Faculty can talk with president

President Judith I. Bailey’s next “Time to Talk” session for faculty members has been scheduled for 4 to 5:30 p.m. Tuesday, April 6, at the Oaklands.

Faculty members may stop by and talk with the president on any topic of concern. There are no appointments for these meetings, and the amount of time with President Bailey will not be restricted unless others are waiting to see her. In that case, a time limit of 10 minutes will be imposed.

‘Big dance’ scheduled at WMU

The 16th annual Senior Prom will be held from 7 to 10 p.m. Wednesday, March 31, in the Bernhard Center’s East Ballroom. This semi-formal event brings hundreds of area senior citizens together with WMU students, faculty and staff for a night of Big Band music and swing dancing.

Admission is free, and those who arrive early will be able to warm up by participating in Early Bird Bingo from 5 to 7 p.m. The theme for this year is “Sweet 16.”

Finals Finish seeks volunteers; will include Tami Porter tribute

Faculty, staff and administrators are asked to help students ease into finals week by volunteering at Finals Finish from 6 to 10 p.m. Monday and Tuesday, April 19 and 20, in the Student Recreation Center.

Volunteers may sign up for two-hour work shifts—6 to 8 p.m. or 8 to 10 p.m.—on either Monday or Tuesday. During their shifts, volunteers help distribute snacks, work registration, gather evaluations and lead games and activities. Those volunteering will receive a free Finals Finish T-shirt and a guest pass to the recreation center, as will donors who contribute $25 or more.

This year’s event will honor the late Tamara L. “Tami” Porter, a retired staff member who died in February. For details about the tribute, watch for the Finals Finish article that will appear online next week in WMU News at <www.wmich.edu/wmu/news>.

Basketball programs make history books

At Western News press time, the women’s basketball team was still enjoying one of its most successful seasons ever, with the team preparing for a March 24 National Invitation Tournament quarterfinal game against the University of Richmond.

The women earned the berth following a 63-61 first-round win over the University of Louisville and a second-round 85-83 overtime win over the University of North Carolina at Charlotte. Under coach Ron Stewart, the squad has now gone further in a post-season tournament than any other Bronco basketball team. It accomplished the feat despite having lost leading scorer and Mid-American Conference Player of the Year Casey Rost to a season-ending injury in February.

Meanwhile, first-year men’s coach Steve Hawkins led his team through a phenomenal season as well. The Bronco men captured the MAC West and MAC Tournament titles, and before falling to Vanderbilt University in first-round NCAA Tournament action, picked up a WMU record 26 victories.

For only the second time in MAC history, both the men’s and women’s Player-of-the-Year honorees came from the same school—WMU. Mike Williams earned the title for the men.

Nobel Laureate to give talk

Nobel Laureate Jody Williams will speak on “Individuals Can Make a Difference” at 7:30 p.m. Friday, March 26, in the Bernhard Center’s South Ballroom.

The presentation is free and open to the public and will be followed by a question-and-answer period. It is being sponsored by the national PeaceJam organization's Great Lakes affiliate, which is administered through the Greater Kalamazoo United Way.

Williams, along with the International Campaign to Ban Landmines, received the 1997 Nobel Peace Prize for her efforts to help ban and clear antipersonnel landmines. She was coordinator of the ICBL from its inception in 1992 until 1998.

During Williams’ tenure, the ICBL’s membership grew to some 1,300 non-governmental organizations and successfully spearheaded an international treaty banning antipersonnel landmines that to date has been signed by more than 135 countries and ratified by 89 countries.

Payne named to Indiana Basketball Hall of Fame

Vernon Payne, associate vice president for student affairs, was inducted Wednesday into the Indiana Basketball Hall of Fame.

Payne was recognized for his contributions to the community as well as higher education and for his stellar achievements on the court as a standout point guard in the 1960s.

The induction comes nearly 40 years after he was slighted by the organizers of Indiana’s 1964 All-Star Team. One of the highest scorers in the state, Payne averaged 14.2 points per game at Indiana University. He went on to coach basketball at IU, the University of Denver, Wayne State University, Michigan State University and in 1982, WMU. He joined the University’s administrative ranks in 1989.

Payne
Resegregation to be discussed

A Harvard University professor, known nationally for his research on integration and social policy in America’s schools, will speak at 4:30 p.m. Friday, March 26, in the Fetzer Center’s Putney Auditorium.

“Brown’s Fate in the Heartland of Segregation” is the topic of Gary Orfield’s free lecture, which addresses the resegregation of public schools 50 years after the landmark Supreme Court case “Brown vs. Board of Education.” For more information, call 7-3146 or 7-6865.

 Talks focus on translating poetry

A noted poetry translator will present two talks on his craft this month. Both events are co-sponsored by the departments of English and Foreign Languages, Lee Honors College, and Diether H. Haenicke Institute for International and Area Studies.

In a talk titled “The Nitty-Gritty of Poetic Translation,” Alexis Levitin will speak in general about translation and then analyze two short poems in detail to illustrate the types of problems that can arise, what choices translators confront and other related topics. The event begins at 8 p.m. Monday, March 29, in 3021 Brown.

Lavitin also will read from his new bilingual collection “Forbidden Words: Selected Poetry of Eugenio de Andrade” at 1 p.m. Tuesday, March 30, in the Lee Honors College.

Week set aside to honor key contributors to WMU’s success

This year’s Graduate and Professional Student Appreciation Week will run from Monday through Friday, April 5 through 9.

The highlight of 2004’s celebration will be an open reception for all graduate students that will feature free food and live music from the Butterfat Trio. The event will take place from 4 to 6 p.m. Wednesday, April 7, in the Bernhard Center’s South Ballroom.

There also will be a presentation ceremony for the 2004 recipients of both the Graduate Student Research and Creative Scholar Awards and the Graduate Student Teaching Effectiveness Awards from 4 to 6 p.m. Friday, April 9, in rooms 208 and 209 Bernhard Center.

For information about the reception and awards presentation, call 7-8207.

Woloszyk receives state award

Carl A. Woloszyk, family and consumer sciences, recently received the Ralph C. Wenrich Statewide Leadership Award. The honor, given annually by the Michigan Career Leadership Network of local, regional and state career and technical administrators, recognizes Woloszyk’s efforts to bolster Michigan career-technical programs and initiatives that help others lead more productive lives. Woloszyk is one of the authors of “Marketing Essentials,” a popular textbook widely used by educators and entrepreneurs alike.

Top boss, employee named

The winners of the 2004 campuswide employment awards are alumnus Scott P. Hennessy, Supervisor of the Year, and Jennifer S. Smith, Student Employee of the Year.

Hennessy, a former student worker himself, is student outreach coordinator for admissions and orientation. He supervises 40 student employees and numerous student volunteers who interact with prospective students through several high-profile recruiting and informational programs.

Smith, a Kalamazoo senior majoring in biomedical sciences, will graduate in April. She has worked in the Miller Auditorium Ticket Office for her entire WMU career.

Fifteenth annual pow wow set

The cultural heritage and diversity of American Indians will be celebrated during the 15th annual Native American Pow Wow from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. Saturday, April 3, and 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sunday, April 4, in University Arena.

The event is open to the public and features drumming, dancing, singing, food, artwork and crafts as well as spectacular Native American regalia and dance competitions. Grand entries will be held at 1 p.m. and 7 p.m. Saturday and at 1 p.m. Sunday. Food vendors will be selling such treats as fry bread, Indian tacos and buffalo burgers.

Admission rates vary. Children under age 5 and WMU students will be admitted at no charge. For more information or to become a sponsor or volunteer, call Michael J. Robertson at 7-2279.

Around the Campus

Series to feature auto exec

Local auto executive Aaron Zeigler will talk on “Gaining Market Share in a Mature Industry” at 7:30 a.m. Friday, March 26, in 2150 Schneider. The free, public event is the next Keystone Lecture Series breakfast.

Zeigler, president of the Zeigler Auto Group, began his career in sales at the company in 1991. Since then, he has worked as general sales manager for Harold Zeigler Kalamazoo, general manager for Harold Zeigler Chrysler Dodge Jeep, and president of J.D. Byrider of Kalamazoo and Lansing. For more information or to make a reservation, call 7-5050.

Agriculture expert to speak

An expert in agricultural practices and conservation will explore the influence of poverty on environmental practices during a Wednesday, April 7, talk on campus.

Scott Swinton, professor of agricultural economics at Michigan State University, will present “Too Poor to be Stewards? Rural Poverty and Sustainable Natural Resource Management” at 3 p.m. in 3508 Knauss. The lecture is part of the Werner Sichel Lecture-Seminar Series.

For more information about these or any other campus events, visit the WMU News Web site at <www.wmich.edu/wmu/news>
Obituaries

Richard Neschich, associate professor emeritus of marketing, died March 18 in Kalamazoo. He was 75.

Neschich first came to WMU in 1964, shortly after the Food Distribution Program was established. He and colleague William Haynes were credited with building the program into today’s renowned Food Marketing Program. Neschich forged industry partnerships, raised thousands of dollars for scholarships and helped launch the annual Food Marketing Conference.

Neschich and Haynes were honored for their efforts in 2000, when they were named to the list of top-100 industry leaders of the 20th century by the Michigan Food and Beverage Association. Others on the list include Hendrik Meijer, Win Schuler, Tom Monaghan and James Vernor.

Neschich retired in 1991, but continued teaching part time in the program through 2001. During his career, he also served as consultant to a number of food industry firms, including Coca Cola, Jewell Food Stores, the Kroger Co., the Kellogg Co., Kraft Foods and the Quaker Oats Co.

Memorial donations may be made to the Richard Neschich Endowed Food Marketing Scholarship through the WMU Foundation.

Human Resources

Presentations to spotlight state’s two college savings programs

Representatives from Michigan’s two state-sponsored Section 529 college savings programs will be on campus Tuesday and Wednesday, March 30 and 31, to discuss how these plans can help employees save for their children’s educations.

Presentations are set for 10:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. Tuesday in 159 Bernhard Center and 10:30 a.m. Wednesday in 204 Bernhard Center.

The Michigan Education Trust is a prepaid tuition program that allows the holder to purchase credit hours today that can be used by a child to attend a Michigan institution of higher education in the future. By investing a fixed amount today, a “nest egg” is created that grows in value during the years between the initial investment and the individual’s admission to college.

The Michigan Education Savings Program gives families a smart, flexible way to save for a child’s future. Savings can be used at colleges and universities across the United States and abroad. The MESP offers tax advantages and flexibility, in addition to experienced, professional management of savings.

Each session will include a one-hour presentation and time for questions. For more information, call human resources at 7-3620.

APA, PSSO schedule lunch

The Administrative Professional Association and the Professional and Support Services Organization will hold their joint spring luncheon from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Thursday, April 1, in the Bernhard Center’s East Ballroom.

The cost to attend is $8.50 for APA and PSSO members and $11 for nonmembers. Reservations are due by Friday, March 26, and should be returned to Kathy Wright, geosciences. For more information or to download a reservation form, visit <www.wmich.edu/apa> and click on “Latest News.”

Exchange

FOR SALE—Updated historic home on Short Road. Five bedrooms, two baths, sunroom, formal dining room, fireplace with built-in bookcases, kitchen with pantry, hardwood floors, 2,266 square feet. Two-car detached garage, corner lot. Asking $164,900. Call 7-4646.


Jobs

Although 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) Executive Director, Biosciences Research and Commercialization Center, 22, Office of the Vice President for Research, 03/04-4283, 3/22-3/29/04

(R) Office Assistant, 11, Occupational Therapy, 03/04-4284, 3/22-3/29/04

(R) = Replacement

WMU is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer.
Twelve staff members receive recognition for service excellence

Twelve University staff members have been selected to receive semiannual Staff Service Excellence Awards in the spring round of the awards program.

The winners were selected by a committee of peers from the participating employee groups of AFSCME, APA, MSEA, POA, and PSSO. The recipients will each receive $100 and a commemorative certificate.

The recipients include one representative from the AFSCME ranks—Jose L. Cardoza, physical plant-building custodial and support services.

The remaining recipients are from the Staff Compensation System. They are: Carol J. Ashley, Sincence Health Center-workers compensation; Linda M. Comrie, Graduate College; Sandy Duke, theatre; Michelle L. Hastings, Office of International Affairs; Ronicka D. Hamilton, Division of Multicultural Affairs; Blaine D. Kalafut, public safety; Richard G. McMullen Jr., student support services; William J. Merrow, Mallinson Institute for Science Education; Susan Ann Nap, College of Arts and Sciences; Thomas K. Ramsdell, logistical services; and Sandra Stephens, College of Education.

The prestigious award is reserved for WMU’s most outstanding staff employees—those who reach far beyond their assigned responsibilities to give generously and creatively of their time and talents. The fall 2003 and spring 2004 semiannual award recipients are now candidates for the 2004 annual awards, which include a $1,000 prize.

Shakespeare scholar to visit

A renowned Shakespeare scholar and editor will visit the campus to make a presentation on “Hamlet.”

David Bevington, the Phyllis Fay Horton Distinguished Service Professor in Humanities and a professor of English language and literature at the University of Chicago, will speak on “Friendship in ‘Hamlet’” at 7 p.m. Monday, March 29.

The event, which is free and open to the public, will take place on the 10th Floor of Sprau Tower.

Conventionneers put on game faces, get ready to do battle

Marmalade Dog 9: Gamefest 2004, will take place Friday, April 2, through Sunday, April 4, on the second floor of the Bernard Center. Nominal fees are charged to participate in games at the event, which is open to the public.

The convention, now in its ninth year, will feature role-playing, board, card and miniature games as well as a LAN party with a Quake III Arena tournament, a vendor exhibition area, and more. Among the special guests attending will be a representative from Eden Studios, publisher of the Buffy the Vampire Slayer role playing game.

Game pre-registrations, although not required, began Feb. 29 and will end tomorrow. The convention will open at 12:30 p.m. Friday. Doors will close on Sunday at 11:15 p.m. Registration and tournament times will vary throughout the weekend.

For details or to register as a player, game master or exhibitor, visit the Web site at <www.wmgg.org>.

On Campus with Tom Grossman

Tom Grossman, aviation, was about 8 years old when his family vacationed in Canada and his parents snapped a picture of him hopping from a float plane.

It’s one of his earliest memories of being fascinated with flight, an interest that spawned a hobby and eventually, a career.

As the chief flight instructor for the College of Aviation, Grossman puts his talent to use in the air and on the ground. After earning a degree in aerospace flight technology from Kent State University in 1982, Grossman went to work for his alma mater as a flight instructor.

“After graduation, I had an opportunity to go into education,” he says. “The enthusiasm you see with students who are setting and achieving their goals is ever so rewarding. I really enjoy being around them.”

Grossman, who came to WMU in 1999, is responsible for managing the college’s flight instructors, overseeing safety practices and quality control, and maintaining the integrity of the flight program, which is among the nation’s best.

But he doesn’t shoulder the work alone, Grossman is quick to add. Others in his area, including three flight program managers, eight full-time instructional staffers and about 45 temporary instructors, help keep the students—and the program—flying high.

For fun, the father of three coaches WMU’s award-winning Sky Broncos, a commitment that takes up most weekends between September and May. How does he do it?

“I have an extremely understanding wife,” he says of Teri, his spouse of 20 years.