



# Western NEWS

For and about WMU faculty and staff

SEPTEMBER 16, 2004

volume 31, number 2

## Trustees to meet tomorrow

An updated 2004-05 budget that reflects Michigan's recent budget decisions and the amount of the state appropriation to the University will be among the topics on the agenda when the WMU Board of Trustees meets Friday, Sept. 17.

Meeting at 8 a.m. in Rooms 157-159 of the Bernhard Center, the board also will hear a progress report on planning for a new chemistry building. The board approved a move to "fast track" the project in June and asked to have a detailed plan ready for review at the September meeting.

The September meeting also marks the first time student leaders will have a formal spot early on the agenda to address the board. The leaders of the Western Student Association and the Graduate Student Advisory Committee will each make remarks to the board to outline student issues and concerns.

## Three visiting scholars to come to campus in next two weeks

The first three of 13 outstanding campus visitors who will come to WMU as part of the 2004-05 Visiting Scholars and Artists Program will be at the University over the next two weeks.

The program, now in its 44th year, provides funds for academic units to bring the nation's most distinguished artists and scholars to campus to meet and work with faculty and students and to give public presentations. This year's visitors include the following.

- Steven Levitt, the Alvin Baum Professor of Economics at the University of Chicago, will present a free public lecture on "Catching Cheaters" at 3 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 22, in 3508 Knauss. At noon the same day, in 2302 Friedmann, he will present a seminar on "The Impact of Crack," primarily for faculty and graduate students. His visit is coordinated by the Department of Economics.

- Caribbean journalist and novelist Mayra Montero will read from her works at 5 p.m. Monday, Sept. 27, in 1021 Brown. Montero's presentation, which is coordinated through the Department of Spanish, will be in both English and Spanish. The Cuban-born writer's best-known work is "Purpura Profundo," considered by critics to be among the best examples of Caribbean literature written in Spanish.

- Philosopher of biology Elliot Sober of the University of Wisconsin and Stanford University will speak at 5 p.m. Monday, Sept. 27, asking the question, "Is Creationism Logical?" Sponsored by the Department of Philosophy, Sober's talk is in 3021 Brown. At noon that day, he will do a technical seminar on "Evolutionary Theory and Macro Possibilities," examining evolutionary odds. That seminar is targeted at faculty and graduate students.

## 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 Bruininks**, 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.



Bruininks



Haworth



Kilpatrick

The Distinguished Alumni Award was initiated in 1963 and is the alumni association's most prestigious honor. It recognizes graduates who have achieved a high level of success in their respective profes-

sions. Only 122 men and women have won one of these awards.

This year's winners will receive their awards during the annual Distinguished Alumni Awards Dinner, which has been scheduled on campus in conjunction with WMU's Homecoming Week and will take place at 6:30 p.m. Friday, Oct. 15, in the Bernhard Center. A long-standing commitment in Europe will prevent Haworth from accepting his award in person, but his wife, Ethelyn, another WMU graduate, will represent him.

The deadline for dinner reservations is Oct. 1. To make a reservation, call the WMU Alumni Association at 7-8777 or logon to <www.wmich.edu/alumni>, click on "Events" and complete the online reservation form on the Distinguished Alumni Dinner page.

**Robert Bruininks**, who earned a bachelor's degree from WMU in 1964, became the University of Minnesota's 15th president in November 2002, just months after his selection as interim president. He has risen through the ranks since coming to the university in 1968 as an assistant professor of educational psychology.

Before being named interim president, Bruininks had 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 8,500 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

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## 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-

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**NO DETOURS**—Civil and Construction Engineering Chair James Nelson drew a smile from Gloria Jeff, director of the Michigan Department of Transportation, and President Judith Bailey during the Sept. 1 opening of the WMU/MDOT Construction Materials Laboratory on campus. (Photo by C. Roland)

## 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.

"The vice presidents and I recognize your loyalty and dedication to WMU and our mission," Bailey said recently, aiming her remarks directly to staff members. "We're committed to recognizing you for your day-to-day performance as well as your most outstanding accomplishments. I encourage you to acknowledge and applaud your peers' performance."

McDowell says under the Make a Difference program, up to 15 rather than 12 people will be honored during each semiannual award period. Semiannual award winners receive a plaque and a \$250 prize, compared to the previous \$100 prize, and will be recognized annually at one of two new award receptions.

No changes have been made in the annual awards, which go to the four most outstanding recipients of each year's semiannual awards. The winners of these awards receive a framed certificate and a \$1,000 prize. In addition, they are honored at a special luncheon, and their photos are added to the staff recognition display on the second floor of the Seibert Administration Building.

Any member of the University, including staff, faculty and students, may submit Make a Difference award nominations. Submitting nominations is more convenient than ever, as nomination forms are now available online year round at the Make a Difference Web site. Staff may win the award more than once; however, they are limited to one award per academic year.

Additional changes to the staff recognition program are in the planning stage and will be announced in a future issue of the *Western News*.

Award nomination forms and specific deadline and eligibility information are available online at <[www.wmich.edu/makeadifference](http://www.wmich.edu/makeadifference)>.

## 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, Sincuse 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 when 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](http://www.wmich.edu/studyabroad)> or call 7-5890.

## Pre-retirement MPSERS information session set

Participants in the Michigan Public School Employees Retirement System—MPSERS—are invited to a Pre-retirement Information Meeting at 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 29, in Wile Auditorium, Kalamazoo RESA, 1918 E. Milham Road.

Online registration for the meeting is required. To register, visit <[www.michigan.gov/ors](http://www.michigan.gov/ors)>, select School Employees Retirement System, and then select Pre-retirement Information Meetings. If you are unable to use the online registration, contact MPSERS at (800) 381-5111.

## Literary 'gold' goes to Bickle

A WMU faculty member is the winner of the international Eleven-Minutes-Sports-Novel Contest held in connection with the Blankenese Games in Hamburg, Germany.

Peter Bickle, who teaches German, was notified recently of the award, which coincided with the 2004 Olympic Games. The competition, sponsored by the city of Hamburg, was organized in order to revive the ancient Olympic tradition of having competitions in arts and literature simultaneous with those in athletics.

In antiquity, the Olympic Games included literature and the arts. Only since 1952 has the Olympic idea been interpreted exclusively in the athletic realm.

Bickle received his prize and a cash award for "Und Nicht Dahinter" (And Not Behind), his "11-minute novel" in which a former soccer player reminisces about his love affair with a teammate. The prize includes publication.

## 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 Dalton Center.



Doubleday



Washington

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, Fontana Chamber Arts and Michigan Youth Arts Festival.

Theatre 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 arenas.

"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 instructors manual through its Web site.



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WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY

## Obituaries



Adams

**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.



Gill

**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.



Neubig

**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.

## 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.

(N) **Scheduler**, 13, College of Aviation, 04/05-4489, 9/13-9/20/04

(R) **Technician**, 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.

## Service

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/anniv\\_list\\_aug\\_04.pdf](http://www.wmich.edu/hr/anniv_list_aug_04.pdf)>.

**40 years**—Harold L. Bate, speech pathology and audiology; Jerry L. Bloemsmma, WMU Bookstore; Gary T. Chartrand, mathematics; Adrian "Ed" Edwards, Haworth College of Business; and Louis B. M. Rizzolo, School of Art,

**35 years**—Paula J. Boodt, Graduate College.

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

**25 years**—Guy R. Barks, Miller Auditorium, and Deborah K. Withee, College of Education.

**20 years**—Marcia Ellis, Sindecuse Health Center; Phyllis A. Griffin, Bernhard Center; Charlotte G. Kelley, Biosciences Research and Commercialization Center; Tammy Kiel Valley #3 Dining Service; Annie Marton, building custodial and support services; Kelley Oliver, Haworth College of Business; Ellen Pestoor, landscape services; Donnie L. Phelps, Bernhard Center; Christine A. Roberts, information technology; Rebecca Roberts, maintenance services; Mark E. Tomlinson, WMUK; Nancy C. Watson, building custodial and support services; and Jei H. Yoo, University Libraries.

**15 years**—Kristina Berns, building custodial and support services; Pamela Emery, Extended University Programs; Judith Jones, admissions; Deanna L. Mergen-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**—Massood Zandi Atashbar, electrical and computer engineering; Elisa 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; Jody 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

**FOR SALE**—Faculty home. Two-bedroom ranch with back deck and two-car garage on a deep, "park-like" lot. Many updates including roof, furnace, windows, bathroom and beautiful addition. Well-cared-for home in move-in condition. \$89,900. Contact agent Doug at (269) 344-8599, ext. 1167. Open house, Sunday, Sept. 19.



**SHEAR JOY**—Helping hands and scissors were in plentiful supply Sept. 10 when the time came for the official opening of the new Multicultural Center in Trimpe Hall. President Judith Bailey, second from right, called the MCC "a place that WMU students from all backgrounds can call home." Helping her in the ceremonial ribbon cutting were, from left, Alixandra Amparano of Synergy, Janesh Naik of the International Programs Council, Ron Roberts of the Young Black Males Support Network and Diane Anderson, vice president for student affairs. (Photo by Thom Myers)

# On Campus with Kevin Vichcales



WORKING FOR A SMILE  
(Photo by Jeanne Baron)

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 Peanut—"a mutt in the great American tradition." For relaxation, the former drum major likes to play the trumpet, garden, read and travel.

## New faculty

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

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

**English**—Beth Bradburn, Thomas Kent, Todd Kuchta, Lisa Minnick and Lance Weldy; **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 Petcovic and Mohamed, Sultan; **History**—Stephanie Jass and Eli Rubin; **Health, Physical Education and Recreation**—Suzan 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 Fuehr, Joni Jones and Susan

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Nelson; **Philosophy**—Fritz Allhoff; **Physician Assistant**—Gayl Walker; **Political Science**—Martyn deBruyn, Priscilla Lambert and Gregory Neddenriep; **Psychology**—Eric Fox and Tina Hall.

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

## Three alumni selected

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bachelor's degree from WMU in 1972, has been representing Michigan's 13th Congressional District in the U.S. House of Representatives since 1996. Regarded as a hard worker with a thoughtful style, she was appointed by her peers to the powerful House Appropriations Committee, which authorizes spending for all levels of the federal government. Kilpatrick is the only Michigan Democrat on that powerful committee.

## United Way campaign set for Sept. 20 campus kickoff event

A 2004 goal of raising \$210,000 will bring WMU faculty, staff, students, and emeriti and retirees together for the annual United Way campus campaign set to start Monday, Sept. 20.

The campus campaign, which will run through the end of October, is part of the annual fund-raising effort to support the Greater Kalamazoo United Way. The community campaign began Sept. 10 and is out to raise \$10 million to support 77 programs offered by 35 local United Way agencies. This year's campaign theme is "Solutions in all Shapes and Sizes."

"By supporting the Greater Kalamazoo United Way campaign, we have an opportunity to be part of the caring that keeps our community healthy," said WMU President Judith Bailey in an open letter to the campus community that was distributed to employees.

The campus campaign is led by Linda Jones of the Office of the President, who is working with a team of 120 volunteer fund-raisers from across the campus. Jones led the WMU campaign last year when the campus raised \$233,607.

"We wouldn't be able to accomplish as much as we do in our community without this network of volunteers," Jones says. "I am so proud of all that our volunteers do to make our campaign a success."

She points out that WMU emeriti and retirees play an important part in the campaign as well, last year donating \$27,890 to the annual campaign.

Students and student organizations are also being encouraged to participate in United Way nationwide.