AAUP pact OK’d by trustees
Convening by phone Oct. 7, the Board of Trustees approved new provisions for an existing contract with the University’s faculty union.

The new provisions will go into effect for the final two years of a three-year contract with the AAUP chapter of the American Association of University Professors. The AAUP ratified the terms in a membership vote held Oct. 1.

Group to review WMU sports
WMU has begun a comprehensive review of sports sponsorship within its Division of Intercollegiate Athletics.

President Judith I. Bailey appointed a Sports Sponsorship Review Committee and charged it with a review of current programming to ensure the division is prudent and fiscally responsive to the current economic environment facing the University and community. Review parameters include maintenance of NCAA Division I-A status and Title IX compliance as well as membership in the Mid-American Conference and the Central Collegiate Hockey Association.

The committee is being led by Charles Elliott of Kalamazoo and Lewis Walker, emeritus in sociology. The group will begin its work with open public forums from 6 to 8 p.m. Tuesday and Wednesday, Oct. 14 and 15, at the Fetzer Center.

AFSCME plans Oct. 20 vote
Representatives of Local 1668 of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, Michigan AFSCME Council 25, and the University have reached tentative agreement on a new three-year labor contract.

Details of the agreement are being withheld pending ratification by the union membership and approval by the Board of Trustees. The union will vote on the tentative agreement Monday, Oct. 20.

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Massie book aims to trigger nostalgia, tell WMU’s story
Noted Michigan historian Larry Massie, recipient of three WMU degrees, is the author of a new book that traces his alma mater’s first 100 years.

“Brown and Golden Memories: Western Michigan University’s First Century” was published in late September by the University and is now available in bookstores. The 276-page book includes more than 250 historical photos. They illustrate the events that shaped the school and depict the people who played a major role in its development from a tiny teachers college on a Kalamazoo hilltop to one of the nation’s top-100 public research universities.

Publication of the book is part of the University’s centennial celebration. The selection of Massie to write the work was a natural choice, since he’s intimately connected to the institution.

Centennial Homecoming flirts with tradition, sets stage for new memories
WMU will look back as well as forward as it seeks to “Continue the Legacy” during this weekend’s centennial Homecoming celebration, which runs through Sunday, Oct. 12.

A mong the many activities open to the public will be a homecoming parade; Friday Festival; a 5K and 1K run/walk; the annual March Down, National Pan-Hellenic Council step show; and a variety of shows, concerts and athletic events.

In a tribute to Homecomings of the past, a Homecoming parade will step off at 10:45 a.m. Saturday. The parade, a joint project between WMU and the city of Kalamazoo, will feature dignitaries, period costumes, antique cars, floats and the WMU Marching Band. It will start downtown on the Kalamazoo Mall and wind its way along Lovell Street, ending at Oakland Drive.

A dditional special events will include a Friday, Oct. 10, event to mark the 40th anniversary of the Distinguished Alumni Award.

Three prominent alumni will be honored at the event this year. They are:

- Susan B. Anthony, B.M., ’75, a world-renowned opera star;
- J. Thomas Dickinson, B.S., ’63, an internationally recognized researcher and physics professor at Washington State University; and
- Antonio Flores, M.A., ’77, president

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Around the Campus

Poet to read in Frostic series
The Department of English’s Gwen Frostic Reading Series continues on Wednesday, Oct. 15, with a reading by acclaimed poet Claire Bateman at 8 p.m. in the Little Theatre.

Bateman is the author of four poetry collections: “Clumsy,” released in spring 2003 by W MU’s new IssuesPress; “The Bicycle Slow Race”; “Friction”; and “A t the Funeral of the Ether.” She has won numerous awards, including a National Endowment for the Arts Poetry Fellowship, a Robert Frost Fellowship and, most recently, a Pushcart Prize.

Economics of war is topic
An expert on war and state-sponsored violence in developing countries will speak on campus Wednesday, Oct. 15, as part of the Werner Sichel Economics Lecture-Seminar Series.

Wayne Nafziger, professor of economics at Kansas State University, will present “Economic Development, Inequality and War” at 3 p.m. in 3508 Knauss.

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

Centennial art to be unveiled
A professional sculptor whose work has been included in juried and invitational exhibitions around the nation return to her alma mater this month to unveil her sculpture commemorating the University’s 100th anniversary.

Karla Wys-Tye will unveil her sculpture during a noon dedication ceremony Thursday, Oct. 23, in front of the Seibert Administration Building. The event is part of the Centennial Scholar and Artist Series.

Power company exec to speak
A University alumnus who is the senior vice president and senior production manager for the Southern Company, the country’s largest producer of electricity, will visit the W MU campus this month to deliver the annual Distinguished Political Science Department Alumnus Lecture.

Chris Womack, who earned his bachelor’s degree in political science in 1979, will speak about his experiences after leaving W MU as well as the leadership, business and political challenges he has faced throughout his career. The lecture is scheduled for 12:30 p.m. Friday, Oct. 10, in 3301 Friedmann.

Physicist, artist to present talks
A renowned artist and a noted physicist will be the next speakers on campus to participate in the Centennial Scholar and Artist Series. Both speakers’ presentations are free and open to the public.

Ed Gray, owner of Miskwabik Ed Gray Studio, in Fennville, Mich., will speak on “Tradition, Honor and Respect” at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 16, in 1120 Schneider. Oct. 16 also is the last day to view a display of Gray’s copper and pottery work in the Lee Honors College building. Until then, the exhibit will be open from 7:30 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. Monday through Wednesday and 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Thursday and Friday.

J. Thomas Dickinson, a professor of physics and material science at W ashington State University, will speak on “The Enormous Little World of Nanotechnology” at 4:15 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 21, in the Lee Honors College lounge.

Jellies selected to serve on journal’s editorial board
John Jellies, biological sciences, has been selected to serve on the editorial board of the journal Neuron Glia Biology.

Jellies, who has made a significant contribution to instructional activities in libraries. She is being recognized for creating Searchpath, a self-instructional tutorial designed to teach students basic library and research skills.

Implemented on campus in the fall of 2002, Searchpath guides students through the research process from initial topic selection to citation styles and plagiarism. The tutorial includes interactive features such as Flash movies, rollovers, feedback in response to questions and live practice searching.

Jayne and her colleagues have made their work available to other institutions at no cost.

Fenn elected to leadership role
William Fenn, physician assistant, was recently elected to the board of directors of the American Academy of Physician Assistants as second vice speaker of the House of Delegates. Fenn also was recently named Physician Assistant of the Year by the Michigan Academy of Physician Assistants.

Fenn can add those two honors to a growing list of accomplishments. Late last year, he was appointed by then-Gov. John Engler to the Michigan Board of Medicine for a four-year term.

Jayne feted by state librarians
Elaine Jayne, university libraries, is being honored by the Michigan Library Association for creating a computer tutorial that has drawn interest from more than 100 other institutions.

Jayne will receive the MLA’s 2003 Information Literacy Roundtable’s Information Literacy Award. The annual award recognizes a Michigan library advocate who has made a significant contribution to instructional activities in libraries. She is being recognized for creating Searchpath, a self-instructional tutorial designed to teach students basic library and research skills.

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JGB brings together research from the disciplines of neurobiology and physiology to effectively communicate new findings. It focuses on cell-to-cell interactions between neurons and glia, as well as other cell types. Research has shown that these cells are involved in all aspects of neural function, development and repair.

Jellies has been a member of the W MU faculty since 1995.
FOR SALE—Two-bedroom duplex in the Berkley Street, West Main Hill area. Refinished yellow pine floors, two bay windows. 10-minute walk to campus. Apartment on second floor to rent. $97,900. Call 383-9648.

FOR RENT—Two-bedroom condo with new kitchen. Ground floor at Cherry Knoll. Quiet setting, five minutes from campus. $700 per month. Call Bill Green, 7-3301.

Obituaries

Myron H. Ross, emeritus in economics, died Oct. 6. He was 83.

Ross, who retired in 1990, joined the faculty in 1961. He was a co-author in 1989 of the first study outlining the University’s impact on the Kalamazoo economy.


Active in the community, Ross was a consultant to area firms and community organizations. He served for two decades as a land commissioner in the federal court system.

Lindsey A. Thomas, longtime professor of dance, died Oct. 1. She was 51.

A member of the dance faculty from 1979 to 2003, Thomas was responsible for developing the jazz dance program to a level of international recognition.

She received numerous professional awards, including: Michigan Dance Teacher of the Year, 1988; the Leo “Gold Shoe” Award for excellence in jazz dance choreography, 1997; and third place in the jazz/hip hop category at the Prague Dance Festival, 2000. Thomas also received many choreographic commissions and presented professional workshops and master classes across the country.

Jobs

The following vacancies are currently being 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 (re-post), 11, Extended University Programs, 03/04-4121, 10/6-10/13/03

(R) Chairperson (tenure track, full year), 000, Philosophy, 03/04-4123, 10/6-10/13/03

(R) Assistant/Associate Professor (tenure track, academic year), 130/170, Communication, 03/04-4124, 10/6-10/13/03

(R) Assistant Professor (tenure track, academic year, two positions), 130, Communication, 03/04-4125 and 4127, 10/6-10/13/03

(R) Associate Professor (tenure track, academic year), 120, Communication, 03/04-4126, 10/6-10/13/03

(R) Assistant Professor (tenure track, academic year, three positions), 130, English, 03/04-4128-4130, 10/6-10/13/03

(R) Assistant Professor/Faculty Specialist I (tenure track, academic year), 130/FSI, Spanish, 03/04-4131, 10/6-10/13/03

(R) Assistant Professor (tenure track, academic year), 120, Communication, 03/04-4126, 10/6-10/13/03

(R) Assistant Professor (tenure track, academic year, three positions), 130, English, 03/04-4128-4130, 10/6-10/13/03

(R) Assistant Professor/Faculty Specialist I (tenure track, academic year), 130/FSI, Spanish, 03/04-4131, 10/6-10/13/03

(R) Assistant Professor (tenure track, academic year), 130, Political Science, 03/04-4132, 10/6-10/13/03

(R) Assistant Professor (tenure track, academic year, four positions), 130, School of Art, 03/04-4137-4140, 10/6-10/13/03

(R) Assistant Professor (tenure track, academic year), 130, Philosophy, 03/04-4141, 10/6-10/13/03

(R) Assistant Professor (tenure track, academic year), 130, Political Science, 03/04-4142, 10/6-10/13/03

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Human Resources

Open enrollment begins Oct. 13

Open enrollment for health insurance begins Oct. 13 and continues until 5 p.m. Friday, Oct. 31, for AAUP faculty, non-bargaining employees, retirees and COBRA participants.

During open enrollment, individuals currently insured under a WMU health plan—with the exception of retirees age 65 and over—must re-enroll in one of the two health plans being offered:

• The new Community Blue PPO plan, a preferred provider organization or
• The Indemnity Plan through Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan, previously the “University Plan,” to which substantial changes have been made.

For detailed information, visit the open enrollment Web site at <www.wmich.edu/hr/benefits/health/open_enroll.htm> and plan to attend one of the health insurance presentations listed there.

Flex spending accounts offered

Employees who wish to participate in a Flexible Spending Account for 2004 must enroll during Open Enrollment, Oct. 13-31. FSAs offer an opportunity to use tax-free dollars to pay for qualified medical expenses not covered by insurance or dependent care expenses.

New participants and current participants who wish to continue their plans must submit an enrollment form to the Benefits Office by 5 p.m., Friday, Oct. 31.

Sessions on long-term care set

All faculty, staff and retirees are invited to attend a presentation about long-term care insurance on Thursday, Oct. 16. Sessions on the topic will be held from 9:30 to 11a.m. and from 1:30 to 3p.m. in the Bernhard Center’s Brown and Gold Room.
On Campus with Jeff Rank

As a child growing up in Ohio, Jeff Rank, intercollegiate athletics, got a kick out of sports, starting with t-ball at age 6 and continuing through soccer, football and wrestling in high school.

Now, 24 years later, he's still in the game.

As the marketing director for WMU’s Division of Intercollegiate Athletics, Rank actively promotes and markets WMU sports programs. Brochures, posters, schedule cards, and a variety of specialty items and promotional plans fall under his watch.

“Part of my job is to enhance the atmosphere for the crowd at our games,” he explains. “At a football game, it could be using the T-shirt blaster we use to propel shirts into the crowd. W’re forever coming up with creative ways to get people out to games, while making sure they have a good time.”

There’s a lot of work that goes into having fun, including game management, developing marketing plans, negotiating with advertisers and on occasion, assisting with sponsorship deals.

But it’s worth it all when a fan enjoys a game, says Rank, who traded a job at the University of Texas at El Paso to join the WMU staff about two years ago.

“I enjoy seeing people get excited and taking in the pageantry that makes college athletics so special,” he says.

For a sports fan like Rank, who enjoys running and golf, his job at WMU doesn’t feel like one.

“I don’t consider this work,” he says. “I love what I do... Sometimes I have to pinch myself in the press box, I enjoy it so much.”

Rank and his wife Kristi live in Kalamazoo with their new golden Labrador, Bo.

Homecoming continued from page 1

and chief executive officer of the Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities.

Homecoming day on Saturday, Oct. 11, will lead off with the fifth Homecoming Campus Classic race/walk, which offers a certified course that begins at the Bernhard Center and showcases the WMU campus. The 1K walk and fun run begins at 8:15 a.m. Runners 5K walkers will take off from the starting line at 9 a.m.

The WMU Alumni Association’s fourth annual Homecoming PepFest for alumni of all ages will follow from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. in the tent village at Haines Field. PepFest is a perfect place for alumni and friends to gather, socialize and fire up for the 2 p.m. football game against Bowling Green State University.

Detailed information on all of the Homecoming events is available online at <www.wmich.edu/homecoming>. Registration and ticket information for the various events is available by linking to the Web sites listed for the events. The phone numbers for event coordinators also are listed.

Universitywide health, benefits fair will offer screenings, info

Faculty, staff, students and retirees will learn how to create, maintain and sustain a healthy lifestyle by attending the WMU Health Fair from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 16, in the East Ballroom of the Bernhard Center.

The free fair, an expansion of the University’s traditional fall Benefits Fair, will feature scores of exhibitors representing campus units and Kalamazoo-area health providers and financial institutions.

A wide variety of diagnostic assessments and interactive activities will be offered, including blood pressure, vision and hearing checks, and musculoskeletal and diabetes screenings.

Massie continued from page 1

familiar with the area’s history and has been collecting WMU lore for years. “Brown and Golden Memories” is Massie’s 17th book on Michigan history.

“In the two and a half years I spent researching and writing this book, I delved into just about every corner of this University and its archives looking for textual materials and photographs,” says Massie. “I found so many fascinating tidbits about our tradition and history. Writing this book has deepened my appreciation for WMU.”

The book is divided into six chapters. Massie uses his storytelling skills to weave together tales of student life with profiles of both legendary and little-known figures in the school’s past. Oral histories collected over the years play a major part in each chapter, as history is told through the words of track stars and presidents, faculty members and students.

The book is available at Kalamazoo-area bookstores. It also can be purchased online for $35 at <www.ur.wmich.edu/centennial/merchandise>.