



Western NEWS

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Bailey establishes series of times to meet with faculty, staff

President Judith Bailey has established "Open Office Hours" during spring semester to meet with WMU faculty and staff members.

One series of 90-minute sessions, February through April, has been set aside for staff members and a second has been designated for members of the faculty. Faculty and staff may stop by to visit with the president or talk about 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.

Open office hours for faculty members will be held in the Meader Rare Book Room of Waldo Library. The dates and times are Wednesday, Feb. 25, 3:30 to 5 p.m.; and Tuesday, March 16, 4 to 5:30 p.m.; Tuesday, April 6, 4 to 5:30 p.m.

Open office hours for staff members will be held in the Board of Trustees Lounge, next to 204 Bernard Center. One session was held for staff yesterday, Feb. 18. Additional sessions are set for Thursday, March 18, noon to 1:30 p.m. and Wednesday, April 14, 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

BOT meeting set for Feb. 27

The formal annual meeting of the WMU Board of Trustees is set for 8 a.m. Friday, Feb. 27, in the Connable Board Room of the Bernhard Center.

The board has opted to change its meeting format and meet as a "committee of the whole," so all action and information items will be considered by the full board instead of by separate board committees.

The annual meeting is traditionally the time for the board to elect its officers for the coming year. A final agenda of items for the Feb. 27 meeting was not available at *Western News* press time.

Martha Warfield joins senior staff as head of presidential diversity initiative

Martha B. Warfield, WMU's assistant vice president for student affairs and director of the Division of Multicultural Affairs, will lead a Presidential Initiative on Diversity and Multiculturalism.



Warfield

The initiative and Warfield's leadership role in the effort were announced Feb. 5 by President Judith I. Bailey in her State of the University address to the campus community. Warfield, who will restructure but continue her responsibilities in student affairs, will take a seat on the president's senior staff and lead a Council on Institutional Diversity charged with four main goals:

- to develop a comprehensive diversity plan;
- to review the policies, procedures, and limitations for the recruitment, retention, and participation of diverse groups and individuals across campus;
- to determine specific strategies and needed resources to improve the campus diversity climate; and
- to recommend ways to strengthen the use of the limited resources that already exist.

"As an institution, we reap tangible benefits when each individual is welcomed, respected and included in classroom discussion, study and work environments that are civil and respectful," Bailey said in making the announcement. "Until now, the University has not had one individual charged with the cross-cam-

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U.S. Army ranking puts HCOB's ROTC program among the nation's top-20 military science departments



Nipp

WMU's ROTC program ranks 20th out of 271 similar programs in colleges and universities nationwide, according to new standings released by the U.S. Army Cadet Command.

"This new ranking demonstrates what we already know—that our cadets stack up very well when compared to all the others across the nation," says Lt. Col. Robert Nipp, chairperson of military science and leadership. The program also ranked highest among others in its brigade, which includes other programs in Michigan, Indiana, Wisconsin and the Chicago area.



WMU Bronco Battalion members celebrate a U.S. Army Ranger Challenge win in October.

The new designation lands WMU's unit, which is part of the Haworth College of Business, in the top 15 percent of all U.S. programs.

"We are pleased that ROTC is a part of

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Around the Campus

'Pirates' dock at Shaw

One of the highlights of the upcoming joint theatre-music production of Gilbert and Sullivan's "The Pirates of Penzance" will be a series of cameo appearances by area dignitaries in the role of Queen Victoria.



(Photo by John Lacko)

"Pirates" will be staged in Shaw Theatre at 8 p.m. Feb. 19-21 and 27-28, and at 2 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 22.

Guest appearances are scheduled for President Judith Bailey Feb. 19; Kalamazoo Mayor Robert Jones Feb. 20; Raymond Harvey, music director of the Kalamazoo Symphony Orchestra, Feb. 21; D. Terry Williams, chairperson of theatre, Feb. 22; Marilyn Schlack, president of Kalamazoo Valley Community College, Feb. 26; Duwain Hunt, executive director of the Kalamazoo Civic Theatre, Feb. 27; and President Emeritus Diether Haenicke Feb. 28.

For tickets, call 7-6222.

March event aims to improve Muslim/Christian relations

A series of activities to promote better understanding between Muslims and Christians will start at 6 p.m. Thursday, March 11, in the Bernhard Center's East Ballroom.

"Islam and Christianity: Coalition or Collision?" is being sponsored by the Muslim Students Association and is open to the public. Reservations are required, but admittance is free if reservations are made by March 10. There will be a \$20 charge for reservations made after this date.

Activities planned include a talk by Dr. William Baker, founder and executive director of Christians and Muslims for Peace; a buffet dinner featuring Middle-Eastern cuisine; free informational literature; and an educational exhibit.

Duke anthropologist to speak

Anne Allison, chairperson of cultural anthropology and associate professor at Duke University, is scheduled to present "Sailor Moon: Superheroes for Global Girls" at 7 p.m. Thursday, March 11, in 0111 Moore. The lecture on the cultural idea of "cuteness" among Japanese teenage girls is part of the University's Visiting Scholars and Artists Program.

Downtown area is Keystone topic

Downtown development efforts to recruit new businesses, design inviting new public spaces and fill existing historic buildings with new restaurants, retail space and contemporary living quarters will be the focus of a Friday, Feb. 27, campus lecture by Kalamazoo's downtown development guru.

The growth of the city's central district and "The Evolution of Downtown Development in Kalamazoo, Mich.," will be the topic when Ken Nacci of Downtown Kalamazoo Inc. takes the podium at 7:30 a.m. in 2150 Schneider Hall. Nacci, president of the private, nonprofit organization that works to promote the city's downtown district, will speak as part of the Keystone Community Bank Breakfast Series in the Haworth College of Business.

Downey is folk festival finalist

Allison Downey, teaching, learning and leadership, was one of 20 finalists selected from more than 300 international applicants to perform in the singer/songwriter competition at the South Florida Folk Festival in January. Each applicant submitted two songs, and finalists were selected through a blind judging.



Downey

Downey says she was in "good company" at the festival in Ft. Lauderdale.

"Among the finalists was a Nashville songwriter, whose songs have been cut by Kathy Mattea and Trisha Yearwood; a

Canadian singer/songwriter, who worked with Gordon Lightfoot; and the festival winner, Tret Fure, who is on her sixth CD and is a major player in the women's folk movement."

Downey has been singing in public since age 10, has performed throughout the United States and internationally in Canada, Italy, Mexico and Spain and appears regularly at Kraftbrau and other local venues. Her debut CD, "Wind at Your Back," was released in 2002. For more information and a schedule of upcoming performances, visit <www.allisondowney.com>.

Bischof to lead therapy group

Gary Bischof, counselor education and counseling psychology, has been named president-elect of the Michigan Association for Marriage and Family Therapy.

Bischof's two-year term as president-elect began Jan. 1. After serving as president-elect, he will begin a two-year term as MAMFT's president.

MAMFT is a division of the American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy, the primary professional organization for the field. Bischof, director of the University's marriage and family therapy master's program, was elected by Michigan members.

Two receive PSSO assistance

Vicky Meinema, accounting, and Cynthia Steinback, physician assistant, have been selected to receive the Professional Support Staff Organization's Education Assistance Awards for the spring 2004 semester.



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



Obituary

Tamara L. "Tami" Porter, a former budget officer in the University Budget Office, died Feb. 6 at her home in Portage, Mich. She was 56.



Porter

Porter was a member of the WMU 25-Year Club and received a semiannual Staff Service Excellence Award in 1999. She retired in April 2002 after 33 years of service to the University. An avid fan of all Bronco sports teams, especially football, she was active in a number of campus organizations and activities, including Finals Finish and Zest for Life.

Jobs

While 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.

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), I30, Mathematics, 03/04-4228, 2/16-2/23/04

(R) **Assistant Professor** (tenure track, academic year), I30, Biological Sciences, 03/04-4229, 2/16-2/23/04

(R) **Assistant Professor** (tenure track, academic year), I30, Mathematics, 03/04-4230, 2/16-2/23/04

(R) **Office Associate**, 13, Office of the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, 03/04-423202/16-02/23/04

(R)=Replacement. WMU is an EO/AA Employer

Exchange

FOR RENT—Parkview Hills Willow Creek apartment for immediate short-term sublease. Three-bedroom, two-bath, first-floor unit. \$899 per month, negotiable. Call 6-3246, 6-3358 or 353-3637 or e-mail to <john.patten@wmich.edu>.



BASKING IN THE MOMENT—Pianist and faculty member Lori Sims posed with President Judith Bailey, left, and Ramona Bernhard, right, widow of WMU's fourth president, after Sims was named the John T. Bernhard Professor of Music. (Photo by Thom Myers)

Sims named Bernhard Professor of Music in new faculty recognition initiative announced by Bailey

Internationally known pianist Lori Sims has been named the John T. Bernhard Professor of Music at WMU in an initiative announced Feb. 6 by President Judith I. Bailey to honor top faculty members.

Bailey, who made the announcement as part of her State of the University address, said the Sims appointment is one of what she expects to be several similar appointments made each academic year. Each faculty member honored for outstanding performance in teaching, research or creative activity will be named to a professorship that bears the name of a significant member of the University community. Sims' professorship bears the name of WMU's fourth president and a lifelong supporter of the arts, who died in January. Bernhard's widow, Ramona Bernhard, was on hand for the Feb. 5 announcement.

Those who become named professors will receive an annual stipend of \$12,500 for the following three years. The stipend is derived from the earnings of an endowment from private donations put at the discretion of the president. Up to one-

half of the stipend may be used to augment the faculty member's salary. The balance is to be used for expenditures on appropriate professional endeavors.

Sims, a faculty member since 1997, has been turning heads in the classical music world in recent years. Her 2000 Lincoln Center premier came two years after she won first prize in the prestigious Gina Bachauer Piano Competition in Salt Lake City, Utah. Sims also won the prize for the best performance of a work by Brahms at that international competition. In her second Lincoln Center performance in 2001, Sims debuted the work of fellow faculty member Curtis Curtis-Smith, earning rave reviews for both the compositions and her playing from publications such as the New York Times.

As an associate professor of music at WMU, Sims has proven a gifted teacher as well, and her students have begun following in her footsteps, placing well in international competitions for such awards as the 2002 International Grace Welsh Prize for Piano.

Third Francophone Film Festival set for March 10-14

The third installment of the only film festival of its kind will treat film buffs across campus and beyond to a diverse offering of films from across the globe.

The films, part of the third annual Francophone Film Festival, have one thing in common: they were produced in French-speaking countries outside France.

This year's festival, March 10-14, will bring films from Africa, the Caribbean and Quebec to The Little Theatre. The festival will include an international feature film competition and the awarding of the Gold Kazoo Award for best film.

In addition, a special program on March 13 will celebrate the bicentennial of Haiti's independence. The program will include the screening of two films about Haiti and a talk by a Haitian expert.

Special activities also are planned for opening night. The evening will include the screening of "The Assassinated Sun" attended by its creator, filmmaker Abdelkrim Bahloul of Algeria, who will talk to the audience about his work.

The films are in French and will include subtitles. Complete information is available at <www.wmich.edu/ffkazoo>.

On Campus with Darshana Shah



MONITORS PROBLEMS, PROVIDES SOLUTIONS
(Photo by Gail Towns)

Darshana Shah, computer science, has a penchant for sizing up problems and solving them.

She isn't quite a one-woman help desk, but as her department's office coordinator, she comes close.

Students bemoaning registration issues and faculty members needing updates on grant funding, turn to Shah for assistance.

"I maintain accounts, work with registration, assist with our graduate students, deal with payroll issues, set up new faculty interviews and help existing faculty with their grants, among other things."

How?

"Mostly, I try to balance it all," says Shah who has degrees in chemistry and microbiology.

Juggling multiple needs and priorities is not new to Shah, the mother of two busy teenagers—including one going to college this fall—and wife to Portage consultant Murari Shah.

The family lived in Ohio, Michigan, Indiana and Florida before resettling here in 1999. And before joining WMU that year, Shah worked as a substitute teacher, travel agent, tax preparer, reference librarian and in bank customer service.

"I'm using a little of everything in what I do now," Shah says. "I've always liked to learn something new."

She also enjoys helping international newcomers get acquainted with WMU and American life.

Her efforts to ease their anxieties even extend to the job hunt—a task that can be especially daunting given the economy.

"I like helping the students," says Shah. "They can look at me and see someone who has been through the same situation—someone who can help them adapt to this country and understand how this culture works."

Martha Warfield

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pus responsibility for planning, implementing, advising and evaluating the effectiveness of policy and practice to advance a more positive and diverse University."

Warfield will coordinate staff and programs of diversity initiatives already under way on campus through such units as the Office of Institutional Equity, the Lewis Walker Center for Race and Ethnic Relations, International Student Services and Disabled Student Services. The council she will lead will provide advice on policy changes necessary to build diversity. Membership of that group will be announced in the coming weeks.

Warfield came to the University in 1992 as a psychologist and associate professor in the Counseling Center. She has been director of the Division of Multicultural Affairs since 1993 and a mental health

consultant for the Michigan Department of Labor since 1995. She was named to her current position in 2002.

A licensed psychologist, she has a distinguished professional background that spans careers as varied as social worker, educator, researcher, probation officer, counselor and entrepreneur. Since joining the WMU staff, she has been active on a multitude of on- and off-campus organizations, and she was the recipient of a WMU Distinguished Service Award in 2001.

Next News available March 11

The next issue of *Western News* will be published March 11, the week following WMU's spring break. The deadline for submissions for the issue is 5 p.m. Friday, March 5.

ROTC

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the Haworth College, and appreciate the splendid way they represent WMU," says Dr. James Schmotter, dean of the college.

To determine rankings, the U.S. Army Cadet Command looks at the number and quality of the officers commissioned annually by participating programs. In 2003, WMU expected to commission 12 officers, but produced 17 instead. The quality of the cadets is assessed by a centralized board of officers that reviews the performance and files of every cadet—about 4,500—in the country. The board factors in each cadets' GPA, physical fitness score and leadership evaluations from the National Advanced Leadership Camp in Ft. Lewis, Wash.

online

Calendar

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