Board meeting rescheduled

The meeting of the WMU Board of Trustees originally slated for July 18 has been rescheduled for Wednesday, July 16. Meeting time and locations will be published in Western News and on the Web as they become available.

Diversity speaker to discuss life as an American Muslim

A book author and journalist who calls herself a "Muslim feminist cowgirl" will give three presentations Wednesday and Thursday, May 28-29, as part of a University-sponsored diversity awareness event.

Lawyer and writer Asma Gull Hasan will present "Straight Talk From an American Muslim" at 1 and 7 p.m. May 28, and at 9 a.m. May 29 in Chenery Auditorium, 714 S. Westnedge Ave. Part of the annual "Respecting Differences" diversity series sponsored by WMU and a number of education and government partners, her talk is free. The 7 p.m. presentation is open to the public. For all other times, WMU employees must bring the ticket sent to faculty and staff via campus mail.

For more information contact Felicia Crawford at 7-5033.

Jorgens accepts College of Charleston provost position

Interim Provost Elise B. Jorgens has been named provost and senior vice president for academic affairs at the College of Charleston, effective July 15.

A 25-year WMU faculty member and administrator, Jorgens has been interim provost and vice president of academic affairs since January. Prior to that appointment, she had served as dean of the College of Arts and Sciences since 1997.

Trustees approve, Bailey to begin duties June 9

After winning the Board of Trustees' approval for her appointment, Judith I. Bailey is set to begin her tenure as WMU's seventh president June 9.

"I pledge you my energy, my enthusiasm and my leadership, and I accept this position with the humbleness and the responsibility that is placed upon me and the enthusiasm to begin the work," Bailey told board members and those attending the trustees' May 9 meeting in the Bernhard Center.

With seven trustees in attendance and the eighth, Vernice D. Anthony, on speakerphone from Detroit, trustees unanimously approved the nomination, which had been announced May 1. The nomination of Bailey, who has been president of Northern Michigan University since 1997, was brought to the board by Trustee Sarah DeNooey of Kalamazoo and approved by the full board, which includes three trustees who were among 14 members of the Presidential Search Advisory Committee.

With the board's approval in hand, Bailey is now set to succeed Elson S. Floyd, who left WMU in January to become president of the University of Missouri system.

"The advisory committee was impressed with Dr. Bailey's commitment to students, her track

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Guggenheim Fellowship will allow Julien to focus on Inca book

A WMU faculty member has been awarded a prestigious Guggenheim Fellowship to complete a book on events leading up to the late 16th century Spanish conquest of the Inca empire.

Catherine Julien, history, is one of 184 Guggenheim Fellows appointed for 2003 from among more than 3,200 artists, scholars and scientists who were considered for the award.

Decisions are based on recommendations from hundreds of expert advisors and are approved by the John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation's Board of Trustees.

Guggenheim Fellowships are awarded based on past achievement and exceptional promise for future accomplishment. The fellowships are grants, this year totaling $6,750,000, to selected individuals to help provide them with blocks of time in which they can work with as much creative freedom as possible. The fellowships represent some of the most competitive awards made in the arts and humanities.

Julien will use her fellowship to study the writings of Titu Cusi Yupanqui, the son of Manco Inca, who became the ally of Spanish conquistador Francisco Pizarro when Pizarro first arrived in the Inca capital in 1533. The Inca empire was the largest pre-Columbian civilization in the Americas, included some 13 million people and stretched from what is now Ecuador to Chile.

A WMU faculty member since 1996, Julien is the author of the award-winning "Reading Inca History," a book examining Inca historical tradition as recorded by the Spaniards during the 16th and 17th centuries.
Trustees approve faculty, staff retirements

Fifteen faculty and staff retirements were approved by WMU trustees in March. All of the faculty members who are retiring are doing so with emeriti status. Their names, years of continuous service and effective dates of retirement are: Wendy L. Cornish, dance, 36 years, effective Dec. 31, 2003; Joseph S. Ellin, philosophy, 41 years, effective Dec. 31, 2003; William B. Harrison III, geosciences, 30 1/2 years, effective Dec. 8, 2003; Pamela Keesler, Career English Language Center for International Students, 27 years, effective Aug. 21, 2003; Patricia M. Guenther, professor of physics, 41 years, effective Dec. 31, 2003; Robert E. Shamu, auxiliary enterprises, 35 years, effective June 30, 2003; Mary E. Birch, physical plant-landscape services, 23 years, effective Jan. 29, 2003; Patricia M. Guenther, Office of Business Development Services, 20 years, effective May 18, 2003; Robert A. Higgins, auxiliary enterprises, 34 1/2 years, effective June 20, 2003; Richard M. Hoff, auxiliary enterprises, 35 years, effective June 20, 2003; and Karen A. Page, residence life, 25 1/2 years, effective May 31, 2003.

The staff members retiring are: Betty L. Benner, transportation services, 15 1/2 years, effective June 30, 2003; Mary E. Birch, physical plant-landscape services, 23 years, effective Jan. 29, 2003; Patricia M. Guenther, Office of Business Development Services, 20 years, effective May 18, 2003; Robert E. Shamu, auxiliary enterprises, 34 1/2 years, effective June 20, 2003; Richard M. Hoff, auxiliary enterprises, 35 years, effective June 20, 2003; and Karen A. Page, residence life, 25 1/2 years, effective May 31, 2003.

Faculty headed to Senegal

Several WMU faculty have been named participants for "Tradition and Transition in Senegal: Islam, Globalization and Contemporary West Africa." The comprehensive project and study trip aimed at exploring religion and culture is scheduled to begin in June. W. F. Santiago Valles, Africana studies, is the project director, and the co-director is Allen Webb, English. Other WMU participants include Allison Downey, education; Yvette Hyter, speech pathology; a graduate student and two alumni.

VanderWeg sculpture at Bradley

Phillip VanderWeg, chairperson of art, recently completed a project as part of a sculpture exchange program involving WMU and Bradley and Milliken universities.

Each institution had one sculptor visit and build an exterior piece with the help of students from the host school. VanderWeg conducted his project at Bradley, where he met with key students to be involved and began working the next day. He also met with three classes taught by Bradley instructor Fisher Stolz.

Made of painted wood, VanderWeg's piece is titled "Shelter Shift 04.03." It is a brightly colored, house-like structure that measures 8 feet by 15 feet by 13 feet.

"It was interesting how quickly certain elements of campus adopted the piece," VanderWeg says. "It became a backdrop for a course in existentialism about an hour after we finished working on it. The students working with me were of great help, as well as a couple of art faculty members."

Breu to visit Turkey for research

Marlene Breu, family and consumer sciences, is headed to Turkey to continue two research projects, teach and take several language courses. An expert in Turkish culture and textiles, Breu will use her new Fulbright Lecturing Award to teach in the School of Fashion Design at the Izmir University of Economics.

Statewide group honors Weaver for United Way volunteer work

Don Weaver, physical plant-landscape services, has received a state award from the Michigan Association of United Ways. A longtime committee and current board member of the Greater Kalamazoo United Way, Weaver was chosen from a statewide field of nominees to receive the Walter A. Campell Award. The honor recognizes a union member who provides outstanding volunteer service to the United Way. Weaver is a member of the American Federation of State County Municipal Employees Union Local 1668 and has helped organize annual United Way fund-raising drives on the WMU campus.

The award was presented April 14 at an organized labor event in northern Michigan.
Service

The following employees will be recognized for 30, 25, 20, 15, 10 and five years of service to the University during May.

30 years—Libby M. Catt, University Libraries; Carol A. Olmstead, information technology.

25 years—Betty J. McKain, grants and contracts.

20 years—Rebecca A. Beech, English.

15 years—Imtiaz A. Chaudhary, information technology; Lorrie A. Racine, admissions and orientation; Tommye E. Ragan, public safety; Deborah L. Stanley, marketing.

10 years—Cheryl J. Lay, Extended University Programs; Terri L. MacKenzie, industrial and manufacturing engineering.

5 years—Julie Ann Brown, marketing; Sherrill D. Busboom, physician assistant; Kimberly A. DeVries, student financial aid; Cathleen Fuller, international affairs; Kevin Robert Hinds, public safety; Robert T. Kakuk, human resources; Jane-Marie R. Spencer, sociology; Tina Thompson, Sindecuse Health Center; Richard J. Underwood, College of Aviation.

Jobs

The following vacancies are currently being posted through the Job Opportunity Program by the Human Resource Services Department. 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 in securing these positions.

Employees may call the Applicant Information Service at 7-3669 to hear the weekly Job Opportunity Program postings, seven days a week, 24 hours a day from a Touch Tone phone.

For persons interested in faculty positions, there are openings in selected fields. A letter of application should be submitted to the appropriate dean or chairperson.

Please call the Applicant Information Service for up-to-date information on the Job Opportunity Program and vacancies available to external applicants.

(R) Director Residence Hall, 15, Residence Life, 02/03-3373, 5/19-5/27/03
(R) Finance Analyst, 14, Vice President for Research, 02/03-3374, 5/19-5/27/03
N= New
R= Replacement
WMU is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer.

APA, PSSO honor members at annual event

Members of the Administrative Professional Association and the Professional Support Services Organization gathered April 11 for their annual luncheon and awards ceremony. Three APA members and two PSSO members were honored.

The recipients are: Charlotte Giscombe, Academic Skills Center, Outstanding Professional Award (APA); Gary Kirk, Sindecuse Health Center, Outstanding New Professional Award (APA); Gail Kurtz, investments and endowment management, Tony Griffin Service Award (APA); Janet Liebendorfer, electrical and computer engineering, PSSO Service Award; and Rena Lynema, Haenicke Institute, PSSO Service Award.

This year’s luncheon also featured a special tribute to APA and PSSO members who had won Staff Service Excellence Awards from WMU. The recipients of those awards and their nominators were introduced to the audience—with one notable exception. Award winner Paul MacNellig, landscape services, was not there to be introduced. A member of the Army Reserves, MacNellig has been called to active duty. His wife Gail MacNellig, College of Fine Arts, represented him, along with John Goes, physical plant, who nominated him.

Sindecuse

Rules associated with the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act require health care providers to make a “Notice of Privacy Practices” available to patients and to request patients to acknowledge in writing that they received the notice. The Sindecuse Health Center and some of the Unified Clinics are covered under these HIPAA rules.

WMU’s notice, which tells clients how the University will use and disclose health information, is available online at <www.wmich.edu/shc/sindecuse/hippaframeset.html> and may be given to faculty and staff members by the University or people and organizations that work with the University before providing health care at a WMU site. For more information, call the Sindecuse privacy officer at 7-3562.

Exchange

FOR SALE—Three bedroom ranch-style home in Portage. Wonderful condition, large corner lot on private cul-de-sac. Great family area! Features: 1.5 baths, open kitchen with connecting dining room, large family room with fireplace, large formal living room, central a/c, basement with framed rooms and laundry area and huge work room for hobbies, ready to be finished. Main floor 1,540 sq. ft., 9907 Pine View Dr., Portage. $129,000. Call 321-8598.

FOR SALE—624 Weaver Ave., completely remodeled brick walk-out. Arcadia Neighborhood, 2 to 3 blocks from WMU, 1.1 acres with secluded woods in back, 2,750 sq. ft., new Woodmode kitchen, 4 bedrooms, 2 full baths (one with Jacuzzi whirlpool), 2 fireplaces, 2-car garage, large deck, detached workshop, many extras. Virtual tour: <www.FSBOonline.com/51807>. Call Abe or Cheryl Nicolaou at 343-2130.

SUMMER RENTAL—Condo on Black River in South Haven, 2 blocks from beach. 2 bedrooms, 2 baths, fully furnished. Available June 1-27, $875 per week. Call 7-4811 or 385-6201.

COTTAGE FOR SALE/RENT—Blue Lakes, Mich., near Kalkaska, sleeps 4, new vinyl siding, vinyl clad thermo windows, deck, landscaping, super lake view, 100 feet from beach access. $128,900 or rent $450 per week. Call 7-8828.

May 30 reception set to honor Piper for 30 years at University

The University community is invited to honor Rick Piper at a reception Friday, May 30, from 3 to 5 p.m. in the Fetzer Center. Piper, director of logistical services, is retiring after more than 30 years at WMU. The reception is sponsored by the Office of the Vice President for Business and Finance.

Gail MacNellig, left, and John Goes, right, accept a certificate on behalf of Paul MacNellig, who could not attend.
On Campus

Tim Birch likes to make the University look good.
Since joining WMU's custodial staff in the late 1980s, Birch has worked on a variety of assignments intended to help keep offices, residence halls and classroom buildings squeaky clean.

But off the clock, the single dad of two daughters, ages 9 and 10, says he isn't consumed with neatness.

"I get after my girls to pick up, but no more so than any other parent," says Birch who has been at WMU 14 years and enjoys the campus atmosphere.

"For about six years I worked in the residence halls, and I really liked the interaction with the students, particularly the freshmen," he recalls. "You watch them come in and it's their first time away from home, and by the end of the year you can see their personalities grow. The downside is you're constantly giving directions for the first month or so."

But being able to point people in the right direction is a byproduct of the job, he says.

"One of the things about being a custodian is the benefit of moving around," he says. "I don't think I could sit in the same spot and do something for eight hours straight."

In addition to working on the custodial staff, Birch is the president of AFSCME Local 1668, which represents about 480 employees. In his union role, Birch conducts the organization's day-to-day business and this summer will work on contract negotiations.

Outside of working, serving AFSCME and keeping up with his girls' third- and fourth-grade social calendars, Birch enjoys bike riding and community activism.

University would found brownfield research center if Parchment proposal becomes reality

Parchment Mayor Daniel Degraw earlier this week unveiled a proposal that calls for a $70 million mixed-use redevelopment of the 256-acre Crown Vantage paper mill brownfield site. The site would also be the location of the National Brownfield Redevelopment Research Center, led by WMU.

The plan, called The Community at Riverbend, calls for a master-planned, mixed-use complex anchored by the national research center, which will include housing, office space, a job retraining site, and retail and recreational opportunities.

Under the proposal, funding for the plan would come from a public/private partnership of federal, state, and private monies and programs, according to Joseph Moch, president of Riverbend LLC, the developer of the project and a WMU alumnus. Moch has said he will donate the Crown Vantage headquarters building to the University to serve as the location of the proposed research center.

"The National Brownfield Redevelopment Research Center will be a living laboratory for brownfield redevelopment and a natural outgrowth to the substantial Kalamazoo River watershed research already under way through the University's Environmental Institute," said Associate Vice President Bob Miller, community outreach. "This site would provide us with the ability to generate new techniques for successful redevelopment, monitor their impact on the environment and pass the information on to be used at brownfield sites throughout the country. It fits the mission of WMU, and we are pleased to be involved in this plan that has so much promise to revitalize our area."

Presidential election

"I've been delighted with what I've learned about the University over the past few weeks and I'm intrigued by the tremendous sense of energy and commitment of the faculty, staff and students I've met," Bailey said. "I literally cannot wait to become part of this community and help set its direction in what is clearly a challenging time—but one also filled with opportunity."

Bailey will officially begin her presidency at WMU Monday, June 9, and a host of welcoming events across the campus and community already are scheduled.

Also at the May 9 meeting, Daniel M. Litynski, who will resume his post as provost and vice president for academic affairs once Bailey begins, was formally thanked by trustees, who passed a resolution praising his work.