Trustees to convene Dec. 10
The University’s Board of Trustees will meet at 9 a.m. Friday, Dec. 10, in 157-159 Bernhard Center.
The board is expected to go into closed informal session at the start of its meeting.
The formal public session will begin at approximately 10 a.m.
Agenda items include a formal evaluation of President Judith I. Bailey, consideration of a number of personnel items, a proposal to approve a new master’s degree program and updates on both the new chemistry building and the First Year Experience being implemented for beginning students.

Three commencement times set
The University will confer more than 2,400 degrees during commencement ceremonies Saturday, Dec. 11.
President Judith I. Bailey will preside over three ceremonies in Miller Auditorium, during which 1,782 bachelor’s degrees, 611 master’s degrees, three specialist degrees and 54 doctoral degrees will be awarded.
The 9 a.m. ceremony is for graduates of the colleges of Arts and Sciences, Fine Arts, and Health and Human Services. The 11:30 a.m. ceremony is for graduates of the College of Education and Extended University Programs. The final ceremony at 2 p.m. is for graduates of the College of Aviation, College of Engineering and Applied Sciences, and Haworth College of Business.

Chinese consul to discuss higher education in his nation
Tonzeng Bao, consul and director of the education section for the Consulate General of the People’s Republic of China in Chicago, will visit the campus Thursday, Dec. 2, to give a “General Review of Higher Education in his nation.”
The talk is set for 4 p.m. in 2708 Wood.
The event, sponsored by the Department of Geography and the Office of International Affairs, is free and open to the public.
Bao will be joined by two additional members of his nation’s Chicago consulate, Hongqing Zhu and Zhiqiang Zhang. The trio will meet with a number of faculty members and University administrators during their visit.

Next issue of Western News will be published Jan. 6
This issue of Western News is the last issue for the fall semester.
Western News will resume publication Jan. 6, at the beginning of the spring semester. Additional spring publication dates are Jan. 20, Feb. 3, Feb. 17, March 10, March 24 and April 7.
For the latest news every day, visit the WMU News Web site at <www.wmich.edu/wmu/news>.

Faculty standouts honored with new appointments to named professorships
Two WMU professors with international renown in their respective fields have been honored with named professorships, President Judith J. Bailey announced Nov. 10.
Christian R. Hirsch, a national leader in the field of mathematics education, was named the James H. Powell Professor of Mathematics, and Nickola W. Nelson, recognized by colleagues around the country for her research, teaching and clinical work, was named the Charles Van Riper Professor of Speech Pathology and Audiology.

Two engineering programs are among best in the nation
The University’s graduate and undergraduate programs in engineering management have been singled out as being among the nation’s best by the American Society for Engineering Management.
WMU’s graduate program in engineering management is ranked as one of the top three in the nation, while its undergraduate program in engineering management technology enjoys a top-five designation.
Announcements of the placings were made at ASEM’s annual meeting in Washington, D.C., in late October.
“David Lyth and Larry Mallak lead our engineering management programs, and we are intensely proud of our engineering management students and alumni,” says Paul Engelsmann, chairperson of industrial and manufacturing engineering, where both programs are housed. “The alumni from these programs have consistently held key positions throughout a variety of industries. Their contributions are important to the health and well-being of Michigan and our nation.”

We wish each of you a holiday season filled with happiness and harmony and a new year graced with both the joy of great accomplishment and the warmth that comes from special relationships.
— Judi and Bren Bailey
First set of Make A Difference awards go to 10 staff members

Ten University staff members have been selected to receive fall 2004 WMU Make a Difference awards, and they will be formally recognized at a reception set for 2 p.m. Friday, Dec. 2.

The University community is invited to attend the awards reception in the Bernhard Center’s Faculty Lounge. During the event, the award recipients will each receive $250 and a commemorative certificate.

The fall recipients are: Amy Burns, College of Education; George Esko, Career and Student Employment Services; Marilyn Johnson, Haworth College of Business; Donna Mearing, Center for Academic Support Programs; Natalia Obreiter, military relations; Robert Park, landscape services; Kathleen Springsteen, College of Education; Chad Stec, student affairs information services; Sandra Stephens, College of Education; and Judy Tice, Haworth College of Business.

The winners were selected by a committee of peers from the participating employee groups of AFSCME, APA, MSEA, FOA, and FSSCO.

The WMU Make A Difference awards program was announced this fall by President Bailey. The program is a campuswide peer-to-peer program that recognizes University staff members for their outstanding accomplishments and daily investment of energy and creativity.

Up to 15 staff members may be selected in each of two semiannual award periods. Semiannual winners are eligible for one of four annual awards, with a $1,000 prize.
United Way 2004 campus campaign surpasses its goal

A Nov. 28 coffee on campus signaled the successful conclusion to WMU’s 2004 United Way campaign, which raised more than $218,000 for Kalamazoo County and neighboring communities.

The campus campaign surpassed its $210,000 goal by more than $8,000, and gifts and pledges are still coming in, according to Linda Jones, Office of the President, who served as WMU campaign chairperson.

“Gifts that are received through the end of this calendar year will count toward the University’s 2004 campaign total,” she says.

During the Nov. 28 event, WMU President Judith I. Bailey praised the campus community for its support of much-needed human services in the community.

“It is heartwarming to see the high level of support and caring that exists at Western,” Bailey said. “I am pleased to see so many faculty and staff, emeriti faculty and retirees, and students participating in our campaign.”

The efforts of AFSCME Local 1668 members who gave to the campaign and participated in United Way Day of Caring projects won particular praise from Bailey and Donald Weaver, chairperson for the AFSCME United Way leadership team.

Two student organizations that held United Way fund-raisers also were lauded.

The Student Employee Board raised funds in support of the Boys and Girls Clubs of Kalamazoo, and business fraternity Alpha Kappa Psi held a United Way fund-raiser at an exhibition basketball game.

PSSO holiday event will have a Hawaiian theme

The Professional Support Staff Organization—PSSO—will turn to a tropical holiday motif for a “Hawaiian Social” Wednesday, Dec. 15.

All faculty and staff members are invited to come and share the joys of the holiday season. The event is set for 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. in the Fetzer Center. Additional details and a formal invitation are available on the PSSO Web site at www.wmich.edu/psso. Those with questions should contact Carrie Sole at 7-3625.

Check Web for closing info

With winter weather in play, faculty and staff members are reminded that campus closings are rare, and when they do occur, are immediately publicized online in WMU News, <www.wmich.edu/wmu/news>; on the campus emergency line, 7-1001; and in the local media.

Jobs

While a campuswide job freeze remains in effect, the following vacancies have been approved for posting as positions that are essential for the continued operation of the unit represented. All position authorizations must have the approval of a WMU vice president to be posted during the hiring freeze.

Vacancies are posted through the Job Opportunity Program by human resources. Interested benefits-eligible employees should submit job opportunity transfer application during the posting period, and may contact a human resource services staff member for assistance.

Employees may call the Applicant Information Service at 7-3669 to hear the weekly job postings.

(R) Parking Enforcement Officer, 10, Public Safety, 04/05-4584, 11/29-12/6/04

(R) Director, Printing Pilot Plant, 19, Paper and Printing Pilot Plants, 04/05-4596, 11/29-12/6/05

(R) Office Associate, 13, College of Engineering and Applied Sciences, 04/05-4606, 11/29-12/6/04

(R) Assistant Professor (term appointment, annual academic year, ending 8/31/2005), 130, Occupational Therapy, 04/05-4607, 11/29-12/6/04

(R) Parking Clerk, 10, Public Safety, 04/05-4608, 11/29-12/6/04

R= Replacement

WMU is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer.

The last internal job posting period for December 2004 is Monday, Dec. 13, through Monday, Dec. 20. To be included in the year’s last posting, position authorizations must be received in human resource services by 5 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 8.

The first internal job posting period for January 2005 is Monday, Jan. 3, through Monday, Jan. 10. To be included in that posting, position authorizations must be received in human resource services by 5 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 21.

Service

The following employees are celebrating 35, 30, 25, 20, 15, 10 and five years of service to the University during December.

35 years—Umar F. Abdul-Mutakallim, physical plant-building custodial and support services; and Jerry E. Fuss, Accounts Payable.

30 years—Robert J. Dlouhy, Career English Language Center for International Students; Kathleen A. Goyer, management; and Carole A. VanDyken, physical plant-building custodial and support services.

25 years—Janice S. Clevergen, physical plant-landscape services; Stacie J. Dineen, physical plant-maintenance services; Tracie L. Shearburn, accounting; and Danny L. Sluss, physical plant-maintenance services.

20 years—Sharon M. Van Dyken, Haworth College of Business.

15 years—Ray T. Cool, health, physical education and recreation; James C. Cotton, information technology; Petronia R. Douglass, University Libraries; Nancy Emers, English; Timothy A. Ender, telecommunications; Susan R. Stapleton, chemistry; Sharaene R. Sutton, physical plant-building custodial and support services.

10 years—Jerry G. Horn, Evaluation Center; Pamela Mottley, Office of the Vice President for Research; and Fatti J. VanWalbeck, Accounting Services.

5 years—Bradley J. Baeuin, electrical and computer engineering; Amber L. Lawrence, Center for Disability Services; Timothy B. Palmer, management; Kenneth A. Rand, physical plant-building custodial and support services; Michael P. Smith, Public Safety; Irene E. Way, School of Social Work; Jennifer Wiebold, blindness and low vision studies; and Li Yang, computer science.

Exchange

FOR RENT—Large, very nice two-bedroom apartment in downtown Kalamazoo. Garage with power door, laundry, storage, soft water, $690 per month. Call (269) 345-1454.

FOR SALE—Quad-level home on Kalamazoo’s west side. Four bedrooms, one and one-half baths. Family room has a walkout motif for a “Hawaiian Social” Wednesday, Dec. 15. Additional details and a formal invitation are available on the PSSO Web site at www.wmich.edu/psso. Those with questions should contact Carrie Sole at 7-3625.
On Campus with Patrick Daniel

A love of sports and a desire to help young people led Patrick Daniel to WMU, and now he's leading the University's efforts to facilitate the growth and development of its 28,000 students.

Daniel came to WMU and the Division of Student Affairs in 1999. He was named director of Student Activities and Leadership Programs this past February, after serving University Recreation first as assistant director of intramural sports then as associate director of facilities and recreation programs.

The Kalamazoo native lived in Three Rivers until the sixth grade, then moved to the East Coast, where he attended Towson State University. He says it was a mentor at Towson who showed him how he could mix his love of sports with a career in higher education.

"Every day in University Recreation was a new day, with issues that needed to be taken care of for a patron or facility," Daniel says. "While every day is still a new day, now I have much closer interaction with students. It's very rewarding to work with students, be a part of their development and help them in whatever we can do as an office and staff."

Daniel says the active role he and his office play in the success of students and student organizations keeps him busy well beyond 40 hours a week. He's says that's a fair trade off though, because "I love doing whatever I can to help students."

When not on the job, Daniel enjoys spending time with his family and girlfriend as well as participating in basketball and playing golf and sports video games.

Retirement events set for two veteran staffers

Retirement receptions for two longtime staff members have been scheduled to take place before the holiday break.

James Schaper, who is retiring from his position as director of auxiliary enterprises Jan. 3, will be honored at an event from 4 to 6 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 15, at the Oaklands. Schaper has been a staff member for more than 34 years and oversees such campus operations as the Bernhard Center, Miller Auditorium, the Fetzer Center and the Oaklands.

One day later, Thursday, Dec. 16, Joan Ashley, manager of the WMU Apartments and the Children's Learning Place Center, will be lauded in an event set for 3 to 5 p.m. at the Oaklands. She will also retire Jan. 3, after more than 23 years of service to the University.

Professors honored (continued from page 1)

pend of at least $12,500 for the first three years following their appointments. The stipend is derived from the earnings of an endowment from private donations put at the discretion of the president. Up to one-half of the stipend may be used to augment the faculty member's salary. The balance is to be used for expenditures on appropriate professional endeavors.

Hirsch, a faculty member since 1973, is the director of the Core-Plus Mathematics Project, a research and development project launched in 1992 with funding from the National Science Foundation that has now exceeded $10 million. The CPM Project, which is focused on improving students' mathematics preparation, is currently in use in urban, rural and suburban school districts nationwide.

The professorship Hirsch was appointed to bears the name of the late James Powell. Powell was a 33-year member of the faculty who served as dean of the College of Arts and Sciences from 1966 to 1969 and as a member of the Department of Mathematics and Statistics from 1960 to 1967 and from 1977 to 1984.

Nickola W. Nelson, a faculty member since 1981, also serves as associate dean for research in the College of Health and Human Services. She has had a distinguished career as a teacher, clinician and researcher. Her special areas of expertise include language and learning difficulties in children, classroom amplification and the use of computers to address language disorders. Nelson's research has been supported by the U.S. Department of Education and the National Institutes of Health.

The professorship Nelson was appointed to bears the name of Charles G. Van Riper, of his appointment to WMU in 1936 to develop a curriculum in speech correction and to establish a reputable, scientifically-based speech clinic. During his WMU career, Van Riper built and ran not only the speech clinic, but also the internationally recognized Department of Speech Pathology and Audiology. One of his textbooks remains a primary teaching tool in today's classrooms. He retired in 1976, following four decades at WMU, and died in 1994.

Engineering rankings (continued from page 1)

Each year since 1991, ASEM has named programs at both the graduate and undergraduate levels as tops in the nation. The top program at each level wins the Founders Award for Academic Excellence for Leadership in Engineering and Technical Management, and ASEM lists the other eight veteran staffers.

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