GoWMU is first step in SIS implementation

GoWMU, the new WMU portal, as rolled out Aug. 23, will allow students, faculty and staff to use a single user name and password to access online information specifically for and about them. GoWMU will eventually be the primary means for students, faculty and staff to conduct their business with the University.

Only students, faculty and staff can access the GoWMU portal, which requires a BroncoNet ID and password.

WMU makes U.S. News’ top universities list for sixth time

For the sixth consecutive year, WMU has been placed among the nation’s top-100 public universities by U.S. News & World Report. The annual “America’s Best Colleges” listing, which appeared in the Aug. 23 edition, lists WMU as one of the top-100 public institutions among the 245 schools categorized as “national universities-doctoral.” This is the sixth time WMU has placed in the top 100 and the 15th consecutive year it has been included in the magazine’s national university grouping. The University is one of only four public universities in the state to be listed among the nation’s top-100 public universities.

O’Flaherty tapped for Dept. of Education post

After eight years in Kalamazoo, the University’s student financial aid guru is headed to Washington, D.C., for what she calls “the opportunity of a lifetime.”

Susan O’Flaherty, executive director of student services, has been tapped for a new post as a senior advisor at the U.S. Department of Education. Her focus at the department will be on student applications and systems in the Office of Student Financial Assistance. It’s a job to which O’Flaherty calls “the opportunity of a lifetime.”

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A message from President Bailey

Dear colleagues:

There’s nothing like the start of the fall semester to reinvigorate the feeling of infinite possibility that is so much a part of the university experience. We’re poised at the start of an academic year that is ripe with both promise and challenge, and I couldn’t be happier to see the enthusiasm of our students who are now sharing the campus with returning faculty and dedicated staff. This is a time of great energy and renewed commitment.

If you’re new to campus, you are heartily welcomed. For those returning after a summer away, welcome back. Those of you who were here all summer deserve a special note of appreciation. You already know the campus has been a place of steady activity because you’ve been deeply involved in that activity. There have been physical changes, personnel changes, and infrastructure changes. They are paving the way for University success in this and coming academic years.

I invite you all to take a few moments to become familiar with what’s happened over the summer and to reflect on the many accomplishments of our faculty, staff and students. Then, join me in sharing the University’s story with the wider communities we serve. This is our University and those of us who know WMU best are its best ambassadors. Let the excitement we all feel this week build and sustain us throughout the coming year.

It’s fall—the start of the academic year—and everything is possible.

Best regards,

Judy Bailey

Sept. 8 opening set for new Multicultural Center in Trimpe

A grand opening ceremony for the University’s new Multicultural Center will be held at 3 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 8, in 1110 Trimpe.

The center, or MCC as it’s called, occupies a suite of four rooms in Trimpe. It was established primarily to meet the needs of ethnic minority and international students but will be available to all other WMU students as well. In addition, faculty and staff also may book space in the facility when providing programs and events that pertain to the MCC’s multicultural focus.

The grand opening will feature a short program, starting at 3 p.m. with remarks from President Judi Bailey. Representatives from a large group of students who participated in designing the center also will speak, and light refreshments will be served. Those interested may tour the MCC from 3:15 to 4:30 p.m.

“Over the years, multicultural students saw a need to have a comfortable and versatile space where they can gather for meetings, films, social events and other activities or just hang out together,” says Martha Warfield, assistant vice president of the Division of Multicultural Affairs and director of the Presidential Initiative on Diversity and Multiculturalism.

“It also envisioned that faculty will use the space when they would like an informal setting in which to hold seminars, discussions and talks on topics relative to diversity and multiculturalism.”

Jesse Grant, a doctoral intern with the Division of Multicultural Affairs from Akron, Ohio, says the MCC evolved with input from students, and students will help determine how the facility will be used and managed. Grant, who is pursuing a doctor of philosophy degree in higher education leadership, will provide staff support for the center.

For more information about the MCC, contact Ronicka Hamilton in the Division of Multicultural Affairs at 7-4421.

WMU one of two schools to receive Archer Scholarships

University alumnus Dennis Archer is making good on a long-term goal—providing the financial means for Detroit-area students to attend WMU and Wayne State University.

Ten students from each university have been designated Archer Scholars and each is receiving a $5,000 scholarship from the Archer Foundation this year. The scholarships are designed to support students, primarily graduates of Detroit-area schools, who are able to thrive in a university setting.

The 20 scholarships will be formally announced and the scholars introduced during a Sept. 13 fund-raising event at Detroit’s Roostertail restaurant, proceeds of which will support the scholarships. Major sponsors of the event are DaimlerChrysler, Ford Motor Co., General Motors and Johnson Controls.

Archer, former mayor of Detroit, is the president of the American Bar Association.
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 units 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.

(R) Assistant Professor (tenure track, academic year; reposted), 130 Educational Studies, 04/05-4460, 8/30-9/7/04

(R) Associate Professor (tenure track, full year), 120, School of Art, 04/05-4474, 8/30-9/7/04

(R) Associate Professor (tenure track, academic year), 120, Bronson School of Nursing, 04/05-4475, 8/30-9/7/04

(R) Associate Professor (tenure track, academic year), 120, Bronson School of Nursing, 04/05-4476, 8/30-9/7/04

(N) Assistant Professor (tenure track, academic year), 110, Dance, 04/05-4477, 8/30-9/7/04

(N) Assistant Professor (tenure track, academic year), 130, School of Music, 04/05-4478, 8/30-9/7/04

(N) Assistant Professor (tenure track, academic year), 130, Family and Consumer Sciences, 04/05-4482, 8/30-9/7/04

N = New
R = Replacement
WMU is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer.

Jobs

Arthur L. Christensen, emeritus in education and professional development, died Aug. 17 in Kalamazoo. He was 80. Christensen taught at WMU from 1959 until his retirement in 1984. He began his University tenure as a high school English teacher in the campus school, then taught and worked with students who were doing their professional field experience, primarily in Allegan County schools.

G.G. Dallani, emeritus in social work, died Aug. 16. He was 79. Dallani was a faculty member from 1969 until his retirement in 1986. For a decade, 1972-1982, he directed an international program for social workers from abroad sponsored by the Council of International Programs and WMU’s School of Social Work. He also served as a consultant to various CIP programs in the United States and overseas.

From 1975 to 1978, he served as director of admissions and scholarships for the School of Social Work. Before coming to WMU, he was a faculty member and dean at the University of Baroda in India.

Arthur L. Christensen

Obituaries

Obituaries

WMU is an Equal Opportunity/Replacement

Human Resources

Address changes needed now

Human Resources Information Systems reminds employees to report changes of name, home address or phone numbers by 5 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 7, to ensure inclusion of correct, current information in the 2004-05 edition of the campus directory.

Changes can be reported by: completing the Employee Name and Address Change form found online at <www.wmich.edu/hr/forms.htm>; sending e-mail to <hr@wmich.edu> that includes the employee’s full name and employee identification or social security number along with the changes being reported; or noting the change on an Employee Personal Data Form, which can be obtained by calling 7-3622.

Human Resources

Service

The following employees are recognized for celebrating 40, 30, 25, 20, 15, 10 and five years of service to the University during July. A lengthy list of more than 180 employees celebrating service anniversaries during the month of August will be made available online in mid-September. The September service anniversaries will be noted in the Sept. 16 issue of Western News.

40 years—Joyce E. Papesh, Office of University Budgets.
30 years—Howard J. Ross, public safety.
25 years—Theoni Androutsopoulos, plant-building custodial and support services; Carl C. Desli, plant-building custodial and support services; George H. Jarvis, Power Plant; Gail L.-Anderson Kurtz, investments and endowment management; Pamela S. Rups, information technology; and Terri L. Simmons, information technology.
20 years—Carol R. Dedow, public safety.
15 years—Melissa M. Bloomquist, payroll; Leon Ladmore, industrial and manufacturing engineering; and Richard A. Reames, Paper and Printing Pilot Plant.
10 years—Annie R. Dobbs, chemistry; Edward H. Holloway, University Libraries; Celeste M. Jackson, biological sciences; Troy E. Leinser, Power Plant; and James L. Schultz, Extended University Programs.
5 years—Brian C. Bird, geosciences; Christian George Carlson, public safety; Sally R. Cowles, Sincere Health Center; Patrick O. Daniel, Student Activities and Leadership; Dale S. Fairland, Evaluation Center; Daniel M. Litynski, electrical and computer engineering; Matthew Douglas Page, public safety; Beth M. Seiler, College of Aviation; Darshana Shah, computer science; and Cynthia B. Stinebach, physician assistant.

News and event info is online

All the news that didn’t fit and lots of other information about the University and campus events can be found on the WMU News Web site. Visit <www.wmich.edu/wmnws/> to keep abreast of what’s happening at WMU.
On Campus with Eri Vlier

Eri Vlier is an artist and an alumna, employee and current student at WMU. And when she’s not busy at one of those roles, she enjoys cooking, sewing, working in her vegetable garden and mountain biking with her husband, Bryan, and friends.

For the past three years, Vlier has been a full-time cataloger at Waldo Library, where she first began working as a student in 1998. In addition to cataloging music CDs, music scores, maps and books, she is also working on new Web pages for the cataloging department in Waldo. She hopes to have the pages online in mid-September.

Vlier came to WMU from Japan 10 years ago, attracted to the University by the CEICIS program and a desire to study English. During her studies at WMU, she found a new interest in art and earned a bachelor’s degree with a major in art in 2000. She is enrolled again as a student, this time seeking a bachelor of fine arts degree in ceramics.

Pottery—specifically a selection of teapots—by Vlier is on exhibit in the Upjohn Rotunda of Waldo Library through Sept. 7. She says that much of her inspiration for the works she creates comes from her native Japan. All of the teapots in the exhibit were wheel-thrown, cut and reconstructed in stoneware and white stoneware clays. The exhibit is located on the main floor of the library just inside the main entrance and is open during normal library hours.

She’s Made an Art of WMU Ties

(PhotobyThomMyers)

O’Flaherty brings more than 30 years of experience in working directly with students.

“For me, this is really a dream job, a perfect match,” O’Flaherty says. “What I can bring to the very complex federal financial aid system is a perspective on how universities operate, how financial aid offices operate within those universities and how aid systems impact the lives and college experiences of our students.”

She began her tenure at WMU in 1996 as director of student financial aid and scholarships. Five years later, she took on her current title when she added oversight as director of student financial aid and a vice provost for enrollment management. In the interim, Delene announced the following personnel adjustments:

• Barbara McKinney, formerly of the Department of Mathematics, will serve as interim provost.
• Carol Aslanian, will serve as interim director of the Office of Student Financial Aid and Scholarships.
• Marcie Ohls of the Office of Student Financial Aid and Scholarships will assume O’Flaherty’s role in the ongoing implementation of WMU’s new Student Information System. O’Flaherty expects to continue advising the University on the project until it is completed.

WMU Board of Trustees awards tenure to thirty-seven faculty members beginning with start of 2004-05 academic year

Thirty-seven faculty members were approved for tenure by the University’s Board of Trustees June 30. The tenured appointments are effective with the beginning of the 2004-05 academic year.

The faculty members and their academic areas are:

Richard Adams, music; Larry L. Ahleman, paper engineering, chemical engineering and imaging; Gary H. Bischof, counselor education and counseling psychology; Lynn M. Broce, teaching, learning, and leadership; Joetta L. Carr, University Counseling and Testing Center; David Curwen, dance; Toby A. Daspit, teaching, learning, and leadership; J.D. Dolan, English; Igor Fedotov, music; Susan Hoffman, political science; Gregory J. Howard, sociology; Yvette D. Hyser, speech pathology and audiology; Margaret Joyce, paper engineering, chemical engineering and imaging; Karlis Kaugars, computer science; Jean Kimmel, economics; Ronald B. Larson, marketing; Cindy Linn, biological sciences; Yuandong Liu, health, physical education and recreation; Vincent Lyon-Callo, anthropology; Bert G. Miller, occupational therapy; Michael G. Miller, health, physical education and recreation; Matthew Mingus, public affairs and administration; Tahitha Mingus, mathematics; James A. Muchmore, teaching, learning, and leadership; Lawrence T. Potter, Africana studies; Alan J. Rea, business information systems; Elke Schoffers, chemistry; Jana K. Schulman, English; Roberta J. Schultz, marketing; Annette C. Skellenger, blindness and low vision studies; Christina Stamps, management; Thomas E. Swartz, industrial and manufacturing engineering Vince Torano, art; James A. Visser, public affairs and administration; Bee Wagner, management; Wilson J. Warren, history; and Steven Ziebarth, mathematics.

Volleyball Broncos start season with Labor Day ‘Fan Fest’

WMU’s volleyball team will hold a fan appreciation event prior to the Broncos’ Labor Day match versus the University of Nebraska, ranked No. 2 in the nation in preseason polls.

Dubbed “Fan Fest,” the event is from 11 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. Monday, Sept. 6, outside the main entrance to University Arena. The volleyball match begins at 12:30 p.m. in the arena.

Fan Fest will feature music and a jumping balloon for the children. Lunch will be available to everyone for $2-per-plate, provided by Damon’s. General admission tickets for volleyball are $5 for adults and $3 for children.

Tickets for the contest will be available at the door. For advanced ticket sales, call the Athletic Ticket Office at 7-8092.