



# Western NEWS

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[www.wmich.edu/wmu/news](http://www.wmich.edu/wmu/news)

## Holiday reception is Dec. 12

The University community is invited to attend a holiday reception from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 12, in the East Ballroom of the Bernhard Center.

In keeping with tradition, the WMU Board of Trustees has decided to again play host to the annual event, along with President Judith I. Bailey and Brendon Bailey.

## Trustees set to meet Dec. 12

Approval of a new research foundation and the findings of an athletic review committee are among the items that will be on the agenda when the WMU Board of Trustees meets Friday, Dec. 12, in the Bernhard Center. A meeting time was not available at *Western News* press time.

## More than 2,000 to graduate

More than 2,000 students are slated to receive degrees at three commencement ceremonies Saturday, Dec. 13.

The 9 a.m. ceremony will include graduates of the Haworth College of Business, the College of Engineering and Applied Sciences and Extended University Programs. At 11:30 a.m., graduates of the colleges of Education and Fine Arts will receive their degrees. A 2:30 p.m. ceremony will be held for the colleges of Arts and Sciences, Aviation, and Health and Human Services.

## WMU nears United Way goal

Despite tough economic times, the University community has opened its heart to help WMU approach its \$238,000 United Way campaign goal.

As of *Western News* press time, the campuswide total stood at \$230,016.81, or 96.6 percent of the goal. Although the WMU campaign officially ended Nov. 7, pledges are still being accepted, and gifts received through Dec. 31 will be counted toward the goal.

## Tech committee gives final nod to BRCC

State funding for the University's Biosciences Research and Commercialization Center cleared a final hurdle in Lansing Dec. 1 when the Technology Tri-Corridor Steering Committee signed off on the center's five-year business plan and released \$10 million for use in launching the effort.

"We are delighted that the committee has approved the plan, and we can now move forward quickly to begin the work of this important center," said President Judith I. Bailey, who is a member of the committee but abstained from voting on the issue. "The BRCC is a regional center that has the potential to benefit the entire state. Gov. Granholm and the Legislature have our gratitude for their support and foresight."

A Kalamazoo delegation presented the plan to the committee, formerly known as the Life Sciences Steering Committee, and won the group's unanimous support. Jack Luderer, WMU vice president for research, has led the University's planning for the center. He was accompanied on the trip to Lansing by Kalamazoo businessman William Johnston, president and CEO of Greenleaf Trust, and Douglas Morton, CEO of the Southwest Michigan Innovation Center. The BRCC will be located at the Innovation Center, which is part of WMU's Business Technology and Research Park.

Overseen by an independent board, the BRCC will be staffed by scientists with a particular expertise in the commercialization process, many of them former Pfizer Corp. researchers. With the committee's approval, University officials say they will move rapidly to put the business plan in motion, and many critical parts are already under way.

Among the most important first steps will be choosing someone to lead the center,

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*Season's  
Greetings*



*As we reach out to our new University family  
and friends, we wish you a holiday season brimming  
with the joys of love, family and laughter.*

*Our sincere hope is for the New Year  
to be filled with peace and happiness.*

*—Judi and Bren Bailey*

# Faculty and staff members honored for quarter-century of service to University

Fifty-eight faculty and staff members were honored with induction into the 25 Year Club at the annual gala held Wednesday, Dec. 3, at the Bernhard Center.

Those eligible for induction this year were: Roberta Allen, business information systems; Connie L. Altman, information technology; Lon E. Baird, chemistry; Mitchell P. Beare, Bernhard Center; Joseph J. Belonax, Jr., marketing; Victoria L. Beyene, physical plant-landscape services; C. Jean Bickel, admissions; Gary E. Bigelow, Spanish; Lyndell R. Bleyer, Community Information Systems and Research Services; Robert Brinkerhoff, counselor education and counseling psychology; Vena D. Brower, physical plant-maintenance services; Diane C. Campbell, physical plant-building custodial and support services;

Leon J. Coleman, physical plant-building custodial and support services; Laura L. Coville, physical plant-building custodial and support services; Jean Decker, physical plant-landscape services; Carol L. Farrance, WMU Apartments; Karen Ferrara, Burnham Dining Service; Rita A. Franks, university libraries; Elias Fuentes, physical plant-building custodial and support services; Jerry W. Fulbright, Sr., physical plant-landscape services; Glenn D. Hall, industrial and manufacturing engineering; Raymond G. Hallock, physical plant-maintenance services;

Sue M. Hampton, physical plant-building custodial and support services; Paul F. Heintz, university libraries; Terence A. Hudson, WMU Bookstore; Deborah L. Hughson, Bernhard Center Dining Service; Robert L. Johnson, information technology; Linda Jones, physical plant-maintenance services; Georgia C. Kerby, registrar's office; Dionysios I. Kountanis, computer science; Jane E. Kramer, College of Education; Ronald C. Kramer, sociology; Gary D. Lawson, speech pathology and audiology; Sarah E. McChesney, intercollegiate athletics; Michael P. McDonnell, university libraries;

Betty J. McKain, grants and contracts; Joseph W. McKean, statistics; Michele C. McLaughlin, English; Bettina S. Meyer, university libraries; Deborah N. Newson, Extended University Programs; Robert E. Norlin, physical plant-building custodial and support services; Leisa L. Perry, College of Aviation; Vonceal L. Phillips, Office of the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs; Alan D. Poling, psychology; Paul E. Ponchillia, blindness and low vision studies; Zahir A. Quraeshi, marketing;

Greg D. Roehrick, theatre; Christopher J. Schmidt, geosciences; C. Dennis Simpson, physician assistant; David H. Smith, university relations; Gary L. Snell, physical plant-

building custodial and support services; Cindy Lou Thorpe, University Counseling and Testing Center; Pauline M. Trembley, human resources; Barbara A. Vilenski, paper engineering, chemical engineering, and imaging; Irene R. Woldring, Sindecuse Health Center; Alicia J. Yeagley, communication; and Stephen L. Zegree, School of Music.

The WMU Board of Trustees established the 25 Year Club in 1982 as a way to recognize the valuable contributions made by its employees who have committed their careers to the University. The club, which now has 368 active and 458 retired members, was founded with 98 charter members. New members receive a 25-year service pin and framed certificate, and they may choose from a selection of commemorative gifts. New, active and retired members are guests of the University for the evening.

## Dirks, GSAC earn awards

The National Association of Graduate-Professional Students presented awards to a WMU organization and student during its annual conference Nov. 5-9 in Washington, D.C.

WMU's Graduate Student Advisory Committee, a standing committee of the Faculty Senate's Graduate Studies Council, was named Graduate/Professional Student Organization of the Year, and Doris Dirks, a doctoral student from Calgary, Alberta, received the Lifetime Achievement Award.

NAGPS cited GSAC for working to promote and improve the status of graduate and professional students at WMU and around the country. It also praised the organization for reaching out to its constituents and addressing their concerns through a variety of publications, policy initiatives and other activities.

Dirks, who served as president of both GSAC and NAGPS in 2001-02, has held three positions on the NAGPS Board of Directors. She was cited in part for her long and consistent efforts on behalf of graduate and professional students.

## Schrader is master instructor



Schrader

David H. Schrader, aviation, has earned a renewal for his designation as a Master Certified Flight Instructor by the National Association of Flight Instructors.

Schrader is one of only five WMU staff members who have earned the coveted designation. Nationally, out of 81,000 certified flight instructors, fewer than 400 have achieved the distinction. Only 19 master-level instructors are living and working in Michigan.

## Lenczycki gets national award

Julie Lenczycki, campus facilities, recently earned second place in a national design competition.

At its annual conference this fall at Ball State University, the Association of University Interior Designers honored Lenczycki for her work on the renovation of the Campus Services Building conference room. Entries were judged by design professionals from the host university's surrounding region.



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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 last issue of Western News for fall 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.



## 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) **Supervisor, Communication Lab**, 15, Communication, 03/04-4167, 12/1-12/8/03

(R) **Office Associate**, 13, Physical Plant-Maintenance Services, 03/04-416, 12/1-12/8/03

(R) **Director, Paper Technology**, 21, Paper Technology Foundation, 03/04-4169, 12/1-12/8/03

(R) **Associate Vice President and Director of Academic Collective Bargaining**, Z2, Provost-Contract Administration, 03/04-4173, 12/1-12/8/03

(R) **Utility Food Worker** (FTE .65, 37.50 hours per week, academic year), F0/F1, Dining Services, two positions, 03/04-4174 and 03/04-4175, 12/1-12/8/03

(R) **Utility Food Worker** (FTE .69, 40 hours per week, academic year), F0/F1, Dining Services, two positions, 03/04-4176 and 03/04-4178, 12/1-12/8/03

(R) **Utility Food Worker** (FTE .43, 25 hours per week, academic year), F0/F1, Dining Services 03/04-4177, 12/1-12/8/03

(R) **Office Associate** (FTE .85, 40 hours per week, academic year), 13, Dining Services (Valley #1), 03/04-4179, 12/1-12/8/03

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

## Exchange

**FOR RENT**—Condo/townhouse close to campus, two-bedroom, two-bath, washer/dryer, all appliances, fireplace, central air, secluded patio, carport. Mature student/family, \$900/mo. Call 341-4759.

## Human resources

### Counseling appointments with TIAA-CREF available in 2004

TIAA-CREF continues to offer on-campus appointments for employees to discuss their personal retirement and investment planning. Ema Osaki is available for on-campus meetings on Jan. 15 and 16; Feb. 24 and 25; March 23 and 24; and April 29 and 30. To make an appointment, visit the TIAA-CREF Web site at <[www.tiaa-cref.org/meetings](http://www.tiaa-cref.org/meetings)> and follow the online prompts. All meetings will take place in 2100 Seibert Administration Building.

### Retirements

**Chester B. Rogers**, associate vice president and director of academic collective bargaining, will be honored at a retirement reception Monday, Dec. 8.

Sponsored by the provost's office, the reception will be held from 4 to 6 p.m. in the atrium lobby of the Gilmore Theatre Complex. A brief program will take place at 5 p.m. The University community is invited to the send-off for Rogers, who joined WMU's political science faculty in 1966.

### Service

The following employees are being recognized for 35, 30, 25, 20, 15, 10 and 5 years of service to the University during December.

**35 years**—Erlinda S. Rolls, university libraries.

**30 years**—Barbara V. Caras-Tomczak, Haworth College of Business; Kenneth J. Fifelski, physical plant-maintenance services.

**25 years**—C. Jean Bickel, admissions; Laura L. Coville, physical plant-building custodial and support services; Raymond G. Hallock, physical plant-maintenance services; Deborah L. Hughson, Bernhard Center Dining Service; Alan D. Poling, psychology; Alicia J. Yeagley, communication.

**20 years**—Damodar Y. Golhar, management; C.R. Krishna-Swamy, finance and commercial law; Matthew C. Steel, School of Music.

**15 years**—Timothy D. Birch, physical plant-building custodial and support services; Michael A. Finn, communication; Louann Green, physical plant-building custodial and support services.

### Employees asked to report any home address changes to HR

To ensure prompt delivery of wage and tax statements (W-2 forms) early next year, employees who have moved in the past year and have not yet notified Human Resources Information Systems are asked to do so immediately.

To update an address easily and quickly, employees can use the online Employee Name and Address Change form, available from the forms page at <[www.wmich.edu/hr/forms.htm](http://www.wmich.edu/hr/forms.htm)>.

To report changes other than name, address or phone number, faculty and staff should send HRIS an updated Employee Personal Data form or memo. Changes can also be reported by calling 7-3622 or sending e-mail to <[hr-hris@wmich.edu](mailto:hr-hris@wmich.edu)>. Employees can obtain a copy of their most recent Employee Personal Data form by calling or sending e-mail to HRIS.

Changes must be received by Monday, Dec. 15, to ensure that W-2s are sent to the correct address. The forms will be mailed by the Payroll Office before the end of January.

**10 years**—Diane K. Anderson, Vice President for Student Affairs; Denise N. Brandt, Davis Dining Services; Carol B. Case, physical plant-landscape services; William H. Fenn, physician assistant; Cathy C. George, intercollegiate athletics; Janos L. Grantner, electrical and computer engineering; Cynthia Halderson, Mallinson Institute for Science Education; Todd K. Havener, public safety; Alice F. Krepel, physical plant-building custodial and support services; Daren T. Webb, Sindecuse Health Center.

**5 years**—Lynette Bresson, physical plant-building custodial and support services; Robert E. Bunday, College of Aviation; Barbara A. Hartless, physical plant-building custodial and support services; Martha Haug, Unified Clinics; Christine E. Hummel, Evaluation Center; Douglas D. Johns, information technology; Tamara M. Klinger, counselor education and counseling psychology; Margaret Pratt, physical plant-building custodial and support services; Rene L. Riggins, physical plant-building custodial and support services; Aletta Zietsman-Thomas, physics.

# On Campus with Paul Schneider



HE KNOWS HIS PLACE  
(Photo by Gail Towns)

When Paul Schneider, athletics, left Flint, Mich., and arrived at WMU as a freshman in 1978, it felt like coming home.

Even after he was drafted by the Chicago White Sox and played minor league baseball all over the place—including one winter in Caracas, Venezuela—he knew he'd return to Kalamazoo.

"From the day I came here as a student, I knew it was the place for me," says Schneider, who returned to Kalamazoo in 1988, working days as an assistant baseball coach and nights at Lawson Ice Arena.

Now, as manager of the ice arena and swimming complex, Schneider is at home on the ice and at the pool.

"I've always loved being around people and the student athletes," says Schneider who, with wife Patty, also is active in the sports lives of sons Derrick and Nate.

"I've always been a talker and a 'people' person," he says. "That's the best piece of my job; there's constant change and I enjoy all the people I get to deal with on a daily basis."

From WMU varsity and club sports to a men's hockey league and youth swimming and skating lessons, Schneider stays busy juggling game schedules, University classes, public accommodations, maintenance and safety, and upward of 50 staffers who help make it happen at Lawson.

"An estimated 1 million people a year come through here," says Schneider, a former physical education major. "In a sense, I was trained for this and was real fortunate to get the job when I did. I've been fortunate every day since."

## Blackledge is next in Keystone business series

The chairman and CEO of a software development and networking company will speak Friday, Dec. 19, at the Haworth College of Business.

Dan Blackledge of Portage-based BlueGranite will present "Leadership and Community Involvement: Building a Business to Stand the Test of Time" as part of the Keystone Community Bank Breakfast Series. The free presentation, which includes a continental breakfast, will begin at 7:30 a.m. in 2150 Schneider. Reservations are required and can be made by calling 7-5050.

BRCC

## Scholar to share insights on U.S. state legislatures

An expert on how national and state legislators represent their constituents will speak on campus Friday, Dec. 5, as part of the Institute of Government and Politics Distinguished Speakers Series.

Gerald Wright, professor of political science at the University of Indiana, will present "Representation in the U.S. State Legislatures" at 3 p.m. in 3309 Friedmann. The event is free and open to the public.

Wright will address the different forms of policy representation within these elected bodies. The event is sponsored by the Department of Political Science's Institute of Government and Politics.

## Employees will get extra day and a half at holidays

WMU offices will close at noon Wednesday, Dec. 24, and will reopen Monday, Jan. 5, 2004, making the holiday closure a day and a half longer than previously scheduled.

The closure was extended to allow employees more time "to spend with loved ones over the holidays," said President Judith I. Bailey. She noted the one-time change does not affect future holiday calendars.

Some essential-services employees will be required to work during the closure. Pay will be determined according to the policies specific to each employee group.

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says Luderer. A formal search committee already is in place and reviewing credentials for the position.

Other immediate steps will be finalizing the membership of the governing board of directors; formation of a WMU Research Foundation,

which the University's Board of Trustees is expected to address at its Dec. 12 meeting; finalizing a legal contract with the Michigan Economic Development Corp. for release of the funds; finalizing equipment donation arrangements with Pfizer; making definitive plans for space utiliza-

tion at the Innovation Center, where the BRCC will serve as the anchor tenant; and issuing a request for proposals as a mechanism to begin supplying support for scientists and companies expected to be involved with the BRCC.

online

# Calendar

Check [www.wmich.edu/wmu/news/events](http://www.wmich.edu/wmu/news/events) for a complete list of public campus events and activities