New deans named to head Lee Honors College, College of Education

The University began April with new deans to head the College of Education and the Lee Honors College, after two separate faculty search committees were won over by the qualifications of internal candidates.

More than 30 years after starting his career as a professor at the University of Michigan-Flint in a panel presentation that gave the presidents an opportunity to outline their schools’ needs and respond to questions from the subcommittee.

Litynski told legislators. "If not adjusted in some way, this could cause severe reductions in faculty and staff, possibly forcing the elimination of courses and programs that would delay or deny the educational goals of hundreds of Michigan citizens."

Litynski joined the presidents of Grand Valley, Lake Superior State and Wayne State universities as well as the chancellor of the University of Michigan-Flint in a panel presentation that gave the presidents an opportunity to outline their schools’ needs and respond to questions from the subcommittee.

Litynski took the opportunity to point to:

- historical inequities in the state’s appropriation formula that have resulted in underfunding for WMU;

- the University’s ongoing budget growth, which has exacerbated the impact of underfunding; and

- state data that shows WMU operating at efficiency levels far exceeding those of its sister institutions.

Litynski noted that House Fiscal Agency data and analysis shows WMU is the leanest of all the state’s 15 public universities when it comes to the size of its administrative/professional staff. While the state average staff-to-student ratio is one administrator for every 23 students, WMU has only one administrator for every 57 students, making its staff the leanest in the state—despite the dramatic demands for services created by a growing student body.

"A lean organization can be especially vulnerable in times of unprecedented cuts," Litynski said, "as the university faces a $2,190,000, or 45%, reduction in state funds this year, a 9.4% reduction in University of Michigan-Flint funding, a 9.4% reduction in University of Michigan-Dearborn funding, and a 10.9% reduction in University of Michigan-Flint funding."
Around the Campus

Concerto competition winners featured during Miller concert
The School of Music will present its 44th annual Concerto Concert at 3 p.m. Sunday, April 13, in Miller Auditorium. The performance will feature the Western University Symphony Orchestra, conducted by Bruce Uchimura, and three outstanding student solists selected through the highly popular concerto competition in February. This year’s concerto competition winners are euphonium player Michael Ullrich, a senior from Wyoming, Mich.; oboeist Diana Larson, a graduate student from Ludington, Mich.; and pianist Haiming Yan, a graduate student from Germany.

Each vocal and instrumental area of study in the School of Music held preliminary auditions earlier this year, and 10 finalists advanced to the concerto competition, held Feb. 16 in the Dehn Concert Hall. There is no prescribed number of winners in the concerto competition—the most winners one or two students are selected. Only those who meet standards of excellence as determined by a panel of guest adjudicators are afforded the honor of performing in the annual Concerto Concert. This year’s jury members were Dan Gastin, director of the Gilmore International Keyboard Festival; Jerry K. Haggerty, director of the classical orchestras at Calvin College; and Steven Ward, director of bands at Hope College and music director and conductor of the Kalamazoo Symphony Orchestra.

In addition to selections featuring each of the three auditions during the April 13 concert, the University Symphony Orchestra will perform John Sibelius’ "Karelia Suite." "Karelia" and "Fantaisie Variations" will also be performed, as well as the policies of the Chinese government toward the development of the area, "says Chuncheng He, geography and coordinator of Sheng-Ku’s visit. "Dr. Chenchu has spent over 12 years doing research in Tibet, and his animated presenta- tion will include slide-film presentations of historical scenes and field information about the people and environment.

Creating ‘greenprints’ is topic of sustainability series talk
It comes down to intentions versus con- sequences when thinking about the envi- ronmental problems the world faces.

That’s the opinion of an expert on campus “greening” projects who will visit WMU Thursday, April 14, 12 and 2 p.m. in 1120Schneider. The lecture is part of the Environ- mental Studies Sustainability Series Program and is sponsored by grants from the Wege Foundation of Grand Rapids, Mich. The event is free and open to the public.

The term, "greenprint" was first coined by WMU alumnus and nationally known environmentalist Huey Johnson. It refers to broad, integrated strategy for translat- ing environmental sustainability into action and policy plans at a state or national level.

On is known for his pioneering work in campus green projects. From 1996 to 1999, he led an effort to design and build the Adam Joseph Lewis Center for Envi- ronmental Studies at Oberlin College, a "building as a learning tool" that serves as “the most remarkable of a new genera- tion of college buildings.”

Volunteers sought to ‘dive into’ Finals Finish

Members of the faculty, staff and adminis- tration are being asked to help students dive into finals week by serving as volun- teers for the seventh annual Finals Finish from 7 to 11 p.m. Monday and Tuesday, April 14 and 15, in 22 at the Student Rec- reration Center. The event al- lows students to "dive into" the Rec- reration Center as a late night study and recreation zone. The event will be held two days before the spring semester finals exams. This year’s program, “Dive Into Finals Finish,” has a scuba diving theme and is being sponsored by the Presidential Spirit Committee along with various Uni- versity units and employee organizations.

The Student Recreation Center will be extending its hours and offering students study rooms, a computer lab and open recreation facilities as well as snacks, mas- sages and games. New for 2003 will be introductory scuba diving lessons for students who bring a swimsuit and towel, karaoke, Aeroball, and a three-point and a dunk contest.

Faculty, staff and volunteers are asked to cover shifts during the recreation center’s extended operating hours. The volunteers will staff snacks, work registration, gather evaluations, and lead games and activities. Volunteers are asked to sign up for a two-hour block of time on either Monday or Tuesday from 7 to 9 p.m. to 9 or 11 p.m.

Those volunteering will receive a free T- Shirt and are asked to wear black, white and red to cover shifts.

For more information about these or any other campus events, visit the WMU News Web site at www.wmunews.com.

Anxiety screening set to mark national day focused on topic

With the nation’s military forces at war in Iraq and terrorist alerts on high, it seems this would be an appropriate time to feel anxious, but for millions of Ameri- cans who suffer anxiety disorders, and ac- cording to world events. It holds an ever- present grip on their lives.

To help those who may be suffering from anxiety disorders, the School of Social Work and Counseling and Testing Center are again taking part in National Anxiety Disorders Screening Day Wednesday, April 16.

A free program and screening is being offered from 6 to 6:30 p.m. in 204 Bernhard Center to help individuals learn about anxiety disorders, their treatments and related issues.

The program includes a video, information about anxiety disorders and other mental illnesses, a screening question- naire, consultation with a mental health professional to review the questionnaire and a referral if help is necessary.

For additional information or to regist- er, if possible, call 7-3193.

WMU alum to talk about Denso dynamics in HCO series event
A WMU alum will be back on cam- pus this month to give inside insights into the workings of Denso Manufac- turing in Michigan and Japan.

Job Markicki, a manager at Denso’s facili- ties in Michigan, and a graduate of WMU in 1991 will visit the campus April 11 at 7 p.m. in 204 Bernhard Center to help individuals learn about anxiety disorders, their treatments and related issues.

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On Campus with Rob Hunt

Whether he’s traipsing along the sandy beaches of Normandy to indulge his interest in military history or working with WMU crews to clear snow from Hyames Field, Rob Hunt is definitely the outdoor type.

“I have the pleasure of working with just about everyone on campus,” says Hunt, whose work as director of athletic facilities includes responsibility for 10 venues—both indoor and outdoor. From the athletic examples to the Seelye Center, Hunt is directly or indirectly involved with every operation, game styling, scheduling, security, concessions, facilities development and upkeep, and grounds and maintenance work.

Although his job is challenging, it’s also enjoyable, Hunt says. “We have a good working relationship with the community and we get to work with folks from different groups,” he notes, referring to such organizations as the U.S. Tennis Association’s Michigan City Youth and Junior Championships, relay for Life, the Michigan High School Athletic Association and others. “It’s fun to see people excited about being here.”

Hunt and a staff of more than 1.5 assistant directors, graduate assistants and student workers—work to support WMU athletics and programs and the public.

“We are responsible for providing a safe, learning-conducive atmosphere for individual athletes on a day-to-day basis, as well as providing a great experience for up to 35,000 football fans at Waldo Stadium,” Hunt, who is reaching a business class in facilities management, has not always been the one to do this kind of thing before.

“I played football (inside linebacker) for ‘K’ and I’ve always enjoyed athletics, the atmosphere and the excitement,” he explains. “In 1997, after earning a degree in biology and environmental science from Kalamazoo College, Hunt joined WMU’s Division of Intercollegiate Athletics as a graduate assistant. He earned his master’s degree in athletic administration.

Despite the stark differences in his educational interests, making the leap from the job to another kind of field hasn’t been difficult. “I love the fact that on a single day you can see the result of an individual’s hard work, a team’s hard work and how people work together to achieve a common goal.”

Today’s last issue of Western News

This is the last issue of the Western News for the spring semester.

Publication will cease at the start of the Summer I session, with the first issue appearing on May 8. Other Summer I issues will be published on May 22, June 5 and June 19.

The deadline for each issue is 5 p.m. on the Friday preceding the publication date.

Recycling prizes laud departmental sorters

Two campus departments have been recognized for their recycling efforts in an annual university competition to reduce the amount of recyclable material discarded.

The Environmental Studies Program won this year’s “Best Recyclers” title, while the Campus Services building nabbed the “Most Improved” award, according to Carolyn Noack, recycling and waste reduction coordinator.

Waste sorts were completed in January and February. Custodial services personnel collected the regular trash from 15 departments. The trash was then sorted by Recycle SGU personnel, who weighed and properly disposed. Sorted categories were recyclable paper, recyclable plastics, glass, metal, paper, corrugated cardboard, other recyclables and other waste.

Winning departments were determined based on percentage of recyclables in the trash, the lower the percentage, the better. The “Most Improved” accolade was determined by comparing the 2003 results with 2002 data for departments that underwent repeat audits.

Award programs to honor campus’ best

The campus community is invited to help recognize some of WMU’s best by attending the Greek Standards of Excellence Awards Reception on Thursday, April 13, in Miller Auditorium and the Golden Bronze Awards from 5 to 7 p.m. Thursday, April 13, in the Bernhard Center’s West Ballroom.

Akin to the Academy Awards, these two annual recognition programs will honor many of the academic year’s most notable students and student organizations, as well as some of the faculty and staff who have contributed outstanding support and encouragement.

Greek awards information is available by calling 7-2138. Golden Bronze Awards information is available by calling 7-2182.
WMU senior David P. Hoogerheide of Pottage, Mich., has been selected as the WMU's second recipient of the Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship. Hoogerheide was chosen on the basis of the academic merit from among 1,053 applicants nationwide. A total of 300 students will receive 2003-04 awards, which cover the cost of tuition, fees, books and room and board up to $1,500 per year.

The Goldwater Scholarship is the premier undergraduate award of its type in the fields of mathematics, natural sciences and engineering. The endowment recognition program was established by Congress in 1986 to pay tribute to Sen. Barry M. Goldwater and to encourage students to pursue careers in those fields. The application process includes a nomination from the student's university, an essay and short answers to several questions and letters of recommendations. In 1996, Marc A. Humphrey became WMU's first Goldwater Scholar.

Hoogerheide, a double major in physics and chemistry, has maintained a perfect 4.0 grade point average at WMU. A musician and a member of the Lee Honors College, he was recently named as the Department of Chemistry's Presidential Scholar—the University's highest honor for the nation's young undergraduates. "The Goldwater is certainly the nation's most prestigious science award for undergraduates," says John Martell, assistant dean of the Lee Honors College, who nominated Hoogerheide for the Goldwater.

"The quality of students who compete for this award is incredibly high, and David fits in with that group very nicely. Not only is he a brilliant scientist, he has a good background in the humanities and is also a musician."