



# Western NEWS

JULY 3, 2003

volume 29, number 19

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

## Trustees set to meet July 16

Budget issues and tuition for the 2003-04 year will be on the agenda when the Board of Trustees meets on campus Wednesday, July 16.

Trustees will meet in the Connable Board Room in the Bernhard Center. The times for the meeting of the full board and its two standing committees had not been announced at *Western News* press time.

## Postal service puts stamp of approval on centennial

The U. S. Postal Service will join in the University's centennial celebration by using a special cancellation stamp on nearly every piece of mail processed through Kalamazoo.

Upward of 90 percent of all the mail handled at the post office's Kalamazoo processing and distribution center will be cancelled with a special stamp that reads "Western Michigan U Celebrates 100 Years, 1903-2003." The center handles mail for all of Kalamazoo County, as well as a wide range of other Southwest Michigan communities, including Battle Creek, Benton Harbor, South Haven, Sturgis and Niles.

"It's exciting to think that nearly every piece of mail sent from Southwest Michigan, wherever it is going, will include mention of the WMU Centennial Celebration," says Ruth Heinig, co-chairperson of the centennial observance along with her husband, Ed Heinig. "We're extending our party to all corners of the world."

The University made the request of the Postal Service earlier this year, and was approved following a stringent review process. Outgoing mail will be marked with the special cancellation stamp from July 1 through Dec. 31.

## Higher ed funding in play in state budget process

As the WMU Board of Trustees prepares to meet July 16 and set tuition for the coming year, negotiations focused on how much the state will contribute to the University's operating budget are inching closer to resolution in Lansing.

By *Western News* press time, the House and Senate conference committees had met and recommended a higher education budget that would result a WMU appropriation for the coming fiscal year that is about \$12.5 million lower than the appropriation in place when the University began the 2002-03 academic year.

However, a number of budget issues were still to be resolved, and WMU Vice President for Legislative Affairs Jeff Breneman said the situation was still in flux.

"Negotiations between the House and Senate leadership and the Granholm administration are continuing, and everything is still in play," Breneman said. "At this point, there is really no way to predict when this process will be completed."

The conference committees also removed a \$10 million increase to WMU's base funding, which had been proposed to fund a Life Sciences Research and Commercialization Center. That center would help retain displaced Pfizer workers in the community. The \$10 million, which was to come from a tax incentive for which Pfizer no longer qualifies, was shifted to the budget of the Michigan Economic Development Corp. to support the life sciences statewide.

But Kalamazoo area legislators are still working hard to secure the funding for WMU and the Kalamazoo community, Breneman said.

Last week, Gov. Jennifer Granholm traveled to Kalamazoo to assure community leaders that the state backs their efforts to retain the intellectual capital represented by Pfizer scientists. WMU President Judith Bailey and Provost Daniel M. Litynski were among local leaders who met privately with the governor during her visit.

## Jelaso garners federal funding

Anna Jelaso of WMU's Environmental Institute has garnered a \$145,000 federal grant to examine the influence of a specific protein in the developing nervous system.

The project, funded by National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke, involves interleukin (IL)-1beta, a neuroimmune system protein. Jelaso believes IL-1beta could present important lessons about its function in turning on nerve growth factors, and its role in helping nerves regenerate after an injury.

Jelaso's work is funded for a two-year period, which began June 1.

WMU senior Carrie DeLong, who is pursuing a degree in environmental studies and biology, is assisting in the research project.

In addition to this new grant, Jelaso is continuing work on two projects involving PCBs—the toxic substance once found in such items as paints and plastics. She is examining their effect on gene expression and neuroimmune suppression.

## Bailey to brief campus on budget issues July 17-18

A series of Town Hall meetings have been scheduled for July 17 and 18 to brief the WMU community on administrative budget decisions for the 2003-04 year.

WMU President Judith I. Bailey will conduct the sessions, which will be held from 3 to 5 p.m. and 6 to 8 p.m. Thursday, July 17, and from 8 to 10 a.m. Friday, July 18. All three meetings will be held in Brown Auditorium of Schneider Hall.

Bailey will give an overview describing the impact of tuition and the state budget reduction on the University's operating budget for the coming year. She will then respond to questions from those attending.

Members of the University community are urged to attend the meetings and pose questions about the budget and the ways the University plans to address the expected shortfall.

# Campus plant specialists tapped to aid international biosafety efforts

Two University plant biologists are part of an international science consortium that will share nearly \$15 million in U.S. funding for research aimed at promoting biosafety in the world's developing countries.

Hector Quemada, biological sciences, will direct WMU's part of the research that will bring \$1.3 to \$1.5 million in research funds to the University, an amount believed to be the largest grant ever awarded to the Department of Biological Sciences. Alexander Enyedi, department chairperson, will serve as co-director of WMU's part of the work.

The United States Agency for International Development is funding the global effort, known as the Program for Biosafety Systems, with a \$14.8 million award that will be used to assist developing nations to enhance biosafety policy, research and capacity. The program has selected Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, the Philippines and East and West Africa as its initial areas of focus, with expansion to other countries and regions in the future likely. The addition of countries in the southern region of Africa is currently being seriously considered. The five-year project will formally begin July 1.

"The purpose of the work is to help developing countries both establish the capacity to do research on biosafety and use that research to make sound policy decisions when it comes to introducing genetically altered crops," says Quemada. "The WMU portion of the work will involve administering a program of competitive grants to researchers in the focus countries and regions."

The lead organization in the six-member consortium is the International Service for

National Agricultural Research, which is located in the Netherlands. Other members include the International Food Policy Research Institute of Washington, D.C.; the Donald Danforth Plant Science Center of St. Louis, Mo.; Agriculture & Biotechnology Strategies of Merrickville, Ontario; and Michigan State University. The consortium was assembled to take advantage of the researchers' extensive background in and knowledge of biosafety policy development in poor countries.



Hector Quemada, seated, and Alexander Enyedi discuss their work in a Haenicke Hall research lab (Photo by Cheryl Roland)

## Choosing to 'stick around' led scientist to federal research

Six years before Kalamazoo's "Stick around" ad campaign was even a twinkle in its creator's eye, Hector Quemada was told he was out of his corporate research job if he chose to stay in the city he loved.

Today, Quemada is an adjunct faculty member at WMU who has turned the research prowess he once practiced at the Upjohn Co. and Asgrow Seed Co. into a series of successful, federally funded projects, including one newly announced effort that will bring in the largest grant ever awarded to the Department of Biological Sciences.

So successful has Quemada's transition from Upjohn scientist to University research specialist been, that WMU officials consider it a model for what could happen if WMU is able to launch its Life Sciences Research and Commercialization Center.

"Hector is something of a poster child for how well this can work," says Chairperson Alexander Enyedi, biological sciences, who is Quemada's research partner in the latest project to secure federal funding. The two have been colleagues for nearly a decade.

It was that connection that helped keep Quemada in Kalamazoo in 1997 after a series of sales and mergers that began in 1994 resulted in the Upjohn unit for which Quemada worked, Asgrow Seed Co., closing its Kalamazoo operations. Quemada, a plant specialist, was given a choice—move to Des Moines, Iowa, or St. Louis or lose his position.

For Quemada and his family, who had put down their roots in Kalamazoo, it was a tough decision, and one he does not envy the group of current displaced Pfizer employees.

He chose to stay and began an agricultural biotechnology consulting firm, Crop Technology Consulting Inc. WMU provided a small office and laboratory space, and Quemada eventually won a U.S. Department of Agriculture grant to perform risk assessment research on the biosafety of genetically altered crops. That work, along with other work done by his consulting firm, led to the current USAID project, which also is aimed at biosafety.

"Without that lab access and the institutional affiliation, I probably wouldn't have gotten the USDA grant," Quemada says. "With the USAID grant, it was even more important to have the kind of infrastructure that WMU provides."



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WESTERN NEWS (USPS 362-210) is published by the Office of University Relations, Walwood Hall, Western Michigan University, 1903 W. Michigan Ave., Kalamazoo, MI 49008-5433, every other week when classes are in session. Periodicals postage paid at Kalamazoo, MI 49008-5165.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Western News, Office of University Relations, Western Michigan University, 1903 W. Michigan Ave., Kalamazoo, MI 49008-5433.

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. Summer 1 2003 publication dates are: May 8, May 22, June 5 and June 19. Items may be submitted by mail, fax (387-8422) or e-mail (cheryl.roland@wmich.edu).

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WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY

**FOR SALE/RENT**—Blue Lakes, Mich., cottage, near Kalkaska. Sleeps four, new vinyl siding, vinyl-clad thermo windows, deck, landscaping, super lake view, 100 feet from beach access. \$124,900, or rent for \$450 per week. Call 7-8828.

**FOR SALE**—1997 Jeep Wrangler. 65,000 miles, two tops, A-1 condition, five-speed, never used off road. \$8,300. Contact Dick Schaper at 7-3580, 372-9614 or <richard.schaper@wmich.edu>.

**FOR SALE**—1994 Toyota Corolla LE. One owner, very good condition, 89,000 miles. Call 372-8094 and leave message.

**FOR SALE**—Home in country setting close to campus. Ranch walkout, 2700 square feet, wooded lot with over one acre, four bedrooms, three baths, fireplace in great room, eat-in kitchen. Ideal family home. Priced to sell at \$209,000. Call 372-3805 for an appointment.

**FOR SALE**—1996 Mitsubishi Galant S. Good condition, 101,000 miles. \$3,900. Call 584-1755

## Litynski lauded by national group, gets patent approval

Provost Daniel M. Litynski was honored in Nashville, Tenn., June 23, when a national engineering group named him the recipient of its Meritorious Service Award.

Litynski received the award from the American Society for Engineering Education's Electrical and Computer Engineering Division "in recognition of academic leadership in advancing the ECE profession through scholarship and national service."

The prestigious award was presented during ASEE's June 22-25 annual conference, which is the largest gathering of engineering educators in the United States.

Litynski also received official notification recently that he and two colleagues have been awarded a patent for their work in developing a method to convert analog signals to digital signals.

The patent for "Photonic Analog to Digital Conversion Based on Temporal and Spatial Over Sampling Techniques" has potential for use in such areas as high-speed clocking, broadband sampling and reduced interference of signals.

Barry L. Shoop of West Point, N.Y., and Pankaj Das of La Jolla, Calif., are Litynski's co-inventors on the patent, which was officially approved in March.

**Haym Kruglak**, emeritus in physics, died June 14 in Kalamazoo. He was 94.

Kruglak joined the WMU faculty in 1954, after teaching at Princeton University and the University of Minnesota. He retired in 1977, with 23 years of service. He was a National Science Foundation faculty fellow in 1963-64 and received a distinguished service citation from the American Association of Physics Teachers in 1977.

Kruglak was the author of three books and more than 100 journal articles, research reports and laboratory manuals. Following his retirement from WMU, he was a visiting scientist at the University of Arizona.

In 1987, the sundial on the pedestrian mall between Kanley Chapel and Wood Hall was named for Kruglak by action of the WMU Board of Trustees. Kruglak initiated and coordinated the creation of the sundial. He and David Martin, a former physical plant mechanical engineer, designed the timepiece, which measures 20 feet in diameter and has a 12-foot stainless steel gnomon, or arm.

## This is year's last *Western News*

This is the last issue of *Western News* for the 2002-03 academic year.

Publication will resume at the beginning of the fall 2003 semester, with the first issue of the 2003-04 year scheduled to appear Thursday, Aug. 28.

Over the summer, *Western News* readers are encouraged to keep up with the latest University news by visiting the WMU News Web site at <[www.wmich.edu/wmu/news](http://www.wmich.edu/wmu/news)>.



## COMMENCEMENT, KANSAS STYLE—

With only a mortarboard for regalia, a group of U.S. Army reservists with WMU ties pulled off a Fort Riley, Kan., commencement ceremony for Clifford Ferree of Mattawan, whose reserve unit was called up just days before his April graduation. Congratulating Ferree in this photo is Sgt. 1st Class Paul MacNellis, WMU director of landscape services, also a member of the reserve unit.

## New aviation dean is former United Airlines executive

A former United Airlines executive has been named dean of WMU's College of Aviation.

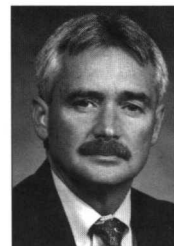
Rick Maloney, who retired earlier this year as United's vice president for flight operations and system chief pilot, will take the reins of WMU's aviation programs July 15. He brings more than 30 years of flight management experience to the task of running the college.

"The qualities that Capt. Maloney brings to the table are precisely those traits

that will continue to move the College of Aviation forward," says President Judith I. Bailey. "This high-profile college plays an incredibly important role, both as an example of the caliber of programs for which our University is known and as a critical element in a community partnership we value highly."

Already familiar with the area and WMU's aviation programs, Maloney has been working for the past several months with Battle Creek Unlimited, that city's economic development agency and a longtime partner with the University in fostering economic growth that revolves around aviation business and education.

He is a 1974 graduate of National University in San Diego, and he earned an MBA with an emphasis in aviation management from Newport University in 1982. During his career, Maloney also was active as a consultant and taught aviation management at San Jose State University.



Maloney



# Western News Readership Survey

A new president, a fall centennial celebration, looming budget constraints and efforts to help the community prosper —news about WMU is coming fast and furious. The Office of University Relations is out to find the most effective and cost-efficient method to deliver information about these important issues to you. We're looking at many options and formats to find those that meet the needs of the University community and deliver the news in a timely manner. We need to know what you think. Please

take a few moments to fill out the survey below and send it to: Western News Survey, Office of University Relations, 300 East Walwood Hall.

You can also take the survey online at this Web site: <[www.wmich.edu/ur/survey](http://www.wmich.edu/ur/survey)>.

Your answers will help us make important decisions about how we can best keep you informed.

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2) How is your copy of *Western News* delivered to you?

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10) News about Board of Trustees meetings

- ☐ Always      ☐ Sometimes      ☐ Rarely      ☐ Never

11) News about major grants or gifts

- ☐ Always      ☐ Sometimes      ☐ Rarely      ☐ Never

12) Comments from the president

- ☐ Always      ☐ Sometimes      ☐ Rarely      ☐ Never

13) Faculty/staff briefs

- ☐ Always      ☐ Sometimes      ☐ Rarely      ☐ Never

14) "Around the Campus"/events news

- ☐ Always      ☐ Sometimes      ☐ Rarely      ☐ Never

15) "On Campus" profiles of WMU staff members

- ☐ Always      ☐ Sometimes      ☐ Rarely      ☐ Never

16) "Service" columns marking staff anniversaries

- ☐ Always      ☐ Sometimes      ☐ Rarely      ☐ Never

17) Standing service columns—Exchange, Human Resources, Zest for Life, Libraries

- ☐ Always      ☐ Sometimes      ☐ Rarely      ☐ Never

18) Obituaries

- ☐ Always      ☐ Sometimes      ☐ Rarely      ☐ Never

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