.

What's more, they won.

"We figured we'd be no match for engineering students, who often dominate the winner's circle," says Brad Dennis, assistant professor and education librarian. "We did have some practical expertise in spouses, friends and students—and an entire arsenal of library resources at our command."

Waldo Library may house medieval manuscripts, a world-class poetry collec-

tion and loads of academic journals, but students also will encounter staffers with knowledge of plastics manipulation and death-ray gun designs from the science fiction collections.

Armed with that kind of knowledge, entering the derby was viewed as a fun event



WHERE'S WALDO?—The answer is simple: in first place after winning this year's Soap Box Derby. (Photo by Cheryl Roland)

to bring staff, faculty, administration and students together quickly. But it has taken on a life of its own since the library's Plexiglas racer placed second in its 2003 debut and came in third last year.

Dean of Libraries Joseph Reish transported the car to the American Library Association annual conference in Chicago this year to show it off and illustrate how the car was helping to break down stereotypes of "stuffy librarians and dusty old books."

The 2005 race entry sports a Hawaiian design in keeping with the homecoming theme "Around the World in Seven Days." Librarians say they hope their win draws attention on campus to the library's most recent addition—a Hawaiian kiosk that serves Maui Woiwi coffee and smoothies.

After the race, the car returned to its place of honor in the rotunda of Waldo Library—a testament to the fact that the library is about more than books.

Merrion on international board



Merrion

Dean Margaret Merrion, College of Fine Arts, has been elected to the board of directors of the International Council of Fine Arts Deans. Merrion, whose three-year term began earlier this month, has previously served on the

board and was the council's president from 1998 to 2000.

The council is a professional organization that provides leadership in arts education and serves as a forum for the advancement of the highest standards in the profession.

Cobern named AAAS Fellow

William Cobern, Mallinson Institute for Science Education director, has been named an American Association for the Advancement of Science Fellow. Cobern, elected in the education section, was cited "for distinguished contributions to science education through research on culture, philosophy and science and for the application of these to the concept of science literacy."



Cobern

Cobern holds a joint appointment as a professor of biological sciences and science education and has been a principal re-

searcher in a number of science education initiatives funded by the National Science Foundation and the Michigan Department of Education.

He joined the WMU faculty as associate professor of science education and coordinator of the elementary school master's program. He also has served as associate dean of the College of Education. Prior to coming to the University, he held faculty positions in science education at Arizona State University, Austin College in Texas and Judson Baptist College in Oregon.

AAAS is the world's largest general scientific society and publisher of the journal, *Science*. It was founded in 1848 and includes some 262 affiliated societies and academies of science, serving 10 million individuals. Its publication *Science* has the largest paid circulation of any peer-reviewed general science journal in the world, with an estimated total readership of one million.

Copeland receives Latvian honor

Dace Copeland, Extended University Programs, has been awarded the Cross of Recognition by the president of Latvia. The prestigious award is given to individuals who demonstrate outstanding patriotism and achievements for the good of Latvian society and culture.



Copeland

Copeland has been a WMU staff member for more than 20 years and is a longtime leader in the Kalamazoo Latvian community. She was elected president of the American Latvian Association in 2002.



volume 32
number 6

EDITOR: Cheryl P. Roland. ISSUE EDITOR: Jeanne Baron.

CONTRIBUTORS: Jeanne Baron, Thomas A. Myers and Mark E. Schwerin. GRAPHIC DESIGN: Tammy M. Boneberg.

WESTERN NEWS (USPS 362-210) is published by the Office of University Relations, Walwood Hall, Western Michigan University, 1903 W. Michigan Ave., Kalamazoo, MI 49008-5433, every other week during the fall and spring semesters and Summer I session. Periodicals postage paid at Kalamazoo, MI 49008-5165.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to *Western News*, Office of University Relations, Western Michigan University, 1903 W. Michigan Ave., Kalamazoo, MI 49008-5433.

DEADLINE: Items to be considered for publication should be submitted to the Office of University Relations by 5 p.m. Friday the week preceding publication. Fall publication dates are Sept. 1, Sept. 15, Sept. 29, Oct. 13, Oct. 27, Nov. 10 and Dec. 1. Items may be submitted by mail, fax (387-8422) or e-mail (cheryl.roland@wmich.edu).

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



Service

The following employees are recognized for 30, 20, 15, 10 and five years of service during November.

30 years—Nancy K. Sluss, Physical Plant-landscape services. (Inadvertently left off the September list: Darryl A. Salisbury, Haenicke Institute for Global Education.)

20 years—Paul R. Schneidenbach, information technology.

15 Years—Donald Scott Paff, Physical Plant-landscape services.

10 Years—Teresa L. Cleveland, Academic Technology and Instructional Services; Michele L. Cole, College of Education; Teresa M. Cronkhite, Bernhard Center Dining Service; Melvin Theodore Edgerly, Power Plant; Mary Ann Ford, Extended University Programs; Kerrie Jo Harvey, arts and sciences advising; Nancy King, Physical Plant-building custodial and support services; Douglas Lloyd, Campus Facility Development; Sharon McKenzie, Physical Plant-building custodial and support services; John Phillips, Physical Plant-building custodial and support services; M. Montgomery Porter III,

intercollegiate athletics; Dale Allen Shepard, Physical Plant-utilities; and Mary Jo Starks, Physical Plant-building custodial and support services.

Five years—Mark L. Belmar, Physical Plant-building custodial and support services; Barbara J. Cline, teaching, learning and leadership; Karen E. Crane, Davis Dining Services; Christen L. Crowley, Human Resources; James W. Dancy, Physical Plant-building custodial and support services; Marianne DeAngelis, Valley #2 Dining Service; Kathy A. Denemy, Bernhard Center Dining Service; Douglas Engebretsen, College of Education; Dan G. Malley, Physical Plant-building custodial and support services; Betty Merrifield, Davis Dining Services; Cathleen S. Smith, College of Engineering and Applied Sciences; Mary Ann Stark, Bronson School of Nursing; Ruth Wagenaar, Physical Plant-building custodial and support services; Earlie M. Washington, School of Social Work; and Jeffrey A. Winkle, Physical Plant-building custodial and support services.

Alumni gift funds horn studio to recruit, support students

A gift from a Colorado couple with deep ties to WMU will establish a permanent endowment for a horn studio to recruit talented music students and support their activities once they arrive on campus.

Robert R. Fink, a longtime WMU music professor and former chairperson of what was then the WMU Department of Music, and his wife, WMU alumna Ruth J. Fink, are supporting the creation of the Robert R. and Ruth J. Fink Horn Studio Endowment with an initial gift of \$30,000. They also will make annual gifts of \$1,500 to support the French Horn Studio until the endowment becomes active. Proceeds from the endowment will be at the discretion of the director of the WMU School of Music.

"The school of music is especially pleased that this gift will be used to support enrichment activities for all horn students and recruitment activities, such as Horn Fest, which will attract top-notch students to the school of music," says Richard O'Hearn, the school's director.

Robert Fink became WMU's first full-time faculty specialist in horn in 1957. He was a founding member of the Western Brass Quintet and Western Wind Quintet



Robert and Ruth Fink

and principal horn in the Kalamazoo Symphony Orchestra for 10 years. In 1978, he was appointed dean of the College of Music at the University of Colorado at Boulder, where he served until retiring in 1993. Ruth Fink served UC-Boulder as an adjunct education professor and director of disability services. She also worked as a speech-language pathologist, special education teacher, teacher trainer, educational diagnostician, learning disabilities specialist, and regular and special education consultant.

International Week features top state department official

A top official from the U.S. Department of State will kick off WMU's observance of International Education Week, which runs Monday through Saturday, Nov. 14-19. Richard T. Miller, deputy assistant secretary of state for economic and global issues, will give a free talk on "The United States in the United Nations" from 3:30-5 p.m. Monday in 3301 Friedmann.

Miller is a career member of the Senior Foreign Service and previously was executive assistant to the undersecretary for arms control and international security. He also has served in several positions related to the United Nations as well as economic, development and trade issues.

The United Nations; foreign movies, music and dance; overseas learning experiences; world geography; and African culture all will be showcased during International Education Week. The events are being organized by the Haenicke Institute for Global Education in conjunction with the national observance of International Education Week. All events are open to the public. Most are free and take place on the main WMU campus.

For more information about Miller's visit, call 7-5885. A complete list of activities taking place on campus during the week is available online at www.wmich.edu/wmu/news.

Jobs

The following vacancies are currently being posted through the Job Opportunity Program by the Human Resource Services Department. Interested benefits-eligible employees should submit a job opportunity transfer application during the posting period and may contact a human resource services staff member for assistance in securing these positions.

Employees may call the Applicant Information Service at 7-3669 to hear the weekly Job Opportunity Program postings, seven days a week, 24 hours a day, from a Touch Tone phone.

For persons interested in faculty positions, there are openings in selected fields. A letter of application should be submitted to the appropriate dean or chairperson.

(R) **Chairperson-Mathematics**, 000, College of Arts and Sciences, 05/06-4965, 11/7/05 until filled

(R) **Senior Clerk**, 11, WMU Bookstore, 05/06-4976, 11/7-11/14/05

(R), **Head Teacher Child Care**, (term ends 9/30/06), 13, Children's Place Learning Center, 05/06-4987, 11/7-11/14/05

(R), **Utility Food Worker**, (academic year, 23 hours per week), F1, Bernhard Center Dining, 05/06-4988, 11/7-11/14/05

N= New; R= Replacement

WMU is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer.

Exchange

FOR SALE—1994 Ford Escort-Wagon. 5-speed manual, 77,000 miles. A/C, stereo/tape deck, M&M blue, excellent condition. \$2,475. Call (269) 342-9935.

Obituary

Reginald A. Gammon, emeritus in art, died Nov. 3 in Albuquerque, N.M. He was 84.



Gammon

The nationally known painter and printmaker taught at WMU for 21 years, retiring in 1991. His works, which focused on people in the context of social justice issues, have been exhibited around the nation.

His painting "Laying Out in Philadelphia" was featured in the 2003 Smithsonian Institution calendar.

Gammon studied at the Philadelphia Museum College of Art and the Stella Elkins Tyler School of Fine Art at Temple University.

Ethics center marks 20 years

An informal reception and nine-member panel discussion Tuesday, Nov. 15, in 208 Bernhard will mark the 20th anniversary of the Center for the Study of Ethics in Society. The reception begins at 3 p.m. and the panel discussion at 3:30 p.m.

The panelists will include Shirley Bach, center associate director; Sandra Borden and Michael Pritchard, center co-directors; and Diether Haenicke, WMU president emeritus. They will discuss the center's past, present and future and reflect on the purpose of an interdisciplinary ethics center.

On Campus with David Kotecki



HAPPY HUNTER
(Photo by Jeanne Baron)

David Kotecki, environmental safety and emergency management, is happy hunting down mold, poor air quality and excessively noisy equipment. The gregarious industrial hygienist enjoys keeping WMU employees safe.

"The biggest gem in the job is helping individuals and helping them help themselves," Kotecki says. "Keeping people healthy and safe is a great feeling."

Kotecki came to WMU in 1989 and was promoted to his current post a year later. Previously, he spent nearly 25 years in industry as a metallurgist for a foundry, a juice and spreads processing manager for a food company and a chemical division production/process manager for a pharmaceutical company.

Now as an industrial hygienist, he deals with work place health issues, including physical and chemical hazards; makes sure WMU complies with state and federal Occupational Health and Safety Administration regulations; and provides advice and technical support to the University community. He says his biggest job challenge is deciphering changes to OSHA rules so he can explain them in training programs for employees.

"We have a lot of opportunities for issues to arise, but everybody does a great job preventing them," Kotecki adds. "WMU people are very concerned about health and safety, and that makes my job a lot easier. It's also satisfying because everyone in my office gets along, cooperates with each other and represents the University very well."

Kotecki, who has four children and eight grandchildren, earned a bachelor's degree in biology from WMU and later picked up a bachelor's degree in occupational health and safety from another institution. When not hunting down hazards on campus, he operates a vegetable truck farm in Almena near Paw Paw, goes fishing, and raises a specific strain of Labrador Retrievers as pets and for pheasant and upland bird hunting.

Innovation Fund _____ continued from page 1

an opportunity for faculty and staff members to advance WMU, to challenge the status quo and to shape the institution for the years ahead."

Any WMU employee, either individually or as part of a unit or a series of collaborating units, is eligible to submit one or more proposals for funding. With the advice of a nine-person review panel, the president will grant monetary awards to the best projects, based on a merit-review process that will use weighted criteria. The innovative qualities exhibited by proposals will account for 50 percent of the panel's consideration, with 10 percent each assigned to proposal qualities in the areas of mission focus, impact, feasibility, measurable outcomes and expertise.

The review panel will be led by Dean Nicholas Andreadis, Extended University Programs. In addition to Andreadis, the panel will consist of three faculty members, three staff members and two administrators. The first award decisions will be announced Feb. 15, and funds for the awards will be released on March 1.

"I am convinced that passion and innovation and the desire to elevate our University to the highest level of excellence can be found throughout this University," Bailey said in an Oct. 31 message to the WMU community. "I am looking forward as much to the energy level I expect this competition to generate as I am to the very real advancements this effort will produce."

More information about the awards and a link to a complete set of guidelines is available online at www.wmich.edu/president/.

Care packages _____ continued from page 1

"Anyone can donate, and we'll accept just about anything," she adds. "We try to include a mix of things in each box. Cash is ok, too. We can use it for shipping and to buy fill-in items."

LaChance says the packages are opened in a central area, with generic items shared among everyone in the addressee's unit, and she rarely knows the status of the units—some move frequently and can only keep what they can carry.

So, she recommends that people donate items that are light-weight and aren't too big or expensive, as they may have to be left behind should the unit move. Staples she likes to have on hand include personal hygiene items, nonperishable foods, and games and

other entertainment items. Toys that can be given out to Iraqi children are also big winners, as is WMU memorabilia.

"It's just an action from our hearts and I wouldn't give it up for the world," LaChance says. "We're always going to have people over there. This is our way of giving the University community a chance to do something if they want to. We're not supporting the war. We're supporting the people and their families, and I know they really appreciate it."

To submit addresses of those serving in the military, make a care package donation or be added to the contributors' e-mail list, contact LaChance by calling 7-4300 or sending e-mail to dori.lachance@wmich.edu.

MLK speaker _____ continued from page 1

Wu was named dean in 2004. He was on the law faculty of Howard University from 1995 to 2004 and has been an adjunct professor at Columbia University, a visiting professor at the University of Michigan and a teaching fellow at Stanford University. He has been active in numerous professional and civil rights groups, wrote "Yellow: Race in America Beyond Black and White," and co-wrote "Race, Rights and Reparation: Law and the Japanese American Internment."

Among the other activities taking place during this year's MLK celebration are a kickoff celebration Sunday, Jan. 8, in Kalamazoo; a Citywide Community Day of Service Monday, Jan. 16, that will include a children's fair; and a variety of sponsored activities and programs Tuesday through Friday, Jan. 17-20. More information will be posted online at www.wmich.edu/mlkday as it becomes available.

Literature racks available for use

The campus community is invited to use the Bernhard Center's literature rack on the Bronco Mall level near the ATM to distribute official University materials that are 8-1/2 x 11 inches or smaller and are not time sensitive.

Examples of suitable materials include departmental recruitment brochures, student organization descriptions and Sindecuse health fliers. Bernhard Center staff will restock the rack if users provide extra copies of their materials.

For more information about this free service, contact Sue Green at 7-4888 or sue.green@wmich.edu.