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.

The speech is open to the public by invitation only and to WMU faculty, staff and students. To reserve a spot, call 7-3050.

Undergrad catalog now online

The 2003-05 edition of WMU’s Undergraduate Catalog is now available for computer download as a fully searchable and printable PDF (Portable Document Format). The catalog can be found at <http://catalogs.ur.wmich.edu/>. In the coming weeks, the 2002-04 Graduate Catalog also will be added to the same site.

According to David H. Smith, university relations, the catalogs will not be continuously updated, but will be updated each time a print edition is completed.

“The catalog has a table of contents much like the one found in the print version,” Smith says. “Users will be able to locate an item on the contents page and click on it to go to the appropriate page in the PDF. They also can print as much or as little of the PDF as they like.”

Smith says that, while computer users on campus will be able to download the catalog in under a minute using a DSL connection, those relying on dial-up access on a 56K modem could take as long as six minutes to download the material.

Western News is back in print

The Western News, WMU's faculty/staff newspaper for more than 10 years, will appear in this new, enlarged size every other week during the fall and spring semesters.

The print edition will be distributed in departments across the campus as well as in some of the major campus gathering places such as the Bernhard Center and Waldo Library.

Western News will also continue to be available online. Each edition of the paper can be found at <www.wmich.edu/wmu/western-news>. Back issues of the News can be found at the site as well.

“Keeping faculty and staff informed and engaged is one of our most important assignments,” says Matt Kurz, associate vice president for university relations. “When we switched to the electronic format last year, we found that it worked for some people but not for others. That’s why we’re reintroducing the print version to go along with the online version of Western News.”

Christine K. Cortez, DaimlerChrysler’s senior vice president for global service and parts, will talk about the challenges of marketing an automotive product line at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 8, as part of the Hawsworth College of Business Distinguished Speaker Series.

The 1976 WMU alumnus will discuss “Automotive Service: The Marketing Challenge and the Mopar Brand Beyond Muscle Cars” in the event set for Schneider Hall’s Brown Auditorium.

hat's no bull—It Broncoyle school spirit shown by WMU student Alyssa Al-Hakim as he rides a mechanical bull at the 2004 Bronco Bash. (Photo by Tammy M. Bonieburg)

THAT'S NO BULL—It Broncoyle school spirit shown by WMU student Alyssa Al-Hakim as she rides a mechanical bull at the 2004 Bronco Bash. (Photo by Tammy M. Bonieburg)

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

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GoWMU allows users to personalize their home page in the portal. They can upload and links to Web sites of their choice, which they will see every time they log in to the portal. Tutorials to teach users how to add channels and use the other features are provided in GoWMU.

General announcements to the campus community will be made through “announcement channels,” which can be found on every user's portal home page and are among the few channels that users cannot remove or customize.

In the near future, student e-mail addresses will be entered into GoWMU for each course in which the student is enrolled. This will allow students to have personal calendars, which will include their course schedules as well as any other information they wish to add. Faculty and staff will also be able to create personal calendars and share them with others to facilitate scheduling meetings.

Registered student organizations and faculty and staff committees can set up “groups” within the portal, with message boards and chat rooms, which can greatly enhance communication among members of the group.

More features and functionality are constantly being added to GoWMU. Students, faculty and staff are encouraged to begin using the portal now, so that they are familiar with its capabilities and can take immediate advantage of new features as they become available through implementation of the University’s new Student Information System—known as SIS.

Information on BroncoNet IDs is available at <www.wmich.edu/oit/accounts>. Access the portal at <gowmu.wmich.edu>.

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.

Western News
For and about WMU faculty and staff

SEPTEMBER 2, 2004
volume 31, number 1
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,

Jude 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 is 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.
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 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), 130, 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) Faculty Specialist I (tenure track, academic year), FSI, Health, Physical Education and Recreation, 04/05-4480, 8/30-9/7/04
(N) Associate Dean (tenure track, full year), 2, College of Arts and Sciences, 04/05-4481, 8/30-9/7/04
(R) 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.

Obituaries

Arthur L. Chris
tensen, emeritus in education and professional development, died Aug. 17 in Kal
amazoo. 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. Dadlani, emer
itus in social work, died Aug. 16. He was 79.

Dadlani 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.

Edgar A. Kelley, emeritus in educational leadership, died July 8. He was 64.

Kelley was a faculty member and chairperson of the Department of Educational Leadership from 1970 until 1991. During his WMU tenure, he was instrumental in launching the University’s joint doctoral program with Northern Michigan University, and he personally traveled to Marquette regularly to teach in that program and coordinate activities for the first cohort.

Before coming to WMU, Kelley served for 14 years as a faculty member at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. He also taught high school social studies and was a school administrator early in his career.

Human Resources

Address changes needed now

Human Resources Information Systems reminds employees to report changes of name, home address or phone numbers by 5pm 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 number; or calling 7-3669 to report the change on an Employee Personal Data Form, which can be obtained by calling 7-3622.

Service

The following employees are recognized for completing 40, 30, 25, 20, 15, 10 and five years of service to the University during July.

Arthur L. Christensen, emeritus in education and professional development, died Aug. 17 in Kalamazoo. He was 80.

G.G. Dadlani, emeritus in social work, died Aug. 16. He was 79.

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25 years—Theoni Androustopoulos, plant-building custodial and support services; Carl C. Dezi, plant-building custodial and support services; George H. Jarvis, Power Plant; Gail L. Anderson Kurtz, investments and endowment management; Pamela S. Raps, information technology; and Terri L. Simmons, information technology.

20 years—Carol R. Dedow, public safety.

15 years—Melissa M. Bloomquist, payroll; Leonard Lamberson, industrial and manufacturing engineering; and Richard A. Reames, Paper and Printing Pilot Plant.

10 years—Annie R. Dobbs, chemistry; Edward H. Holloway, University Libraries; Celeene M. Jackson, biological sciences; Troy E. Leinser, Power Plant; and James L. Schultz, Extended University Programs.

Five years—Brian C. Bird, geosciences; Christian George Carlson, public safety; Sally R. Cowles, Sindecuse Health Center; Patrick O. Daniel, Student Activities and Leadership; Dale S. Farland, 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. Stineback, 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/wmunaews/> to keep abreast of what’s happening at WMU.

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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, Byron, 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.

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 of the Registrar’s Office to her duties. Her departure will trigger searches for new people to handle the multiple roles she currently plays at WMU.

“Sue is a lynchpin for a number of vital University services and initiatives,” says Provost Linda Delene, who announced O’Flaherty’s resignation, effective Sept. 24. “For the past three years, she’s overseen both the registrar’s office and our financial aid operations. Each of those tasks is enormous, but holding both at a university this size is really a Herculean effort. This is a loss for the University, but truly a gain for the knowledge, commitment and passion Sue brings to the issues of financial aid.”

Delene says the University will immediately launch searches for a new registrar, a director of 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 registrar;
• Carol Ablanian, will serve as interim director of the Office of Student Financial Aid and Scholarships, and
• 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. Brice, teaching, learning, and leadership; Joetta L. Curr, 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. Hyter, 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; Yusandong, Liu, health, physical education and recreation; Vincent Lyon-Callo, anthropology; Berit 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 Schoffer, chemistry; Jana K. Schulman, English; Roberta J. Schultz, marketing; Arnette C. Skelenger, blindness and low vision studies; Christina Stamper, management; Thomas E. Swartz, industrial and manufacturing engineering Vince Torano, art; James A. Visser, public affairs and administration; Breet 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.

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