



Western NEWS

www.wmich.edu/wmu/news

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WMU Today debuts as new way to keep campus informed

Faculty and staff now get the word on everything from road closings and employee programs to noteworthy campus events and faculty and staff accomplishments in one concise, easy-to-read e-mail message called WMU Today.

WMU Today will be published as warranted and replaces nearly all of the separate mass e-mail and voice mail messages previously distributed on campus. Story suggestions for WMU Today and for WMU News can be made using the "Contact WMU News" page on the Web, <www.wmich.edu/wmu/news/contact.html>.

Toledo-based engineering firm is newest BTR Park partner

A Midwest civil engineering firm with a long history of working with Michigan municipalities opened an office Jan. 5 in WMU's Business Technology and Research Park.

Toledo-based Jones & Henry Engineers opened offices in the Pro Line Tech Building at the BTR Park. The 80-person consulting firm, which also has offices in Ft. Wayne, Ind., and Cincinnati, occupies 1,900 square feet in the building, joining four other advanced engineering firms with offices in the facility.

Jones & Henry President Steven L. Wordelman says his company picked the BTR Park because it offered the opportunity to work with WMU students and faculty and is in proximity to three major clients. The park's focus on service to the entire region was also a deciding factor.

Paul Romano, a principal with the firm, has already moved from Cincinnati to the Kalamazoo area and serves as office director of the new unit. Initial staff size for the new office was set at about five.

2004 MLK Celebration set to begin with Sunday community event at Miller



WMU and the Northside Ministerial Alliance will present the 2004 Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration at 6 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 11, in Miller Auditorium.

This is the second time the University and community organization have joined forces to plan the event that celebrates the life and legacy of the famed civil rights leader and kicks off a series of campus events planned through Jan. 23 in King's honor. The theme for this year's event, which is free and open to the public, is "Reflecting the Faces of Change: Courage, Character and Collaboration."

It is more than a catchphrase for a once-a-year celebration, however, says Deveta Gardner, chairperson of WMU's Martin Luther King Jr. Committee.

"Anyone and everyone who is interested in promoting social justices and making our community a better place to live has the potential to effect positive change," says Gardner. "That's what Dr. King lived and died for, and that is what this celebration is all about."

Sunday's lineup will include a litany reading, performances by the MLK Celebration Choir and the Department of Dance, special presentations and remarks by WMU Trustee Vernice Anthony, WMU Provost Dr. Daniel M. Litynski and Pastor J. Louis Felton, president of the Northside Ministerial Alliance.

A previously announced speech by Michael Eric Dyson has been canceled because of health problems.

New art facility will be named for the Richmonds

Ground has not been broken yet for the new School of Art building at WMU, but the building does have a name, and thanks to a \$2.5 million gift from James and Lois Richmond of Kalamazoo, construction will begin soon.

Both the gift and the naming of the building for the Richmonds were announced at the Dec. 12 meeting of the WMU Board of Trustees. Board approval is required to name a building at the University, and the trustees voted unanimously "to name the art building in honor of James W. and Lois I. Richmond." The exact name of the facility will be determined later.

Various events honor MLK

From a scientific lecture by an evolutionary genetics expert to the screening of a Hollywood film about football and racial integration, more than a dozen events are planned at WMU to honor the work of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

All of the 2004 activities are in keeping with this year's theme, "Reflecting the Faces of Change: Courage, Character and Collaboration," and are free and open to the public. The complete schedule is available online at <www.wmich.edu/mlkday>.

WMU's observance of King's birthday is being coordinated by the Martin Luther King Jr. Committee.

continued on page 4

Faculty Scholar nominations sought

The Distinguished Faculty Scholar Committee is seeking nominations for the 2003-2004 Distinguished Faculty Scholar Awards.

The deadline for nomination is Jan. 24. Up to three awards may be made each year. Those honored during this cycle will be announced at the 2005 Academic Convocation. Each winner will receive a \$2,000 honorarium that becomes part of the recipient's base salary, a plaque and an opportunity to present a lecture, exhibition or performance for the University community.

All current, continuing board-appointed persons with faculty rank are eligible, but they must have at least seven academic years of service to WMU. The awards are based on outstanding professional achievements. The accomplishments may be artistic, historical, literary, philosophical, scientific or technical. Wide recognition beyond WMU is essential.

Guidelines and nomination forms are being distributed on campus. For more information, contact Ernst A. Breisach, history, 7-4590 or <ernst.breisach@wmich.edu>.

Katrovas to give Frostic reading

The spring Gwen Frostic Reading Series, sponsored by the English department and University Roadhouse, kicks off with a presentation by WMU's Richard Katrovas.

Katrovas, creative writing and academic director of the Prague Summer Program, will read from his new poetry collection, "Prague Winter," at 8:30 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 14, on the 10th floor of Sprau Tower. The event is free and open to the public.

"Prague Winter" is Katrovas' ninth book and sixth poetry collection. His poems, stories, reviews and essays have appeared in many leading literary magazines, journals and anthologies. He has received numerous fellowships and awards.



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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. This is the first issue of Western News for spring semester. Spring 20-04 publication dates are Jan. 8 and 22, Feb. 5 and 19, March 11 and 25, and April 8. 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

Wood is new associate VP, collective bargaining director



Wood

Jay A. Wood, mathematics, has been named associate vice president for academic affairs and director of collective bargaining, effective Jan. 5 and subject to approval by the Board of Trustees.

Wood replaces Chester B. Rogers, who retired from the position Jan. 4 after more than 37 years of service to the University.

Wood served as professor and chairperson of the Department of Mathematics and Statistics from 2000 to 2001. After the department was split in 2001, he continued as chairperson of the Department of Mathematics. His primary area of research is algebraic coding theory.

Brewer to sign book at Waldo

The author of the first book to fully examine the land trust movement in the United States will be on campus Wednesday, Jan. 14, to sign copies of that publication.

Richard Brewer, emeritus in biological sciences, will sign copies of "Conservancy: The Land Trust Movement in America" from 4 to 6 p.m. in the Edwin and Mary Meader Rare Book Room on the third floor of Waldo Library. Copies of the book will be on sale at the event for \$29.95 plus tax, and cash or check payments will be accepted.

Published late last year by Dartmouth College/University Press of New England, "Conservancy" examines trusts, or conservancies, which protect land.

Earhart continues research with two new publications

H. Byron Earhart, emeritus in comparative religion, has two new publications to his credit.

The fourth edition of "Japanese Religion: Unity and Diversity," which was first published in 1969, has been released by Wadsworth Publishing Co. The new edition has expanded coverage of the relationship between religion and nationalism and militarism in modern times.

Earhart, who lives in San Diego, also is the editor of a new volume of essays by Hitoshi Miyake, a scholar who is an expert on an ancient Japanese religion called Shugendo. "Shugendo: Essays on the Structure of Japanese Folk Religion" has been published by the University of Michigan Press.

Crotchett wins Gilmore grant



Crotchett

Cat Crotchett, art, has received an Emerging Artist Grant funded by the Irving S. Gilmore Foundation and administered by the Arts Council of Greater Kalamazoo.

The quarterly grant program provides up to \$3,500 in financial support for promising Kalamazoo County artists who demonstrate serious commitment to advancing their work and professional art careers. A panel of volunteer artists representing various arts disciplines makes application reviews and funding decisions.

Crotchett received a grant to research encaustic painting techniques in combination with digital images.

Sundberg lauded by local group



Sundberg

Carol Sundberg, unified clinics, has received the first Professional Excellence Award presented by Community Advocates, a Kalamazoo organization dedicated to helping persons with developmental disabilities.

The award was presented at Community Advocates' 50th anniversary celebration.

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), I30, College of Engineering and Applied Sciences, 03/04-4184, 01/05-01/12/04

(R) **Assistant Professor** (tenure track, academic year), I30, College of Fine Arts, 03/04-4187, 01/05-01/12/04

(R) **Assistant/Associate Professor** (tenure track, academic year), I20/I30, Marketing, 03/04-4189, 01/05-01/12/04

(R) **Assistant Professor** (tenure track, academic year), I30, Chemistry, 03/04-4190, 01/05-01/12/04

(R) **Director of Student Activities and Leadership**, 19, Student Activities and Leadership, 03/04-4191, 01/05-01/12/04

(R) **Coordinator, Study Abroad**, 15, Haenicke Institute, 03/04-4193, 01/05-01/12/04

(R)=Replacement • WMU is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer

Obituary

Ronald H. Denison, a member of the speech and drama faculty from 1960 to 1964, died Dec. 6 in Kalamazoo. He was 73.

After leaving WMU, Denison served in several posts, including academic dean at Olivet College, president of Anoka-Ramsey Community College in Minnesota and president of Manchester (Conn.) Community College. He also was on the board of trustees for the Academic College Testing Program.

Denison received a bachelor's degree from WMU in 1957 and earned a master's degree in 1958 and a doctorate in 1961 from Purdue University.



25 YEARS OF SERVICE— WMU President Judith Bailey posed with three of the 58 employees welcomed into the 25 Year Club Dec. 3. Among new members are, from left: Zahir A. Quraeshi, marketing; Jean Decker, landscape services; and Vonceal L. Phillips, Office of the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs. (Photo by Neil Rankin)

Sindecuse

Express pay option introduced

Effective Jan. 1, the Sindecuse Health Center will be offering Express Pay, a convenient payroll deduction program that WMU employees may use to pay for services that cost \$5 or more. Faculty and staff also will continue to have the option of paying by cash, check or credit card (Master Card, Discover Card or Visa).

To sign up for the program, just complete and return the Express Pay Enrollment Form. The form is available for pick up at Sindecuse or may be downloaded from the health center's Web site at <www.sindecuse.com>. For more information about Express Pay, call Julie Tabbia at 7-4303.

CPR certification course offered

The Sindecuse Health Center's Office of Health Promotion and Education will be offering a four-hour CPR certification course throughout the spring semester. This American Heart Association workshop will cover adult, infant and child CPR and choking and is open to WMU students, faculty and staff.

The \$35 course will be offered at Sindecuse from 5 to 9 p.m. Jan. 12 in Room 3230, Jan. 13 in Room 3250, Jan. 21 in Room 3111, Feb. 10 in Room 3250, Feb. 12 in Room 3250, March 10 in Room 3111 and March 11 in Room 3250.

Advance registration is required. For more information, call 7-3263.

Human resources

Implementation changes for Jan. 5 pay raise announced

Eligible Staff Compensation System employees received a 2 percent pay increase effective Jan. 5, and the increase will be reflected in paychecks beginning Jan. 27.

Employees and unit heads are advised that this pay increase will be implemented differently than pay increases of prior years. The following differences should be noted.

- Increases were effective Jan. 5, the beginning of pay period 30, **not** the beginning of this fiscal year. Employees will not receive retroactive pay increases for prior pay periods.

- Managers of Staff Compensation System employees will be sent a report listing their employees' eligibility, old pay rate, increase amount and new pay rate. Managers are being asked to share this information with their employees in individual

meetings. This is being done to save the costs involved in mailing pay increase notices to employees' homes, as has been done in prior years.

To be eligible for the 2 percent increase, Staff Compensation System employees must have been hired into a Staff Compensation System position before April 1, 2003, have a satisfactory 2002-03 performance review and be on the payroll on Jan. 5, 2004.

Exchange

FOR RENT—Large, very nice one-bedroom apartment on Minor Avenue close to campus. Washer/dryer, dishwasher, fireplace, AC, large deck and yard, private parking. \$600 per month plus utilities. Call 385-1290.

FOR SALE—Two winter Nautica coats. Reversible, excellent condition, size large. \$50 each. Call Cindy at 383-3890.

On Campus with Dave Clemens



HE LOVES THE SOUND OF MUSIC
(Photo by Gail Towns)

For Dave Clemens, Miller Auditorium, taking in a Broadway show or the artistry of highly talented actors, musicians and dancers is all in a day's work. As a sound engineer at Miller, Clemens works behind the scenes to ensure that audiences enjoy the show with their eyes *and* their ears.

"Part of my job entails making sure that people have the best experience possible when they are here," he explains. "When everything goes right, the audience shouldn't have to think twice about whether the microphones are working correctly or if the (sound) levels are off."

Clemens orchestrates the audio experience from an expansive Yamaha mixing console, which monitors sound from up to 51 microphones. But that's nothing. There are times when complex shows demand upward of 90 microphones and Clemens has to bring in extra equipment.

He also works with other technical staff at Miller, troubleshooting and addressing concerns during programs, and he collaborates with sound crews who travel with specific acts.

Prior to joining WMU in 1999, Clemens worked at Cheney Auditorium for more than a decade and also completed two band tours—one in the United States and another in Estonia.

"Although my work involves seeing and listening to some of the biggest names in the business, it's rare that I get a moment to stop and simply enjoy the show."

When he can, Clemens takes time to enjoy his hobbies—home brewing, computers and reading.

Richmonds

continued from page 1

"On behalf of our art faculty and students, who have struggled for so long with woefully inadequate facilities, I extend heartfelt thanks to Jim and Lois Richmond, two true friends of the arts in the greater Kalamazoo community," says Dean Margaret Merrion, College of Fine Arts. "The new building is going to make a night-to-day difference in our ability to provide accessible, quality exhibitions of works by students, faculty and visiting artists. It will permit the 'College of Distinction' to advance its mission of public cultural education."

James and Lois Richmond are both WMU graduates. Lois is a former assistant vice president of administration at Bronson Methodist Hospital. James was an executive with Stryker Corp., where he served as senior vice president of global marketing and development prior to his retirement in 1988. He has since served as a special consultant for Stryker and came out of retirement briefly in 1995 to assist with reorganization of a major division in the company.

James Richmond is a well-known Kalamazoo area artist. His medium is scrap metal, found objects and wood gathered from unlikely places, such as factories and farm auctions. The Richmonds have a longtime association with the Kalamazoo Institute of Arts, where James has served on the board of directors and steering committee for the KIA school.

Architectural plans for the new art building are being finalized, according to Merrion, who says construction is scheduled to begin in 2005. The new building will be located next to the Dalton Center, which houses music and dance, and adjacent to Miller Auditorium and the Gilmore Theatre Complex. It will be connected by pedestrian overpasses to the Dalton Center, Miller Auditorium parking ramp and Kohrman Hall.

With completion of the new building, an "arts village" will be created around the Fountain Plaza at Miller Auditorium, which Merrion says will lead to "tremendous new opportunities for collaboration."

HelpNet employee assistance program available to campus

Members of the campus community with personal problems are urged to get assistance through a confidential employee assistance program available to WMU employees and their families.

HelpNet, the University's Employee Assistance Program, offers free and confidential assessment, brief counseling, and community referral services to employees and members of their households.

HelpNet's counselors are extensively trained and able to help with problems ranging from stress, marital/family issues, depression, and/or substance abuse.

HelpNet is Michigan's leading provider of employee assistance programs, serving more than 300 companies, colleges and universities.

Appointments are available both on campus and off campus and can be scheduled by calling (800) 523-0591.

