



Western NEWS

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For and about WMU faculty and staff

United Way drive tops 75 percent of \$210,000 goal

More than 75 percent of WMU's \$210,000 goal for the United Way was received in the first month of the campus campaign. As of Tuesday, Oct. 25, a total of \$156,788 in gifts and pledges had been received from 1,032 WMU donors. Campaign leaders hope to exceed the goal next week.

CEO of Southwest Michigan First kicks off Keystone breakfast series

Ronald Kitchens, chief executive officer of Southwest Michigan First, will tell his audience "It's About Jobs," Friday, Oct. 28, when he talks about community



Kitchens

economic development and job creation in the first event of the University's 2005-06 Keystone Community Bank Breakfast Speaker Series.

Kitchens will speak at 7:30 a.m. in 2150 Schneider.

Reservations are required for the free presentation and may be made by calling the Office of the Dean in the Haworth College of Business at 7-5050.

Kitchens took the reins of Kalamazoo's economic development organization in July. Prior to coming to Kalamazoo, he served as the head of economic development organizations in Missouri and Texas. In his nearly 20 years of experience, he has been a businessman, city administrator, elected official and U.S. Senate staffer.

Acclaimed inventor to speak

Famed inventor and author Ray Kurzweil will speak at WMU at 7 p.m., Thursday, Nov. 3, in Room 4010 of the College of Health and Human Services building.

Kurzweil's lecture is also part of the Burian Lecture Series, named after the founding dean of the College of Health and Human Services. The event is free and open to the public.

A best-selling author and one of the leading inventors of our time, Kurzweil has worked in such areas as music synthesis, speech and character recognition software, reading technology, virtual reality and cybernetic art. He was the principal developer of the first omni-font optical character recognition, the first print-to-speech reading machine for the blind, the first text-to-speech synthesizer and the first music synthesizer capable of recreating the grand piano and other orchestral instruments.

He was the recipient in 2001 of MIT's \$500,000 Lemelson Prize. In 1999, he received the National Medal of Technology, the nation's highest honor in technology, from President Clinton in a White House ceremony.

University scares up a great weekend of homecoming celebration opportunities

Halloween is just around the corner, and the University is treating the campus and public to a weekend of exciting activities during its homecoming 2005 celebration.

The celebration, which carries the theme "Around the World in 7 Days," is a prelude to the annual homecoming football game, which this year pits the WMU Broncos against Kent State University at 2 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 29.

Many of the other activities taking place this weekend are free and open to the public.

WMU students will be helping the community celebrate homecoming by participating in various contests Friday, Oct. 15, during the

traditional Friday Festival. The free event will feature the soap box derby at noon on Gilkinson Avenue in front of the Sindecuse Health Center, then move to Goldsworth Valley for the Fritter Fest at 2 p.m. and Western Olympics at 3:30 p.m.

Saturday's activities will begin with the annual running of the Campus Classic, which is expected to attract as many as 1,500 runners and walkers to the central campus. The event begins at 8:15 a.m. with a 1K kids' fun run and walk. At 9 a.m., the 5K will begin and end in front of the Bernhard Center. For more information or to register for the race, go online to www.wmich.edu/race.

On game day, numerous Bronco fans will be revving up for the football contest by gathering in the corporate area of the tent village next to Waldo Stadium, while many others will gather at the Alumni Association's PepFest. Due to the possibility of cold

weather on Saturday, both the PepFest and annual Campus Classic race/walk awards ceremony have been moved indoors this year to the Bernhard Center.

Additional activities taking place throughout homecoming weekend include:

- The University Theatre production of "Proof" by David Auburn, which won the 2001 Pulitzer Prize for Drama, at 8 p.m. Thursday through Saturday, Oct. 27-29, and at 2 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 30, in the Mul-

tiform Theatre of the Gilmore Theatre Complex.

- Alfred and Seymour's hip-hop dancing and comedy at 9 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 27, in the Bern-

hard Center's East Ballroom.

- A concert by singer/pianist Ben Folds at 8 p.m. Friday, Oct. 28, in Miller Auditorium.

- A reception and dinner program for the Class of 1955's 50th Anniversary Reunion 30 minutes after the football game Saturday, Oct. 29, in the Bernhard Center.

- The annual National Pan-Hellenic Council March Down at 6 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 29, in Miller Auditorium.

- Hockey vs. Ohio State University at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 29, in Lawson Arena.

More information about the activities taking place at WMU during homecoming week, including whether admission fees will be charged, is available by visiting the WMU Homecoming Web site at www.wmich.edu/homecoming or the Events page in WMU News.



Campus prepares for Higher Learning Commission visit

WMU's administration, faculty, staff and students will have a chance to meet early next month with a two-person team representing the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools.

In town to follow up on the commission's comprehensive accreditation visit of February 2001, the two consultant evaluators will be on campus Monday and Tuesday, Nov. 7 and 8, for a mandated focused visit to review progress in the areas of strategic planning and assessment of student academic achievement. Those were issues the 2001 team identified as areas in which WMU faced particular challenges and needed additional focus. The 2005 team consists of Sharon J. Hamilton, associate dean of

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Program for gifted teens now calls honors college home

A program for gifted middle and high school students that serves 50 school districts in West Michigan has found a new home at WMU.

The Academically Talented Youth Program—known as ATYP—is now an official part of the Lee Honors College. The initiative annually serves about 150 students in eight Michigan counties with a combination of online courses and seminars offered on the WMU campus.

Students who come into the ATYP program as seventh-graders, typically are in the top 5 percent of their classes and are ready for college-level course work by the 10th grade. Typically, ATYP students will dual enroll in both high school and college courses for their last two years of high school,

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Around Campus

Ethics in medical research topic of Friday presentation

A professor of medicine will explore ethical questions in research in a presentation at 1 p.m. Friday, Oct. 28, in 204 Bernhard Center.

Dr. Richard Sharp, of the Center for Medical Ethics and Health Policy at Baylor College of Medicine, will address "Consensus and Conflict in Research Ethics." Before joining the center in 2002, Sharp worked as a biomedical ethicist at the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences, one of the National Institutes of Health, and received his bachelor's degree in philosophy and sociology from WMU in 1990.

His professional interests focus on ethical issues in genetic research, with his recent work examining how members of historically disadvantaged racial and ethnic groups can be placed at risk by genetic studies. His appearance is sponsored by the WMU Center for the Study of Ethics in Society.

Famous children's book team to speak at Waldo Library

A husband and wife who have combined their talents to create award-winning children's books will visit the WMU campus on Tuesday, Nov. 1.

Sarah Stewart and David Small will talk about their collaboration in a presentation from 4 to 6 p.m. in the Meader Rare Book Room of Waldo Library. Their talk is titled "Two Points of View: A Talk About Coming Together—But Not Really—on Their Books."

When working together, Stewart writes the text and Small does the illustrations. Their books include "The Friend," "The Gardener," "The Journey," "The Money Tree" and "The Library." "The Gardener" received the Caldecott Honor Award in 1998. Small's book "So You Want to Be President" was named a Caldecott Medal Book in 2001, while his book "Imogene's Antlers" has sold more than a million copies and been translated into Italian and French.

Public art that shocks is topic of annual Hamner lecture

Public art that sparks controversy and what such controversy reveals about American society will be the topic when Pulitzer Prize-winning historian Michael Kammen speaks at the University Wednesday, Nov. 9.

Kammen, who will deliver WMU's annual H. Nicholas Hamner Lecture, will discuss "Visual Shock: Controversial Art in American History and Culture" in a free public lecture at 7 p.m. in 1005 Fetzer. Kammen is the Newton C. Farr Professor of American History and Culture at Cornell University and the Cardozo Visiting Distinguished Professor at Yale University.

Part of Kammen's talk will look at the 1960s as a pivotal point in the emergence of inconclastic or "in your face" art, says Mitch Kachun, history and coordinator of the event. West Michigan, specifically the Grand Rapids community, was the scene of one such controversy in 1969, when a large sculpture by Alexander Calder, La Grande Vitesse, was installed in what is now known as Calder Plaza. The work, which generated significant controversy was the first public work of sculpture acquired with funds from the then-new National Endowment for the Arts.

Statistician to speak Nov. 3

Nationally known statistician Robert V. Hogg, professor emeritus at the University of Iowa, will visit WMU Thursday, Nov. 3, to speak about "Probability, Statistics, Gambling and Utility of Money and Insurance."

Hogg's talk is set for 4 p.m. in 1110 Rood and is sponsored by the Department of Statistics.

Hogg is the author of more than 70 research articles and five books, including one, "Introduction to Mathematical Statistics" written with Allen T. Craig of Iowa and WMU's Joseph W. McKean.

These and many other campus events are described in greater detail on the WMU News Web site at www.wmich.edu/wmu/news.

Harper earns design honors

Sheri Harper, interior designer with re-modeling services, won top honors for two campus design projects during the 2005 meeting of the Association of University Designers held recently at the University of Kentucky.

Harper received a first place design award in the new construction category as well as a "Best in Show" nod for her design work on the WMU-Southwest facility on the campus of Lake Michigan College in Benton Harbor, Mich. The facility was opened in 2002.

She also won a first place design award in the category of renovations over \$150,000 for her work on campustrends, the new WMU women's apparel store on the lower level of the Bernhard Center. The store opened earlier this year.

Harper attended the conference with Jo Morrisson and Julie Lenczycki, also of WMU's interior design area.

Wagner invited to Japanese school

Bret J. Wagner, management, has been invited to travel to Aoyama Gakuin University in Tokyo this December to make a presentation on his work.



Wagner

Wagner is the co-author of the textbook "Concepts in Enterprise Resource Planning," which was released in April as a second edition. Two faculty members at the Tokyo

school who translated the first edition are also translating the second edition into Japanese. They received a grant to bring Wagner and his co-author, Ellen Monk of the University of Delaware to the Tokoyo campus for a presentation on ERP systems.

A WMU faculty member since 2000, Wagner directs WMU's Integrated Supply Matrix Management Program. His areas of expertise include production planning, supply chain management and ERP systems.

Liu selected as journal editor

Yuanlong Liu, health, physical education and recreation, has been selected as the editor of the journal *Measurement in Physical Education and Exercise Science*, effective June 2006.



Liu

Liu, a WMU faculty member since 1998, is a fellow of the American Alliance of Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance.

In recent years, he has served as a member of the editorial board for MPEES, and he earned the journal's "Reviewer of the Year" award in 2003. He also is a member of the editorial advisory board of the *International Sports Journal*.

The MPEES is a journal of the American Alliance of Physical Education, Recreation and Dance and three organizations that fall under its auspices—the American Association for Active Lifestyles and Fitness, the American Association for Leisure and Recreation and the Measurement and Evaluation Council. The peer-reviewed quarterly journal was established in 1997.



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



WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY

Obituary

Gordon Smith, who managed Miller Auditorium for 16 years, died Oct. 8 in Ypsilanti, Mich. He was 75.

Smith was the Miller manager from 1967 until 1983. The Kalamazoo native's long career in the theatre industry also included several other West Michigan positions, including technical director and auditorium manager at Chenery Auditorium and technical and business manager for the Kalamazoo Community Youth Theatre.

He also served as the general manager of the Greater DeMoines (Iowa) Civic Center. Smith was an honorary life member of the International Association of Auditorium Managers and a member of the International Society of Performing Arts Administrators.

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) **Office Associate** (term ends 6/30/09), 13, Development, 05/06-4961, 10/24-10/31/05

(R) **Paper Plant Operator**, 15, Paper and Chemical Engineering and Imaging-Paper Pilot Plant, 05/06-4963 10/24-10/31/05

(N) **Coordinator, Asylum Lake and Environmental Research**, 16, Environmental Institute, 05/06-4967, 10/24-10/31/05

(N) **Coordinator of Digitization Projects** (term ends 9/30/06), 15, University Libraries, 05/06-4968, 10/24-10/31/05

N= New; R= Replacement

WMU is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer.

Exchange

FOR RENT—Two- or three-bedroom apartment in downtown Kalamazoo. 1,200 square feet. Recently remodeled with huge, deluxe kitchen and bath. Hardwood and glass tile. Garage, laundry, dishwasher and air conditioning. \$850 per month. Call (269) 998-3699.

MULTI-FAMILY SALE—Indoor multi-family garage sale at the Vineyards, 28201 Red Arrow Highway Saturday, Nov. 5, from 7:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.

FOR RENT—Two-bedroom, two-bath West side duplex. Close to campus. All appliances, including washer/dryer. Two-car unattached garage. Quiet neighborhood. No pets or smokers. Short term possible. Available now. Call (269) 353-6527.

FOR RENT—Two bedroom, two-bath duplex on West side close to campus. Beautiful kitchen with all appliances, including washer/dryer. No pets or smokers. Short term possible. Available Jan. 1. Call (269) 353-6527.

Service

The following employees are recognized for 35, 30, 25, 20, 15, 10 and five years of service during October.

35 years—Joseph J. Odehnal, physical plant-utilities.

30 years—Gail Otis Birch, School of Music; Ruth A. DeYoung, Valley #2 Dining Service; and Diane A. Sopjes, Valley #1 Dining Service.

25 Years—Ursula Barrett, Burnham Dining Service; and Dennis E. Boyle, Office of Information Technology.

20 years—Ruth A. Bosch, Sindecuse Health Center; Laverne Jones, physical plant-building custodial and support services; Patricia A. Putman, physical plant-building custodial and support services; William E. Rotgers, Haworth College of Business; Julie A. Scott, Office of Information Technology; Terri D. Stowers, University Libraries; and Lois J. Tolhurst, University Libraries.

Committee accepting proposals for campus cultural initiatives

The University Cultural Events Committee is accepting proposals for partial funding of activities, which will enhance the cultural environment of the WMU campus.

Proposals for fall and spring semester events are being accepted for consideration. Proposals may be submitted by students, faculty or staff. Each proposal must include all pertinent information and be endorsed by the head of the appropriate unit.

Application materials, including guidelines, preparation instructions and an application form, are available online at www.wmich.edu/cc. For further information, contact Carl Doubleday, the committee chair, at 7-4681 or carl.doubleday@wmich.edu.

WMU research aids people with communication disorders

Being able to say what you want to say when you want to say it is taken for granted by most people, but for people with severe speech impairments, communication is not so easy.

With that spirit in mind, WMU is leading a three-university research project with the help of a federal grant that will examine how people with severe communication impairments can communicate more effectively using voice output computers.

The grant, from the National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders of the National Institutes of Health, is for \$340,000 for the first year, but subsequent funds for the next two years are expected to bring the total to nearly \$1 million. Researchers at WMU, Kansas State University and the University of Delaware will use the funding to test a model predicting the impact of voice output computer messages on the attitudes of public service providers. The model ultimately could lead to better design of assistive technology for people who rely on those computer systems for communication.

"For the past five years, we have been experimenting with one type of voice output computer," says Jan Bedrosian, speech pathology and audiology, who is the project's lead researcher. "The computer allows for

15 Years—Roy A. Middlebrooks, Bernhard Center Dining Service; Carolyn R. Noack, physical plant-recycling; Diane M. Sayers, Valley #2 Dining Service; Betty Wyant Stora, Sindecuse Health Center; Bryan K. Sutton, physical plant-maintenance services; Tony M. Thompson, physical plant-building custodial and support services; and Moon Walters, Bernhard Center Dining Service.

10 Years—Don R. Beyer, intercollegiate athletics; Susan Ann Nap, College of Arts and Sciences; Debra K. Stoyanoff, Mallinson Institute for Science Education; Kathryn A. Wright, geosciences; and Carrie Zimmerman, civil and construction engineering.

Five years—Aradhana Gupta, Development Office; Rainer B. Liebert, Sindecuse Health Center; Peggy L. Miller, human resources; Nancy S. Wilson, public safety; and Michael D. Wolfe, West Hills Athletic Club.

Paper Tech Foundation meets today

The 46th annual meeting of the WMU Paper Technology Foundation is being held on campus today and tomorrow, Thursday and Friday, Oct. 27 and 28.

The event will feature a keynote speech by James Works, president and chief operating officer of the George Group and author of "Fast Innovation," a groundbreaking book that focuses on how to sustain market-leading growth through innovation.

This year's meeting will include reunions for WMU paper engineering classes of 1955, 1965, 1975, 1985 and 1995. Current WMU students also will have a chance to talk with the industry leaders who are part of the foundation about internships, summer jobs and post-graduate employment.

the storage and relatively quick retrieval of one or more sentences in an effort to increase the user's rate of communication, which is especially important when interacting in public places. The people using the computers have to anticipate their communication needs, compose and store the messages, and then hope that these pre-stored messages 'fit' the communicative situation."

But even ordinary social interactions can become complex, and no matter how hard people try to anticipate every possibility, problems still arise. For example, "the computer message may not have enough information or may be only partly relevant to that situation," Bedrosian says. "When this happens, the person could choose to use the message anyway, even though it may be slightly 'off,' so that there won't be a long delay in the conversation. As a second choice, the person could take the time to edit the message letter-by-letter and create a message to better fit the situation. With either choice, communication is flawed.

In their previous NIH-funded project, the researchers developed a theoretical model that consists of a hierarchy of these types of message choices. In the current project, the research team will test how well this model holds up across a greater variety of message choices, settings and service providers.

On Campus with Penny Schellenberg



SEVEN'S A CHARM
(Photo by Jeanne Baron)

Whether steering a bus or being office manager for the Lewis Walker Institute for the Study of Race and Ethnic Relations, Penny Schellenberg gets around.

The former school bus driver and cashier has worked in seven areas since coming to WMU in 1987: cashiering, alumni relations, the Registrar's Office, Self-instructional Programs, study abroad, and environmental health and safety. Her last job change was in 2003, when after being laid off, she became administrative assistant in the Walker Institute.

"Except for the last one, all of those moves were voluntary and either a step up the ladder or a chance to work directly with students," Schellenberg says. "But it's turned out great. I love working at the institute, and my knowing so many people and offices around campus has helped me a lot in my current job."

In addition to Schellenberg, the Walker Institute employs a director, four student employees and two interns. To keep the small unit running smoothly, Schellenberg is called upon to handle a variety of tasks, including supervising the student staff, doing the bookkeeping, and coordinating speaker visits.

She says the best part of the job is continually learning new things.

"The reality of how harsh life was for slaves and many others has been an eye-opener," she says. "We take it for granted that if it's in a textbook, it's true. It's just amazing to me the things I thought I knew but really didn't."

Schellenberg lives in Scotts and enjoys spending time with her five grandchildren as well as traveling and creating stained glass with her husband. The two have stayed in close touch with several international students and proudly note that the glass pieces they've presented to them and their families now hang in homes in India, Africa and other places around the world.

Campus visit _____ continued from page 1

the faculties at Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis, who is the team chair, and Ralph J. Katerberg, associate professor of business administration at the University of Cincinnati.

WMU has been accredited by the North Central Association continuously since 1915. In 2001, a team of consultant evaluators visited to assess the University's two-year self-examination, which is part of the regular reaccreditation process that occurs every 10 years. The visit resulted in WMU being re-accredited. In its final report, however, the 2001 team singled out institutional strategic planning and assessment of student academic achievement as particular areas of challenge for the institution and recommended a fall 2005 focused site visit to review progress on both fronts.

"Since that visit, the University has completed the revision of its mission and has been engaged in formulating a set of strategic goals and formalizing an assessment process designed to improve both student learning outcomes and the quality of our programs," says Eileen Evans, vice provost for institutional effectiveness, who has coordinated the preparations for this month's focused visit. "Since 2001, countless hours of effort have made us a stronger and more focused institution."

Evans, whose office and responsibilities grew out of the recommendations of the 2001 site visit, says planning to address the commission's concerns began immediately after the 2001 visit. In November 2004, a focused visit steering committee was formed, bringing together a dozen faculty members and administrators who also have served on campuswide planning and assessment com-

mittees. The steering committee compiled a report on progress in those two areas, which was sent to the commission in preparation for the focused visit. The report, which is available at www.wmich.edu/poapa/HLC, details the University's re-examination of its mission and goals, implementation of the new mission statement, the current work being done to define and refine WMU's strategic plan, and implementation of assessment initiatives across the University. The report also details program changes resulting from new assessment activities.

Using the committee's prepared report as a guide, Hamilton and Katerberg will examine the changes over the past four years by meeting with the president and members of the administration, academic deans and campuswide committees related to assessment. They also will meet with faculty, staff and students in two open forums set for the afternoon of Monday, Nov. 7. Evans says that at the end of its visit, the team will advise President Bailey and Provost Delene of its recommendations to the commission. Formal notification of any HLC decisions will be made late in 2005 or early 2006.

Open forums scheduled

Open forums are scheduled to allow faculty, staff and students to meet with a two-person team from the North Central Association's Higher Learning Commission when the team visits campus Nov. 7 and 8.

An open meeting for students is set for 3 p.m. Monday, Nov. 7, in 204 Bernhard Center. A meeting for faculty and staff will follow in the same location at 4 p.m.

ATYP _____ continued from page 1

and many enter college with a significant number of credits already earned.

"ATYP is unique because it is funded primarily by Michigan school districts and offered during the school year," says Carol McCarthy, who has directed ATYP since 1998. "In other states and elsewhere in Michigan, programs for academically talented students are run during the summer and on weekends. This is a program that allows students an opportunity to meet and work with other students who are both their intellectual and age peers."

Mathematics is the focus of the advanced course work and seminars that now are ATYP staples, but other disciplines could be addressed in the future. To take part, students must achieve a minimum score of 520 on the SAT. Talented middle school students in West Michigan typically take the SAT by invitation through an annual talent search conducted by Northwestern University. McCarthy works with school districts to follow up on the results of that search and invite qualified students and their parents to consider ATYP and its benefits.

"Middle-school students come to us doing accelerated high school work," McCarthy says. "By 10th grade, they're ready for the challenge of college work."

And for their final two years of high school, McCarthy notes, tuition for dual-enrolled students is covered by their school districts. Currently, WMU has just over 100 high school students who are dual enrolled.

ATYP, which began in 1981, has had an informal affiliation with WMU since 1998. The new arrangement, which was effective at the start of the fall 2005 semester, makes ATYP an official part of the University.