Three selected for top alumni honors

Three prominent leaders in education, government and business have been selected by the WMU Alumni Association to receive the 2004 Distinguished Alumni Award.

The recipients are: Robert Bruninks, president of the University of Minnesota; Richard G. Haworth, chairman of the board of the office furniture manufacturer Haworth Inc., and Carolyn Cheeks Kilpatrick, a veteran member of the U.S. House of Representatives.

Rules of the University of Minnesota's 15th president. Haworth has served as executive vice president and interim provost since 1997, overseeing the academic enterprise of the University of Minnesota’s four-campus system. Richard Haworth has led Haworth Inc. through its evolution from a small company with a single-product line to a global corporation that has $1.23 billion in annual sales and employs 8,530 people in 120 countries. He has been chairman of the board since 1994.

Armed with a bachelor of business administration degree from WMU in 1964, Haworth began his career with Modern Partitions Co., now Haworth Inc., a contract furniture manufacturer founded in 1948 by his father, G.W. Haworth. Under his tutelage, the company developed a number of products that were industry "firsts."

Haworth has been involved in numerous community and professional activities and also has maintained close ties to his alma mater, serving on the WMU Board of Trustees from 1991 to 2001 and as its chairperson in 1997.

Carolyn Kilpatrick, who earned a

Eighty-one new faculty members take up posts

The start of the fall semester saw 81 new faculty members taking up posts in departments across the University.

Below, by department, are the names of the newest members of the campus community. Each of the upcoming issues of Western News will include photos and brief background information on several of these new faculty members. The new feature is designed to introduce the most recent additions to WMU’s instructional and research faculty to the rest of the campus community. They are:

Accountancy—Terence Pitre; Anthropology—Charles Hilton; Art—Frederick Burbach, William Davis, David Gall; Caro...
Expanded staff recognition program debuts this semester

The Staff Service Excellence Award program has been expanded and supplanted by the Make a Difference program, a new campuswide peer-to-peer program that recognizes University staff members for their outstanding accomplishments and daily investment of energy and creativity.

As with the prior program, Make a Difference includes semiannual as well as annual award opportunities. But starting this fall, the awards will feature larger prize amounts and be presented to a greater number of non-faculty staff.

The expanded recognition program is being sponsored by the Administrative Professional Association; American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees Local 1668; Michigan State Employees Association; Police Officers Association; and Professional Support Staff Organization. Employees eligible to receive Make a Difference awards must be part of the Staff Compensation System or be represented by AFSCME, MSEA or POA.

A committee representing all of those participating employee groups has been working for the past 14 months to expand the 10-year-old Staff Service Excellence Award program. Chairperson Christine M. McDowell, grants and contracts, says suggestions from employees and support from Vice President Robert M. Beam were the driving forces behind transforming the service excellence awards into the Make a Difference program debuting this fall.

“These are trying times for many staff members,” Beam says. “We want to let them know that their continuing commitment and hard work are truly recognized and appreciated.”

In reiterating that message, President Judith I. Bailey says staff members are the essence of WMU’s success and its existence.

Sept. 23 Study Abroad Fair designed to explore global options

About 800 people are expected to turn out for the fall semester Study Abroad Fair from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 23, in the South Ballroom of the Bernhard Center.

Information on hundreds of programs offered by WMU and other universities and organizations across the country will be offered. On hand to answer questions will be WMU students, faculty and staff who are familiar with study abroad programs and services, including representatives from the university’s Office of Study Abroad, Student Health Center and Office of Student Financial Aid and Scholarships.

Some 500 WMU students study overseas each year. They may be found in more than 30 countries on six continents, and many receive financial aid that travels with them as they are abroad.

For more about the fair or international learning, visit the Office of Study Abroad on the Web at <www.wmich.edu/studyabroad> or call 7-5890.

Pre-retirement MPSERS information session

Participants in the Michigan Public Employees Retirement System—MPSERS—are invited to a Pre-retirement Information Meeting at 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 29, in Wile Auditorium, Kalamazoo.

Two on campus honored with community arts medals

Carl Doubleday, associate director of the School of Music, and Von Washington, director of multicultural theatre, were among three area residents honored with the 2004 Community Medal of Arts at a Sept. 9 ceremony in the Dutton Center.

The annual awards are sponsored by the Arts Council of Greater Kalamazoo to honor those who have made significant contributions to the artistic life of the community.

Doubleday, who joined the music faculty in 1966, was cited for his tireless efforts coordinating hundreds of arts events on campus for WMU and other organizations, including the Gilmore International Keyboard Festival, Fontanna Chamber Arts and Michigan Youth Arts Festival.

Theatrical Professor Washington joined the faculty in 1989. In addition to his work as a teacher and director of multicultural theatre, he was cited for his excellence as an actor, director and playwright in productions ranging from the local stage to national television.

Pawlak publishes new book

Edward J. Pawlak, emeritus in social work, is the co-author of a new book on planning in the nonprofit and government areas.

“Designing and Planning Programs in Nonprofit and Government Organizations” is the title of the book by Pawlak, who retired from the faculty in 2000, and Robert D. Vinter, a retired faculty member at the University of Michigan. Both are active in program evaluation and community service.

The book includes case studies of planning projects, and publisher Jossey-Bass of San Francisco offers a supplementary online instructor’s manual through its Web site.
In addition, he was a visiting scientist at the University of Colorado, Oklahoma State University, and the design of a large cargo airship at the NASA Lewis Research Center in Huntsville, Ala., and the Kalamazoo College's orbital research laboratory at the Marshall Space Flight Center in Huntsville, Ala. Gill was employed by Bendix Corp. and served on the design of an original Saturn launches for NASA. He also worked on the design of an original Saturn launches for NASA.

Joseph Gill, emeritus in mechanical engineering, died Aug. 29 in Kalamazoo. He was 85. Gill was a WMU faculty member from 1965 until his retirement in 1985. Prior to coming to the University, he was employed by Bendix Corp. In addition to his WMU teaching responsibilities, Gill worked on research projects funded by the National Science Foundation. He also worked on the design of an orbital research laboratory at the Marshall Space Flight Center in Huntsville, Ala., and the design of a large cargo airship at the Johnson Space Center in Houston. In addition, he was a visiting scientist at Stanford University and the University of Missouri-Columbia.

Gill was a WMU faculty member from 1965 until his retirement in 1985. Prior to coming to the University, he was employed by Bendix Corp. In addition to his WMU teaching responsibilities, Gill worked on research projects funded by the National Science Foundation. He also worked on the design of an orbital research laboratory at the Marshall Space Flight Center in Huntsville, Ala., and the design of a large cargo airship at the Johnson Space Center in Houston. In addition, he was a visiting scientist at Stanford University and the University of Missouri-Columbia.

Obituaries

Ethel G. Adams, emerita in music, died Aug. 6 in Batesville, Ind. She was 91. Adams joined the WMU faculty in June 1946 and served on the faculty for 27 years until her retirement with emerita status in 1973. She served as chairperson of the music theory and history area from 1962 to 1968. She also was the staff soprano soloist from 1946 to 1961.

During her tenure at WMU, Adams appeared as a guest soprano soloist in concerts and oratorios throughout the Midwest, including multiple performances with the Kalamazoo Symphony Orchestra. A memorial service for Adams, organized by former faculty colleagues and friends, will be held at 2 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 26, at Zion Lutheran Church, 2122 Bronson Blvd., Kalamazoo.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Sam and Ethel Adams Vocal Music Scholarship Fund through the WMU Foundation.

Robert D. Neubig, emeritus in accountancy, died Sept. 1 in Portage, Mich. He was 78. Neubig taught at WMU for 24 years, until his retirement in 1991. Prior to coming to WMU, Neubig taught at Ohio State University, Ohio University, the University of Michigan-Dearborn and the University of Colorado.

Neubig earned his bachelor's, master's and doctoral degrees from Ohio State University. A Certified Public Accountant in both New York and Ohio, Neubig worked in the private sector before beginning his teaching career, working for seven years for Price Waterhouse at the firm's offices in New York City; Caracas, Venezuela; and Baltimore.

While a 1960s-decade 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 Opportunities Program by human resources. Interested 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.

(N) Scheduler, 13, College of Aviation, 04/05-4489, 9/13-9/20/04
(R) Technicians, 15, Geosciences, 04/05-4490, 9/13-9/20/04
(R) Utility Person, F3, Dining Services, Cash Operations-Parkview Campus, 04/05-4491, 9/13-9/20/04
N= New
R= Replacement
WMU is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer.

Jobs

The following employees are recognized for celebrating 40, 35, 30, 25, 20, 15, 10 and five years of service to the University during September. A list of more than 180 employees celebrating service anniversaries during the month of August is available as a PDF online at <www.wmich.edu/hr/an-niv_list augmentation.pdf>.

40 years—Harold L. Bate, speech pathology and audiology; Jerry L. Bloeminen, WMU Bookstore; Gary T. Chatterton, mathematics; Adrian “Ed” Edwards, Hawthorn College of Business; and Louis B. M. Rizzolo, School of Art.

35 years—Paula J. Boord, Graduate College.

30 years—Wil B. Emmett, Office of Vice President for Research.

25 years—Guy R. Bars, Miller Auditorium, and Deborah K. Withere, College of Education.

20 years—Marcia Ellis, Sindecuse Health Center; Phyllis A. Griffin, Bernhard Center; Charlotte O. Kelley, Biosciences Research and Commercialization Center; Tammy Kim, Kalamazoo Valley #3 Dining Service; Anne Martin, building custodial and support services; Kelley Oliver, Hawthorn College of Business; Ellen Pestoot, landscape services; Donnie L. Phelps, Bernhard Center; Christine A. Roberts, information technology; Rebecca Roberts, maintenance services; Mark E. Tomlomson, WMUK; Nancy C. Watson, building custodial and support services; and Jeff H. You, University Libraries.

15 years—Kristina Berns, building custodial and support services; Pamela Emery, Extended University Programs; Judith Jones, admissions; Deanna L. Mengen-Henry, West Hills Athletic Club; Joyce A. Parsons, Office of the Vice President for Development; Alison K. Thor, University Libraries; and Carla S. Truppa, Davis Dining Services.

10 years—Diane B. Hamilton, Bronson School of Nursing; Natalia C. Obreiter, military science; Terry W. Shaffer, residence life; Jan G. Tiderington, International Student and Scholar Services; and Alonzo Wilson, Physical Plant.

Five years—Massoud Zandi Atashbar, electrical and computer engineering; Elias R. Dely, West Hills Athletic Club; Derek L. Diget, information technology; Deno S. Frier, West Hills Athletic Club; Robert S. Kennedy, West Hills Athletic Club; Kim A. Livock, West Hills Athletic Club; Amber Joy MacKenzie, Development Office; Rodney J. McBain, West Hills Athletic Club; Tyler H. Norman, West Hills Athletic Club; Leonard Seawood, Extended University Programs; Betsy Sell, West Hills Athletic Club; Lee E. Smith, West Hills Athletic Club; Lana Stier, Sindecuse Health Center; Ellen M. Van Arsdale, Bronson School of Nursing; Chad W. Ward, West Hills Athletic Club; Evelyn Winfield, University Counseling and Testing Center; and Kenneth K. Wood, West Hills Athletic Club.

Exchange

New faculty

Kim Gore, Nichole Masry, Ginger Owen, Jeffrey Thompson and Mary-Louise Totton;
Aviation—William Rutherford; Biological Sciences—Pamela Hoppe, Maarten Vonhof and Marta Scott; Blindness and Low Vision Studies—Robert Wall; Business Information Systems—Jofen Han and Carol Weatherford.

Chemistry—Shereen O. Obare; Civil and Construction Engineering—Jun-Seok Oh; Communication—Rebekah Farruga, Jennifer Machiorlatti; Eric Meiners and Cory Lynn Young; Comparative Religion—Kevin Wanner; Computer Science—Ali Al-Fuqaha; Dance—Carolyn Pavlik and Claudia Queen; Economics—Shohreh Majin; Educational Studies—Carmen Connelies; Electrical and Computer Engineering—Liash Dong.

English—Brett Bradburn, Thomas Kent, Todd Kuchta, Lisa Minnink and Lance Wildy; Evaluation Center/Philosophy—Michael Scriven; Family and Consumer Science—Charlotte Pease and Kelly Weathers.

Finance and Commercial Law—Thomas Edmonds; Foreign Languages—Jeffrey Angles; Geography—Kathleen Baker; Geosciences—Heather Petrovic and Mohamed, Sultan; History—Stephanie Jass and Eli Ruben; Health, Physical Education and Recreation—Susan Ayers, Kathleen Conway and Jennifer O'Donoghue; Industrial and Manufacturing Engineering—Slobodan Urdarevik; Management—Robert Kynast; Marketing—John Idema and Michael McCardle; Mathematics—Jon Davis, Melinda Koelling, David Richter and Lixin Shen.

Mechanical and Aeronautical Engineering—Muralidhar Ghantasala and Tianshu Liu; Music—David Montgomery; Nursing—Patricia Fehr, Joni Jones and Susan Nelson; Philosophy—Fritz Allhoff; Pharmacology—Gil Way; Political Science—Martin deBroyne, Priscilla Lambert and Gregory Neddenriep; Psychology—Eric Fox and Tina Hall.

Social Work—Richard Grimmell, Steven Smith and Yvonne Uranis; Sociology—Laura Citar; Spanish—Michael Braun; Theatre—Daniel Berkow; Teaching, Learning and Leadership—Marlene J. Braunnus, Walter Burt, Linda Haug, Dennis McCrumb, Patricia Reeves and Nancy Van Kannel-Ray.

Three alumni selected

When Kevin Vichcales began his college studies, he planned on becoming a college professor. Now he's the go-to guy for both graduate-level faculty and students.

As associate director of the Graduate College and director of awards, training and special projects for the college, Vichcales has his pulse on graduate education at WMU. His duties encompass appointments and awards, student professional development, budget matters, and policies and procedures. Vichcales grew up in Fowlerville, Mich., and came to WMU in 1990. A military history buff, he earned a master's degree in 1994 and a doctoral degree in 2003—both in history with an emphasis on modern Europe.

He was active in the Graduate Student Advisory Committee as well as a Graduate College doctoral research assistant, a job that morphed into a full-time position in 2000.

"I've participated in changing WMU from a Doctoral I to a research-intensive university," he says. "We've come a long way in the past decade, and I'm hopeful we'll see even more positive advancements in the decades to come."

Vichcales says the best part of his job is the personal contact.

"I enjoy serving faculty and students and having the opportunity to help solve their problems. When a student or faculty member leaves your office smiling, you know you've fulfilled your mission."

Off-campus, Vichcales spends time with his fiancé, Julie, and his dog Peanuts—a "mutt in the great American tradition." For relaxation, the former drum major likes to play the trumpet, garden, read and travel.