



Western NEWS

JUNE 17, 2004

volume 30, number 19

www.wmich.edu/wmu/news

June commencement features awarding of 1,789 degrees

More than 1,700 degrees will be awarded to new graduates during two WMU commencement ceremonies Saturday, June 26, in Miller Auditorium.

A 9 a.m. ceremony will include graduates of the colleges of Arts and Sciences, Aviation, Engineering and Applied Sciences, and Health and Human Services. An 11:30 a.m. ceremony will include graduates of the Haworth College of Business, the colleges of Education and Fine Arts, and Extended University Programs.

WMU trustees to meet June 30

The next meeting of the WMU Board of Trustees, originally scheduled for June 25, has been moved to Wednesday, June 30. The board meeting will begin at 8 a.m. and will be held in 157-159 Bernhard Center. Agenda items were not available at *Western News* press time.

Gary Fund drive sets record

The 2004 Mike Gary Athletic Fund campaign already has garnered a record-setting \$821,000 in gifts and pledges. Gifts to the Gary Fund help defray the costs of athletic scholarships and special equipment.

This year's drive will continue through June 30. Fred Sitkins, industrial and manufacturing engineering, is campaign chairperson and Lewis Walker, emeritus in sociology, is vice chairperson. For more information or to make a contribution, call 7-3057 or e-mail <jerry.george@wmich.edu>.

No more 'News' till September

This is the last issue of *Western News* for the 2003-04 academic year. Publication of this faculty and staff newspaper will resume Sept. 2. Over the summer, *Western News* readers are encouraged to keep up with the latest news by visiting the WMU News Web site at <www.wmich.edu/wmu/news>.

Diesel fuel might be good for environment

Cooking oil—for years it's helped provide fuel for drivers in the form of fast food staples like french fries. Now, it's fueling the vehicles they drive.



Rep. Fred Upton (left) and Steven Bertman, chemistry, use cooking oil to mix up a mini-batch of biodiesel fuel. (Photo by Cheryl P. Roland)

Three WMU chemistry researchers have launched an alternative fuel project that turns cooking oil from WMU residence halls and local restaurants into fuel for their own and University-owned vehicles.

The effort started in January with what the trio calls mid-winter "dumpster diving" to retrieve used oil from WMU food service kitchens to use in their experiments. By late April, they were showing off their work to U.S. Rep. Fred Upton and proposing biodiesel use as a way to spark an economic turnaround that could help farmers and the environment as well as wean America from its dependence on foreign oil.

"With fuel cell technology still years from mass use and with the relatively small penetration of hybrid vehicles into the transportation fleet, biodiesel offers an immediate mechanism for accomplishing

continued on page 4

Two receive Fulbright grants

Aimee Jachym, a recent graduate in English and business, and Travis Bruce, a doctoral candidate in history, have been awarded Fulbright Grants for Graduate Study Abroad for 2004-05.

The awards bring to 17 the number of Fulbright Fellowships won by WMU students, says Howard Dooley, executive director of international affairs and Fulbright program advisor.

Jachym will spend a year in her native Korea participating in the Fulbright English Teaching Assistant Program. Now a naturalized citizen, she grew up in Plymouth, Mich., and was a Medallion Scholar and Lee Honors College member at WMU.

Bruce will travel to Spain in September and spend a full academic year studying Muslim-Christian interaction in the medieval Mediterranean. He originally hails from Alaska and has language skills in Latin, Arabic, Spanish, Catalan, French and Italian.



SEEING RED WHITE AND BLUE—Hockey coach Jim Culhane (right) was among some 750 people from 89 nations who became American citizens during a naturalization ceremony June 8 in Miller Auditorium. U.S. District Court Judge David W. McTeague (left) swore in the new citizens. U.S. Rep. Fred Upton, WMU President Judith I. Bailey and Kalamazoo Mayor Robert Jones presented remarks during the ceremony, which was coordinated by the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services. Culhane, a native of Haileybury, Ontario, was a four-year standout as a defenseman on the hockey team in the 1980s, played briefly in the National Hockey League and returned to WMU as an assistant coach in 1992. (Photo by Thom Myers)

Around the Campus

Orientation up and running

About 8,000 students and parents are booking it to Kalamazoo this year for orientation. The 2004 theme, "WMU—Your Next Chapter," focuses on telling the story of the University's student resources and services.

Twelve two-day sessions have been scheduled from June 2 to July 19 for incoming freshmen while four one-day sessions will take place from May 27 to Aug. 27 for some 600 transfer students.

Only two SIS sessions remain

Question-and-answer sessions on the University's new Student Information System will be held from 3 to 4 p.m. Wednesday, June 23 and 30, in 3030 Schneider. Faculty and staff members

are invited to bring specific questions or general concerns about the SIS project to the informal sessions with members of the project team.

Waldo offers Reagan display

Materials representing the presidency of the late Ronald Reagan are on display through June 24 in Waldo Library. The display, which is free and open to the public, is located along the main aisle on the first floor of Waldo Library.

Items in the display represent Reagan's term as the 40th U.S. president. They were assembled by library staff in the Government Documents Department and may be viewed during normal library hours. For library hours, visit the Website at <www.wmich.edu/library/hours>.

Exchange

FOR SALE—Two file cabinets. One two-drawer, beige cabinet, \$35 or best offer. One one-drawer, black cabinet with flip top, \$30 or best offer. Both hardly used. Call 385-4711.

FOR SALE—Westwood home, five minutes from WMU, 1490 Coolidge Ave. Three-bedroom, two-bath 1993 ranch, open design, sunroom, large master suite and deck, fenced yard. \$189,900. Call 7-5955, 384-8271, or 352-3862 for appointment.



EDITOR: Cheryl P. Roland. ISSUE EDITOR: Jeanne Baron.

CONTRIBUTORS: Jessica English, Thomas A. Myers, Mark E. Schwerin and Gail H. Towns. GRAPHIC DESIGN: Tammy M. Boneburg.

WESTERN NEWS (USPS 362-210) is published by the Office of University Relations, Walwood Hall, Western Michigan University, 1903 W. Michigan Ave., Kalamazoo, MI 49008-5433, every other week when classes are in session. Periodicals postage paid at Kalamazoo, MI 49008-5165.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to *Western News*, Office of University Relations, Western Michigan University, 1903 W. Michigan Ave., Kalamazoo, MI 49008-5433.

DEADLINE: Items to be considered for publication should be submitted to the Office of University Relations by 5 p.m. Friday the week preceding the publication date. Summer I Session 2004 publication dates are May 6, May 20, June 3 and June 17. Items may be submitted by mail, fax (387-8422) or e-mail (cheryl.roland@wmich.edu).

WMU is an equal opportunity/employer/affirmative action institution.



WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY

On-campus employers may use free job posting service

The BroncoJOBS Web site at <www.broncoJOBS.wmich.edu> is a convenient way for offices across campus to advertise part-time student positions. Offices that regularly use this Career and Student Employment Services site are able to reach large numbers of potential student workers—year round and at no cost.

George Eskro, CSES, says now is a good time to start advertising part-time positions. "A lot of incoming students go online to look for jobs while they're attending orientation sessions in June and July," Eskro explains. "Also, units won't be able to hire as many students right before the fall semester as they have in the past because budget constraints have forced us to cancel our Student Employment Fair in late August."

BroncoJOBS is one of WMU's most often visited Web sites. To post a job, call CSES at 7-2725. Employers can then e-mail their openings and job descriptions to CSES for CSES staff to post or request a username and password and post their information themselves.

CSES welcomes job postings year round, but recommends making arrangements to post fall openings no later than the first week of August. It also suggests that jobs be listed for at least seven business days each time they become vacant. For more information, call Eskro at 7-2745.

Nelson receives lecturer award

Nickola Nelson, speech pathology and audiology, in May received the Distinguished Faculty Lecturer Award from the University of Saint Xavier in Chicago. The Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders gives this award annually to one outstanding individual.

Nelson was recognized for "the quality of excellence and professional vision demonstrated in her contributions to the field of speech and language pathology during her long years of service." The award ceremony included Nelson delivering a lecture titled "Language and Literacy Connections: A Roadmap to Relevant Language Intervention Practices."

Baseball head coach named



Ford

Alumnus and Penn State assistant coach Randy Ford will be the seventh person to head WMU's 94-year-old baseball program.

Ford has spent the past 16 seasons at Penn State, where he was serving as pitching

coach, recruiting coordinator and a kinesiology faculty member. He replaces Fred Decker, who is WMU's winningest coach.

Ford began his association with the Broncos as a three-year letterwinner, 1977-79. A walk-on, left-handed pitcher, he was drafted by the Toronto Blue Jays in 1979. Shoulder problems ended his career, so Ford returned to WMU in 1984 to complete his physical education degree, then spent four years as an assistant under Decker.

Schmutter new WCSU president



Schmutter

Dean James W. Schmutter, Haworth College of Business, has been named the eighth president of Western Connecticut State University. Schmutter, dean since 1997, is expected to assume his new post Aug. 1.

WCSU, founded in 1903, serves more than 6,000 full- and part-time undergraduate and graduate students. Located in Danbury, it is part of the Connecticut State University System and has a 34-acre downtown campus and a 364-acre Westside Campus.

Jobs

Although a campuswide job freeze remains in effect, the following vacancy has been approved for posting as a position that is 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 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), **Office Assistant**, 11, Communication, 03/04-4369, 6/14-6/21/04

N= New, R=Replacement

WMU is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer.

Human Resources

TIAA-CREF continues to offer on-campus appointments for employees to discuss their personal retirement and investment planning. A TIAA-CREF representative will be available for on-campus meetings June 22 through 25. To make an appointment, visit the TIAA-CREF Web site at <<https://ifs2.tiaa-cref.org/cgi-bin/WebObjects/ARS>> and follow the online prompts. All meetings will take place in 2100 Seibert.



FLYING HIGH—Amanda J. Gruden, lead flight instructor for the College of Aviation (left), and Sarah Tower, a June 2003 aviation flight science graduate, will share piloting duties for the 2004 Air Race Classic June 23 to 26. This women's, cross-country event has attracted U.S. aviators since the days of Amelia Earhart. It will be a round-robin journey this year and begin and end in Wichita, Kan. Gruden and Tower expect to file daily reports on their progress for posting online in WMU News. A race route map is available online at <www.airraceclassic.org/pages/6/index.htm>. (Photo by Cheryl P. Roland)

Obituaries



Wetnight

Robert B. Wetnight, WMU's first vice president for finance, died June 1 in Florida. He was 81.

Wetnight was first appointed comptroller by then-WMU President James Miller and was named vice president

in 1965. He served as finance chief under two WMU presidents and before retiring in 1985, spent 23 years managing the University's financial resources.

His tenure saw a growth in the campus general fund budget from \$3 million to more than \$77 million. It also saw Wetnight help the University negotiate a dire fiscal crisis in the early 1980s.

In a 1984 Kalamazoo Gazette interview shortly before his retirement, Wetnight said he considered the development of a good staff and a "professional business operation" for the University his major accomplishments.

By that point, his office had grown to oversee budgets and financial planning, employee relations and personnel, physical plant, auxiliary enterprises, public safety, investments and risk management, and internal audit.

Wetnight also served as the founding treasurer for the WMU Foundation and

treasurer of the University's Paper Technology Foundation. He came to WMU in 1951 as an accountancy professor. When he was hired by Arnold Schneider, head of the fledgling business school, Wetnight was only the second full-time instructor in accountancy for the business program. He went on to head the accountancy academic program when the College of Business—now the Haworth College of Business—was established in 1956.

Active in the Kalamazoo community, Wetnight served as president of the Kalamazoo Country Club and vice president of the Kalamazoo Area Chamber of Commerce. He was a member of the National Association of College and University Business Officers and held state and national offices in such organizations as the National Association of Accountants, the American Accounting Association and the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants.

An Ohio native, Wetnight earned a bachelor's degree and a master of business administration degree from the University of Toledo in 1947 and 1958, respectively. He worked for four years as a staff accountant with Arthur Young & Co.'s Toledo office before joining the WMU faculty.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Robert B. Wetnight Scholarship Fund, in care of the WMU Foundation, Kalamazoo MI 49008-5403.

Service

The following employees were recognized for 35, 30, 25, 20, 15, 10 and five years of service to the University in June.

35 years—Theodore J. Petropoulos, Bernhard Center.

30 years—Sandra J. Edwards, occupational therapy, and Leigh W. Fitzgerald Jr., public safety.

25 years—Karin F. Carl, College of Education; Linda A. Goldner, College of Arts and Sciences; Mark S. Hall, physical plant-building, custodial and support services; Marsha A. Magga, health, physical education and recreation; and Cheryl L. Siwik, payroll.

20 years—Jeanne Baron, university relations, and Billie A. Blake, international affairs.

15 years—Kirk B. Dillery, physical plant-utilities; Jane Edwards, Extended University Programs; Robert R. Eversole, biological sciences; Dori A. LaChance, registrar's office; Robert Landeros, management; Thomas

Lentz, Extended University Programs; and G. Gwen Raaberg, English.

10 years—Kevin J. O'Donnell, Center for Disability Services.

5 years—John C. Cernius, civil and construction engineering, materials science engineering, and industrial design; Nancy G. Dyksterhouse, Office of the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs; Martin B. Grant, College of Aviation; Denise L. Hirzel, WMU Apartments; Steven M. Humble, College of Aviation; Cathy J. Johnson, Sindecuse Health Center; Scott W. Kuykendall, intercollegiate athletics; Michael Ervin Ludwiczak, College of Aviation; Nathan E. Lutz, public safety; Angela M. Madden, human resources; Shawn A. Nelson, College of Health and Human Services; Cynthia L. Seedorff, Medieval Institute; Sandra Stephens, College of Education; and Donald J. Weber, College of Education.

On Campus with WiSeon Kim Salisbury



RIGHT AT HOME AT WMU
(Photo by Gail Towns)

Although more than 6,500 miles away from her family in central Korea, WiSeon Kim Salisbury, Office of the President, felt right at home when she arrived in Kalamazoo.

Much has changed since the former English teacher came to WMU in 1994 to pursue a master's degree in elementary education. While here, she met the man she would marry, became an American citizen, started a new career and began work on a second master's degree—a master of business administration.

Still, her first impression of the University and Kalamazoo has not changed. "Everybody here is so kind," says Salisbury. "They try to understand people's differences, and for me, it's all about people."

As an associate in the president's office, Salisbury interacts with many different people in the community and at WMU and its Business Technology and Research Park. She works closely with Judi Bailey's executive secretary and is involved with the University's community outreach efforts. She also assists with commencement activities, board meetings and a variety of other activities.

"The best thing about it all is that I get to meet a lot of people," Salisbury says. "There is a lot of learning involved, but it's a lot of fun, too."

Salisbury also has traveled to Korea to recruit students. Although it had little to do with her regular duties, she had the backing of her supervisors.

"That's another thing I like about the president's office: they're very supportive and understanding," she says.

Away from the office, Salisbury stays busy with her scrapbooking and beading hobbies. She and husband Darryl, also a WMU employee, spend time on the car show circuit and caring for his 1968, 1969 and 1970 AMX sports cars.

Diesel fuel

those goals," says Steven Bertman, chemistry. Since February, Bertman has powered his personal vehicle with the output from his campus research.

Bertman and chemistry department colleagues Marc Perkovic and Brian Buffin have been producing biodiesel in a 40-gallon reactor in WMU's McCracken Hall. Starting with oil from campus food services and a few small restaurants, they have begun what they believe is the only Kalamazoo-area source for biodiesel, although such fuel can be purchased elsewhere in the state.

Biodiesel is produced by mixing vegetable oil or animal fat with alcohol to form fatty esters and glycerol. The fatty esters can be used as is or blended with petroleum diesel at any ratio. As a result, biodiesel can be used to replace petroleum-based diesel fuel in standard diesel engines or for home heating oil without modification.

"Biodiesel is also clean burning and offers a significant improvement in auto emissions," Bertman says. In addition, the fuel is biodegradable; nontoxic; and an

excellent lubricant, which extends engine longevity.

One of the biggest roadblocks to widespread biodiesel use in the United States is the lingering public perception of cars with diesel engines as dirty. Other nations have moved past that view, and in Europe, about 40 percent of automobiles are powered by diesel engines, which are now inherently more efficient than gasoline engines.

Voss is academic All-American

Senior Jaymie Voss is one of only 11 softball players in the nation to earn First Team Academic All-America status in CoSIDA's university division. Voss of Kalamazoo has a 3.96 grade-point average in education and is WMU's female Scholar-Athlete of the Year.

She also was named to the All-MAC First Team for the second consecutive year and was one of only two players in the league to earn both pitcher- and player-of-the-week honors. She started all 58 games for the Broncos in 2004 and hit .337 for the year.

Geoscientists snag grants to support core research lab work

Master's students working with Michael Grammer, geosciences, have snagged recent grants to support their work in carbonate sedimentology being done with WMU's Michigan Basin Core Research Laboratory.

Peter Voice received \$2,000 as a grant from the American Association of Petroleum Geologists, a \$400 scholarship from the Michigan Basin Geological Society, and \$400 from the University's Graduate College Research and Creative Activities Fund. He is studying conditions that existed about 400 million years ago in the northeastern Michigan basin.

Anthony Sandomierski is studying the properties of coral reefs on the northwestern side of Michigan. He received \$2,000 from the American Association of Petroleum Geologists, a \$400 scholarship from the Michigan Basin Geological Society and \$500 from WMU's W. David Kuenzi Memorial Research Scholarship Fund as well as a paid Exxon-Mobil Corp. internship.

online

Calendar

Check www.wmich.edu/wmu/news/events
for a complete list of public campus events
and activities