Floyd commits to the University of Missouri

Elon S. Floyd, the sixth president of Western Michigan University, is leaving WMU to take the reins of the University of Missouri-Westville.

Floyd, who has been the WMU leader since August 1998, was tapped by the board of the four-campus Missouri system to succeed Manuel T. Pacheco, who is retiring from the post of UM president at the end of this year. Floyd is expected to take office in Missouri on Jan. 6. Word of Floyd’s decision to accept the Missouri offer came at the end of more than a week of speculation triggered by press reports of his candidacy for the position.

“It is with mixed and heartfelt emotions that today I advised the Board of Trustees that I have accepted the position of president of the University of Missouri,” Floyd wrote in a message to the campus community. “While I am excited about the challenges that lie ahead, I am also saddened to be leaving the institution that gave me the opportunity to realize my dream of being a university president. For this, Western Michigan University, its trustees, faculty, staff, students, alumni and friends will always hold a special place in my heart.

The University of Missouri has nearly 60,000 students on four main campuses—in Columbia, St. Louis, Kansas City and Rolla. Each campus is headed by a chancellor who reports to the system president. The system includes law, medical and dental schools and nationally recognized programs in such fields as life sciences, engineering, geology and journalism.

“Dr. Floyd is a strong leader who inspires the people around him,” UM Board President John Mathis said. "The selection committee found that he is highly regarded by all who come in contact with him, from faculty, staff and students to officials at the highest levels of state government and higher education.”

WMU Board of Trustees Chairperson Richard Y. St. John praised Floyd’s work at WMU and said he and his fellow trustees were disappointed by the decision but wished the president success at his new post.

“The University of Missouri is getting a wonderful president,” St. John said. “His years at WMU have been a time of tremendous progress for this institution, and he served with the kind of energy and vision that will be sorely missed.”

During his tenure at WMU, Floyd is credited with accomplishing a variety of goals, including those laid out by the Board of Trustees when he was hired.

• He oversaw WMU’s elevation to the “doctoral/ research universities-extensive” category in the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching’s classification system and forged the University’s reputation as a “student-centered research university.”

• His pursuit of private gifts to the University resulted in three consecutive record gifts years and the near-completion of a $125 million capital campaign, which is slated to run through 2003.

• He partnered funding for a new engineering building into an addition to the University’s Kalamazoo campus that includes not only new academic facilities, but also the Business Technology and Research Park that is being hailed as a model of public/private partnership.

New Great Lakes center funded by EPA will combine WMU research, Ann Arbor firm’s technology

WMU and Ann Arbor’s Altarum will use more than $2.6 million in funding from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to develop tools that will give scientists, policy makers and citizens alike the detailed information they need to make decisions on critical environmental issues.

Sen. Carl Levin traveled to the University Oct. 31 to announce a recently approved federal grant for $2,678,500 that will be used to establish the Great Lakes Center for Environmental and Molecular Sciences at WMU. The center will combine the resources of University environmental researchers with those of the environmental and divisional director of Altarum, a nonprofit research and innovation organization formerly known as ERIM.

The new center will use the technical expertise of both organizations to improve the assessment of Great Lakes water quality and more precisely measure the impact of pollution on human health and Michigan’s Great Lakes ecosystem. The project could have implications for freshwater protection worldwide.

Center researchers will use new molecular science techniques and advanced informatics systems to understand, evaluate and help plan management of chemical, nutrient and biological contaminants that impact both human health and the environment throughout the Great Lakes.

“Three things really set this work apart from earlier efforts to assess environmental damage,” says Charles Ide, director of WMU’s Environmental Institute, who will work on the project with the institute’s associate director Jay Means, chairperson of chemistry. “We’ll be the first group to apply genomic tools for assessing damage to the ecosystem and human health, we’ll be applying the most sensitive and selective analysis methods, and we’ll be developing a Web-based portal that will allow the people who need this information to get a better handle on the environmental data.”

With 18 percent of the earth’s fresh surface water, the Great Lakes offer enormous potential for perfecting ways to identify, trace and remediate the impact of multiple contaminants on human health and the environment. The Great Lakes are the subject of a variety of international, federal, state, local, private and academic studies, but because those studies often focus on isolated pieces of the environment, the information gathered is seldom looked at in a system-wide or watershed-scale context.

“We’re looking at a system that contains roughly a
Famed film editor to discuss film after showing in Little Theatre

The Department of English is teaming up with the Kalamazoo Film Society and the Western Film Society to bring film editor Lee Percy to town for a presentation of his film, "The Behave". The screening is at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 21, in the Little Theatre. A discussion will follow the film along with a demonstration on how parts of the film were cut.

The film is about skinheads and is loosely based on the story of Daniel Burrus, the New York Neo-Nazi leader who killed himself after it was revealed he was Jewish. The film has generated its share of controversy, with one complaint being that it glamorizes the movement, but the Simon Wiesenthal Center condemning it as "a primer for anti-Semitism". Percy has edited three films which won top acting Oscars: William Hurt for "Kiss of the Spiderwoman", Jeremy Irons for "Revelation of Pompeii," and Hillary Swank for "Boys Don't Cry".

More recently, he edited Henry Bean's "The Believer", winner of the 2002 Sundance Grand Jury Prize, as well as "Life," a Sundance Grand Jury Prize nominee.

Campus workshop to focus on using theatre as teaching tool

A free faculty and staff workshop on "Using Theatre Techniques in the Classroom" will be presented from 1 to 3 p.m. Friday, Nov. 15, in Room 3320 of the Sincere Health Center. The program will explore and demonstrate interactive techniques that actively engage students in the learning process. It is being sponsored by the health center's Office of Health Promotion and Education and will be facilitated by Kevin D. Dodd, coordinator of theatre for community health. For more information or to register, call 7-5263.

Litynski lauded in ceremony at Polish consulate general in NYC

Daniel M. Litynski, WMU's provost and vice president for academic affairs, has been named to the Polish consulate general in New York by the president of the Republic of Poland, President Aleksander Kwasniewski. The ceremony was a part of the annual Independence Day celebrations. "It is an honor to receive this award from the Polish government," Litynski says. "There are long-lasting cultural ties between Poland and America that have developed over the past 200 years, and in this event, we have an opportunity to recognize individuals once the designated exam cre-
Nineteen staff members honored for excellence

Nine outstanding staff members will receive semiannual Staff Service Excellence Awards with a $1,000 prize and commemorative certificate. Award recipients are nominated by their peers and selected by a group of peers to recognize excellence in service beyond job responsibilities.

Two winners are from the AFSCME ranks: John Dubois, Physical Plant-Landscape Services, and Shelly L. Russell, Photographic Services, helping to build and maintain WMU's facilities and grounds. Seven winners are from the professional, administrative, clerical, and technical employee groups: Annie D. Bubbins, Chemistry, Donna J. Hinkle, Development Office, Barbara T. McKinney, Mathematics, Rosemary Nichols, Extended University Programs; Maureen Price, Office of the General Counsel; Cynthia S. Seedorf, Medi-Cal Insurance; and Richard H. Welch, Physics.

Winners of the fall '02 and winter '03 awards will be announced at the fall and spring WMU News publications. The awardees' names will be published Mar. 30, 2003.

New director takes helm of distance education

Craig A. Kami has been named director of the Department of Distance Education at WMU's Extended University Programs division.

Kami, whose appointment was effective July 1, has 10 years of experience in the field of instruction, instructional technology, and distance education. In his new post, Kami will oversee WMU's self-instructional, interactive television and Internet programs; develop long- and short-term plans to meet the emerging technologies and market needs of these programs; explore ways to attract more faculty to teach in distance learning; and study trends and research new teaching techniques for the candidates from whom four employees will be selected to win an annual Staff Service Excellence Award, with a $1,000 prize, in spring '03.

The next issue of the WMU News will be recognized for 35, 30, 25, 20, 15, and 10 years of service to WMU. The awards, $1,000 prize, and $1,000 prize, will be announced at the fall and spring WMU News publications. The awardees' names will be published Mar. 30, 2003.

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Pamela Bahlke joined the faculty in 1962 as assistant professor of English and retired in 1981. During his tenure, he served as chairperson of the humanities and his master's and doctoral degrees from the University of Minnesota.

Edward O. Elsasser, emeritus in history, died Oct. 3 in Kalamazoo. He was 84.

A specialist in the history of Latin America, Elsasser was a faculty member for 28 years before his retirement in 1983.

During his career, he was awarded a Fulbright Fellowship for research, and the committee directed to number his publications, including Encyclopaedia Britannica, Colliers Encyclopedia and several professional journals.

Human resources

Flexible spending account applications due Nov. 27

Employees have until 5 p.m. Wednes-

day, Nov. 27, to enroll in a Flexible Spending Account for 2003. Flexible Spending Accounts offer an opportu-
nity to use tax-free dollars to pay for
dependent care expenses or qualified
medical expenses not covered by insur-
ance.

Employees must enroll annually. New participants and current participants who

wish to continue their plans in 2003 must submit an enrollment form to the
Benefits Office by the deadline noted
above.

For more information, visit the Web site: <www.wmich.edu/hr/benefits/

health/open_enroll.htm>. Enrollment forms are available on that site or by
calling the benefits office at 7-3670.

FOR SALE-2000 Toyota Sienna CE.

Burgundy, 34,000 miles, power windows, locks, steering, ABS, new tires, privacy glass, middle bench seat, and

cictureCD, cruise control, near heat-
ing. $16,000 OBO. Call 353-8724.

FOR SALE-The Cyclone Zone Cross-Trainer weight/fitness six-function machine, $110 or best offer. Somewhat like a stepper that works the arms simul-
taneously, maximum weight capacity of

230 lbs. Call Julie at 7-3960 or Jeff at

624-6577.

Obituaries

University officials have learned of the July 7 death in Kalamazoo of Harold O. Bahlke, emeritus in humanities. He was 86.

Bahlke joined the faculty in 1962 as assistant professor of English and re-
mained on the faculty until his retire-
ment in 1981. During his tenure, he

served as chairperson of the humanities area of the College of General Studies from 1963 to 1972.

Shortly after his retirement, Bahlke worked as special consultant on a award-winning film produced at WMU about the work of architect Paolo Soleri, who designed the futuristic city Arcosanti in Arizona.

Bahlke earned a bachelor's degree from Wisconsin State College in Eau Claire and his master's and doctoral degrees from the University of Minnesota.

Edward O. Elsasser, emeritus in history, died Oct. 3 in Kalamazoo. He was 84.

A specialist in the history of Latin America, Elsasser was a faculty member for 28 years before his retirement in 1983.

During his career, he was awarded a Fulbright Fellowship for research, and the committee directed to number his publications, including Encyclopaedia Britannica, Colliers Encyclopedia and several professional journals.

Libraries

Annual book sale is next week

The Friends of University Libraries is

holding its annual fall book sale from 9 a.m. to midnight Wednesday, Nov. 14, and from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 21.

The event, which will take place on the second floor of the Eckhart Library, serves as fund-raiser for the libraries and offers the campus community an opportunity to buy inexpensive used books and re-

source materials.

Next News is semester's last

The next issue of the Western News, which will be published Dec. 5, is the final one for the fall semester.

Publication will resume Jan. 9, following
the holiday break. Additional spring
semester publication dates will be Jan.
23, Feb. 6, Feb. 20, March 13, March 27, and April 10.

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230 lbs. Call Julie at 7-3960 or Jeff at

624-6577.
NOVEMBER 2002

11.14 Thursday
- Student exhibition (through Nov. 15), ceramics by Marci Bonham and photography by Constance Smith, East Hall Galleries, weekdays 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; reception, Friday, Nov. 15, 5-8 p.m.

11.15 Friday
- Women’s basketball vs. Northern Illinois University, 7 p.m.
- Volleyball vs. Western Illinois University, 7 p.m.
- *Men’s basketball vs. University of Illinois at Chicago, 8 p.m.

12.1 Friday
- Student Recreation Center, 4:30 p.m.

12.7 Saturday
- Volleyball vs. Northern Michigan University, 7 p.m.
- *Men’s basketball vs. Bowling Green University, 6:30 p.m.

12.10 Tuesday
- Lecture, "Natives in the Media," Jennifer Podemski, Canadian Aborigi-

Committee seeks faculty scholar nominations

The Distinguished Faculty Scholar Committee is seeking nominations for the 2002-2003 Distinguished Faculty Scholar Awards.

The deadline for nomination is January 24, 2003. Up to three awards may be made each year. Those honored during this cycle will be announced at the next convoca-
tion. Each winner will receive a $2,000 honorarium that becomes part of the recipient’s base salary: a plaque; and an opportunity to present a lecture, exhibition or performance for the University community.

All current, continuing full-time faculty members with junior faculty rank are eligible, including part-time and full-time faculty. Nominees must be at least five academic years of service to WMU prior to nomination. No individual may receive the award more than once.

The awards are based on outstanding professional achievements. The accomplishments may be artistic, historical, literary, philosophical, scientific or techni-
cal. Wide recognition beyond WMU is essential. The award will be based on a body of achievement rather than a particular piece of work and a substantial part of the work must have been accomplished as a WMU faculty member.

Guidelines and nomination forms are being distributed on campus. For more information about the process, contact Ernst A. Breisch, chair and chairperson of the selection committee, at 7-4790 or e-mail at bernst.breisch@wmich.edu.

Floyd...continued from page 1
- He secured legislative approval for a new $45 million home for the College of Health and Human Services.
- He personal attention to faculty/staff and student relations, which he demonstrated in a period marked by collaborative efforts both within and between the two segments of the community.
- He fulfilled a 2001 vow to lead WMU to becoming one of the first major research universities in the nation to develop a totally wireless campus computing environment.
- WMU’s Board of Trustees is expected to announce soon how it will fill the vacancy that will be left by Floyd’s departure.

To Floyd’s message to the University community, which was sent as he headed to Michigan City, "Thank you for your unwavering support...for all that you have done to make WMU great.

With such data, Altarum will design a web-based portal that will look at the seemingly healthy specimens.

Levels of such substances can be considered well within and between the two segments of the community.

Initial work of the center will take place at WMU, where Ide and Means and col-

landers in the Environmental Institute have been working with previous EPA funding to measure genetic changes that are caused by toxic chemicals in the watershed. Their work, which has focused on the Kalamazoo River watershed, an EPA Superfund site, is at the latest genetic scale and also offers the potential for guidance on what levels of such substances can be considered "acceptable.

The work predicts long-term genetic changes that may be occurring in seemingly healthy specimens.

With such data, Altarum will design a Web-based portal that will look at the Great Lakes in an entire system...因而 incorporate the molecular-level findings with comprehensive GIS (geographic information system) information. That information would detail the effects of urbanization and changing land use patterns.