State of University Address set for Nov. 10 in Dalton Center

WMU President Judith I. Bailey will present the State of the University address at 1 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 10, in the Dalton Center Recital Hall.

The event is intended for all members of the campus community, and supervisors are asked to adjust schedules so that employees who wish to hear the address may attend. With this address, the president has opted to return to the tradition of a fall event in which goals for the upcoming year are discussed and accomplishments of the previous year noted.

Engineering dean candidates offer public presentations

The final two candidates for the position of dean of the College of Engineering and Applied Sciences will visit the campus next week to meet with members of the University community and give public presentations.

The candidates will each come to campus for two-day visits. During their stay, each will make a public presentation in Room D-109 of the engineering building on the Parkview Campus. Each public presentation will be followed by an informal reception.

• Dr. Leo Hanifiin, dean of the College of Engineering and Science and the Chrysler Professor of Engineering at the University of Detroit Mercy; will be on campus Tuesday and Wednesday, Nov. 2-3. His public presentation will be at 3:15 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 2.

• Dr. Timothy Greene, assistant vice president of research and academic affairs at the University of Alabama, will visit the campus Thursday and Friday, Nov. 4-5. His public presentation is set for 3:15 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 4.

The third finalist for the position is Priscilla P. Nelson, senior advisor for the Directorate for Engineering at the National Science Foundation. She visited campus Oct. 25 and 26.

Copies of all three candidates’ vitae are available at <www.wmich.edu/ceas>.

Development is Keystone topic

An authority on local real estate development will be the next guest in the Keystone Community Bank Breakfast Speaker Series at 7:30 a.m. Friday, Oct. 29, at the Haworth College of Business.

Greg Dobson, vice president for business development at AVB Construction and American Village Development Co., will present the annual State of the University address at 1 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 10, in the Dalton Center Recital Hall.

The event is intended for all members of the campus community, and supervisors are asked to adjust schedules so that employees who wish to hear the address may attend. With this address, the president has opted to return to the tradition of a fall event in which goals for the upcoming year are discussed and accomplishments of the previous year noted.

An executive with more than 25 years of experience managing both established life science firms and biotech startups has signed on to lead the University’s Biosciences Research and Commercialization Center.

Charles F. Nawrot, will leave his position as chief executive officer of Theracyte Inc. of Irvine, Calif., to become the executive director of the BRCC. His appointment is effective Oct. 11.

“I’m particularly pleased that Chuck has agreed to join the BRCC early in its existence,” says Don Parfet, founding principal of the Apjohn Group LLC and chairperson of the BRCC Governing Board of Directors. “Chuck shares the same vision of the BRCC as the governing board and everyone involved in the center’s founding. He brings to Kalamazoo a wealth of relevant experience and knowledge that will serve us well for years to come.”

Nawrot established Theracyte, a cell therapy firm, in 1999 with $2 million of private investment capital. Under his leadership, the company has developed research collaborations with more than 30 potential business partners. Theracyte is Nawrot’s second life sciences startup. From 1987 to 1989, he was CEO of Tektage Inc., a pharmaceutical testing facility he co-founded.

His industry leadership positions also include research and management positions with Abbott Laboratories in Chicago; Cooper Biomedical Inc. and Centocor Inc. in Malvern, Pa.; and Baxter Healthcare Corp. in Deerfield, Ill., where he served for six years as vice president for business development in the immunotherapy division. He also spent four years as a biotech consultant, advising companies in the areas of technology assessment, business planning and early-stage financing.

Nawrot earned a bachelor’s degree in chemistry from St. Mary’s College in Winona, Minn., in 1965 and a doctoral degree in biochemistry from Northwestern University in 1969.

“Our search committee set some very high standards for whoever we hired as the executive director of the BRCC,” says Jack Luderer, WMU vice president for research who took part in the search. “We wanted an exemplary Ph.D. or M.D. scientist with management experience who had worked in both large pharmaceutical operations like Pfizer, as well as small start-up companies. The BRCC requires this breadth of experience, and it’s not easy to find. We attracted more than 40 applicants from around the country and quite honestly, Dr. Nawrot was our first choice. We were able to get him out of California just in time for winter in Kalamazoo.”

The search committee was led by Trudy Vereset, associate dean of the Haworth College of Business. In addition to Luderer, members of the committee included Parfet; Robert Gadwood, CEO of Kaleysyn Inc.; Douglas Morrison, CEO of the Southwest Michigan Innovation Center, and Alexander Enyedi, chairperson of biological sciences.

Emeriti Council to focus on University/corporate ties

The complex relationships between America’s corporations and U.S. universities will be the focus when WMU’s Emeriti Council sponsors a forum on the topic Thursday and Friday, Nov. 11 and 12.

The effort has the sponsorship of more than 20 University units and will include discussions by WMU leaders as well as two nationally known presenters. Sessions run from 3 to 5 p.m. Thursday in Fetzer, and 10 a.m. to noon and 2 to 5 p.m. Friday in Schneider Hall.

According to Robert Kaufman, emeritus in political science and forum coordinator, discussions will cover such issues as commercialization of the university setting, human relations in higher education, and the rewards and risks of the entrepreneurial university.

Guest speakers include Sam Hines, dean of WMU President Judith I. Bailey will present the State of the University Address set for Nov. 10 in Dalton Center. The exercise will be based around Vandercook Hall on the East Campus, and several emergency and public safety vehicles will be at the scene. For more than six months, representatives from offices across the campus and KDPD have been planning the mock disaster, which involves a fictional explosion, fire and multiple casualties.

The November drill marks the first major test of emergency preparedness efforts that began at WMU in late 2000. After the attacks of 9/11, the effort drew a new sense of urgency. Changes in 2002 to Michigan law required universities of 25,000 or more to have an emergency management coordinator.

Campus will test emergency preparations in Nov. 9 drill

WMU and the Kalamazoo Department of Public Safety will engage in a full-scale emergency exercise between 8 a.m. and noon Tuesday, Nov. 9.

The exercise will be based around Vandercook Hall on the East Campus, and several emergency and public safety vehicles will be at the scene. For more than six months, representatives from offices across the campus and KDPD have been planning the mock disaster, which involves a fictional explosion, fire and multiple casualties.

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Campus welcomes new faculty members

Pamela Hoppe, a specialist in inorganic materials chemistry and nanotechnology, her research interests include design of fluorescent compounds for clinical and environmental monitoring. Obare earned her bachelor’s degree from the West Virginia State College in 1998 and her doctoral degree from the University of South Carolina in 2002.

Eli Rubin, a specialist in inorganic materials chemistry and nanotechnology, her research interests include design of fluorescent compounds for clinical and environmental monitoring. Obare earned her bachelor’s degree from the West Virginia State College in 1998 and her doctoral degree from the University of South Carolina in 2002.

Editor’s note: This is the third installment in the series offers brief profiles of new members of the WMU faculty.

Engineering facility rakes in West Michigan building awards

The Parkview Campus complex housing the College of Engineering and Applied Sciences was a big winner when the West Michigan chapter of Associated Builders and Contractors met in Grand Rapids Oct. 19 for its annual construction awards program.

The building, which opened in fall 2003, won the top award for Special Projects Under $100 million, with judges calling it “a showcase project” and noting out

Bourke snags national attention

Melissa Bourke, assistant vice president for legislative affairs, is the focus of a current article about successful lobbying for federal research funds. The piece, “Lesser-Known Public Colleges Increase Federal Lobbying,” appears online and in the Oct. 22 print edition of the publication. Writer Kelly Field followed Bourke as she introduced faculty members at the National Science Foundation, took them to a legislative “meet and greet” and lobbied for a piece of charitable giving legislation favorable to WMU.

The article details the benefits WMU has seen from its lobbying efforts, including federal earmarks like the recent $2 million award for nanotechnology. It also outlines the relationship between WMU’s legislative staff and the University’s contract lobbying firm, Preston Gates Ellis LLC.

“For state institutions like Western Michigan University, the investment...has been a sound one,” Field concluded. She predicted that when Congress reconvenes, Bourke will be “back on Capitol Hill to lobby legislators, introduce professors and fight for federal money.”

Dannison wins Fulbright Award

Linda Dannison, chairperson of family and consumer sciences, will travel to England as a guest lecturer at three universities under a Fulbright Award. Dannison will be the guest of Northumbria University in Newcastle and also will work at the University of Warwick and Oxford University under a partnership agreement through a Fulbright Senior Specialists grant. Also taking part will be Andrea Smith, teaching, learning and leadership, who received a previously announced Fulbright Award.

Dannison’s visit will build on her work in kinship care, especially as it pertains to children living with their grandparents. In addition to lecturing on kinship care at the three universities, she and Smith will conduct workshops with community professionals to help them develop programming for high-risk parent populations.

She will be in England Nov. 6-20. Dannison trips builds on a project two years ago in Latvia, where she and Smith lectured and conducted seminars on kinship care through a grant from the American embassy.

APID gets new name to describe its campus role

The office previously known as Academic Planning and Institutional Data, or APID, has a new name: the Office of Institutional Research. Although the name has changed, the office’s location in Seibert Administration Building and mission of collecting and analyzing data and information about WMU remain the same.
United Way effort ending

At Western News press time, the University’s campaign on behalf of the United Way had raised $157,792 toward a university goal of $210,000. WMU faculty, staff, students, emeriti and retirees are encouraged to make pledges and gifts as soon as possible, so that their gifts will be included in the announced total of gifts received from organizations across the community. That announcement is scheduled for Nov. 18. Pledge forms should be turned in by Nov. 7 to be included.

Nominations due Oct. 31 for Make a Difference awards

Nominations for the full round of WMU’s new semiannual Make a Difference awards are due by Oct. 31. Make a Difference is a campuswide peer-to-peer program that recognizes WMU staff for their accomplishments and daily investment of energy and creativity. More information and nomination forms are available online at <www.wmich.edu/makeadifference>. Nominations may be submitted through campus mail to Mail Stop Code 5216 or by e-mail to <Make-A-Difference@wmich.edu>.

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 a 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.

TIAA-CREFF makes individual counseling sessions available

TIAA-CREFF representatives will be on campus for individual counseling sessions Wednesday through Friday, Nov. 17-19. Meetings will be in 2100 Seibert. To register for an individual session, visit the TIAA-CREFF on the Web at <www.tiaa-cref.org>, click on “meeting/counseling” and follow the prompts. If you are unable to register via the Web, call toll free (800) 842-2044.

King committee soliciting proposals for 2005 events

The Martin Luther King Jr. Day Committee is accepting proposals for activities that will be held during King Week 2005. The events, which will take place Jan. 18-21, should be relevant to this year’s theme, “Integrating Our Past with Our Present: Impacting Our Future.” Guidelines and an application form for the sponsored activities, which are eligible for limited financial assistance, are being distributed campuswide. Whether or not they are seeking funding, departments, programs and organizations are encouraged to submit their plans by 5 p.m. Friday, Nov. 12, for inclusion in the 2005 King Week schedule of events.

For information, contact Inkele Way, social work, vice-mailer@inklele.way@wmich.edu or by calling 7-3195.

Kimberly L. Clow, Western News
Distinguished Faculty Scholar nominations due

The Distinguished Faculty Scholar Committee is seeking nominations for the 2004-05 Distinguished Faculty Scholar Award.

The deadline for nomination is Friday, Jan. 21. Up to three awards may be made each year. Those selected during this cycle will be honored at a ceremony in late 2005 or early 2006. Each winner will receive a $2,000 honorarium that becomes part of the recipient's base salary, a plaque and an endowment.

The accommodations may be artistic, historical, literary, philosophical, scientific or technical. Wide recognition beyond WMU or early 2006. Each winner will receive a $2,000 honorarium that becomes part of the recipient's base salary, a plaque and an endowment.

Guidelines and nomination forms are being distributed on campus. For more information, contact Kaufman or early 2006. Each winner will receive a $2,000 honorarium that becomes part of the recipient's base salary, a plaque and an endowment.

Emergency drill

Pat Holton, environmental health and safety, has served as the University's emergency coordinator since 2002, and she regularly convenes a campuswide team that is responsible for designing a response plan flexible enough to respond to any level of emergency or critical incident.

Holton says the interaction of people charged with leading response teams on campus has been a huge benefit to WMU.

“We all tend to work in our own silos,” she says. “This has given us a chance to get to know the people we'll need to rely on in a real emergency. A drill like this lets us practice what we’ve planned and uncover the weaknesses in our plans.”

Previous campus drills have been "tabletop" or functional drills with emergency scenarios that are played out in a common setting and in a compressed time frame.

On Campus with Shellie Bosma

On most days, Shellie Bosma is working double time just keeping tabs on the interim vice provost for Extended University Programs (Margaret "Peg" Bernhardt). As the administrative assistant for the vice provost's office, Bosma's main job is making sure the office runs smoothly, and that, she says, hinges on overseeing her boss' busy schedule.

"I'm always having to ask, 'Where's Peg?" she says, "because the vice provost is all over the place—at meetings on campus, off campus and the seven branch campuses.'

The Kalamazoo-area native brought her organizational skills and chipper personality to WMU in 2002 from Pharmacia (now Pfizer). Her duties as office manager include everything from coordinating staff meetings and the production of the division's marketing brochures and course booklets to supervising student workers and organizing branch director as well as other employee searches.

"The best part of my job here is that no day is the same," she says. "But that's also the most difficult part, because things are always changing." With two athletic boys at home, change and busy schedules are commonplace off the job, too, as Bosma shuttles Wyatt, 7, and Josh, 16, to their practices and games nearly every night.

"It keeps me busy, but I love watching the boys play," she says, adding that she and husband Zac also enjoy traveling and family camping trips. Bosma's other major way of relaxing is getting together with a group of her longtime Comstock High School friends for monthly "girls nights out" and an annual "girls weekend."