Pilot plant is first WMU Parkview site open

A building dedication and open house Oct. 11 gave paper and printing pilot plants available for research, and coating is the common denominator between the two fields. Industry clients will be able to take their research projects from coating through production. The new facility also will position WMU to take advantage of the growth in the specialty coated paper market.

The first trials for industry clients will be run on the new coater in December, and the plant is already attracting attention from paper industry trade press. Jan Walter is director of WMU’s pilot plants, which also include paper and print pilot plants located on the main Kalamazoo campus. Her office, she says, is building an increasing number of nombres and international calls from those in the industry who want to conduct coating research.

“Since this coater will provide access to those in industry who need to do coating research but can’t invest in this type of equipment, we’re hearing from people who just are waiting for this facility to come on line,” Walter says. “Paper mills, chemical suppliers and equipment suppliers calling to find out when it will be available and what its capabilities are.”

The coater is also expected to open up a number of opportunities for WMU students and faculty members. Students will have an opportunity to meet and interact with paper industry clients and will use the coater for research and they also will have a chance to design projects for their own undergraduate and graduate research.

In addition, says AbuBakr, the University hopes to launch collaborative efforts with other universities and research organizations, including the Institute of Paper Science and Technology at Georgia Tech and North Carolina State University.

WMU personnel lead Egyptian water project

With a $211,116 grant from the U.S. Department of State’s Bureau of International and Cultural Affairs, two Egyptian Universities and WMU will go about the business of addressing the problem of finding fresh water in one of the most arid regions of the world—Egypt’s Sinai Peninsula and eastern desert.

The grant will allow WMU to partner with Suez Canal University in Ismailia, and South Valley University in Qena to address critical ground water supply and waste disposal problems in the region. The project began in July and will run through February 2005.

“Water is Egypt’s most precious resource,” says principal co-investigator Alan Kehew, chairperson of geosciences. “But diversions of the Nile River for irrigation, industry and drinking water have reached the limit of expansion for future usage. The only feasible alternative for new supplies of fresh water is to develop ground water resources.”

The burgeoning population on the Sinai Peninsula, along with industrial and tourism development, has not only triggered a need for alternative water sources, but also requires a plan to deal with waste disposal.

The extent to which ground-water supplies can be exploited to meet growing needs is unknown.

“The issue Egypt will face is to identify and develop sustainable ground water resources, while at the same time protecting aquifers from contamination,” says Kehew.

The initial stages of the program will assess environmental needs in Egypt related to ground water resources and waste management. Pilot research projects conducted by faculty and graduate students from the three universities will then be initiated in the south Sinai Peninsula and eastern desert with state-of-the-art technologies from WMU.

“Geophysical techniques that image below the ground will be used to explore new sources of ground water. We will also be able to tell the origin and age of the water,” says Kehew.

Ten Egyptian professors and students will travel to WMU to take a hydrogeology course that teaches ground water technologies used in water resource protection. The course, Kehew says, is unique in the United States, in that it provides intense, hands-on experiences in ground water re-
'Real-life Indiana Jones' to give Earth Science Week talk

An expert on archaeological geology and ancient Egypt will speak on campus this month about discovery of the first paved road outside of the colder geological map, and new attempts to date a site of antiquity's most recognizable symbols.

James Hallof, professor of geology at the University of Toledo, will help WMU commemorate National Earth Science Week Oct. 19-26 by hosting a talk on "Archaeological Geology in Egypt: Ancient Oil Wells and Mummy Biting: Geology and Archaeology." He will speak at 4 p.m. in 1103 Wood.

For more information about these or any otherBOT-approved events, WMU News on campus, or to submit an event suggestion, email to cheryl.roland@wmich.edu.
The following vacancies are currently posted through the Job Opportunity Program and vacancies are available to external applicants.

(R) Associate Professor/Assistant Professor (tenure, academic year), 12/030, Bronson School of Nursing, 02/03-3151, 10/14-10/21/02.

(R) Associate Professor/Assistant Professor (tenure, academic year), 12/030, Bronson School of Nursing, 02/03-3152, 10/14-10/21/02.

(R) Assistant Professor/Associate Professor (tenure track, academic year), 12/030, Student and Scholar Services, 02/03-3153, 10/14-10/21/02.

(R) Assistant Professor/Associate Professor (tenure track, academic year), 12/030, Student and Scholar Services, 02/03-3154, 10/14-10/21/02.

(R) Utility Food Worker (TEN, 40 hours per week, 1 year), 03/03-3155, 10/14-10/21/02.

(R) Utility Food Worker (TEN, 37.5 hours per week, 1 year), 03/03-3156, 10/14-10/21/02.

(R) Utility Food Worker (TEN, 37.5 hours per week, 1 year), 03/03-3157, 10/14-10/21/02.

(R) Utility Food Worker (TEN, 37.5 hours per week, 1 year), 03/03-3158, 10/14-10/21/02.

(R) Utility Food Worker (TEN, 37.5 hours per week, 1 year), 03/03-3159, 10/14-10/21/02.

(R) Utility Food Worker (TEN, 37.5 hours per week, 1 year), 03/03-3160, 10/14-10/21/02.

(R) Utility Food Worker (TEN, 37.5 hours per week, 1 year), 03/03-3161, 10/14-10/21/02.

(R) Utility Food Worker (TEN, 37.5 hours per week, 1 year), 03/03-3162, 10/14-10/21/02.

(R) Utility Food Worker (TEN, 37.5 hours per week, 1 year), 03/03-3163, 10/14-10/21/02.

(R) Utility Food Worker (TEN, 37.5 hours per week, 1 year), 03/03-3164, 10/14-10/21/02.

(R) Office Assistant, 11, Finance and Commercial Law, 02/03-3165, 10/14-10/21/02.

N-New
R-Replacement
WMU is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer.

Human resources

Long-term care information sessions set for Oct. 31

All full-time and part-time staff are invited to attend one of two presentations on long-term care insurance that will take place at 9:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. Thursday, Oct. 31, in 204 Bernhard Center. Representatives from Brokers Health Insurance will discuss long-term care insurance. Special emphasis will be placed on commonly asked questions about long-term care insurance as well as how to evaluate the options offered by various carriers. For more information, call 685-5195.

Libraries

WMU Libraries will become one of 10 regional digitization centers as part of a grant project of the Action Team for Library Advancement Statewide. "The Making of Modern Michigan" grant will fund the Institute for Museum and Library Services, and to Michigan State University, which will serve as an administrative host for the project together with the Library of Michigan and the Michigan Library Consortium.

The project's goal is to empower libraries to contribute to a digital collection about the state's history. The grant will provide for training of library staff in digitization techniques, copyright issues, and metadata standards. Digitization equipment and technical assistance will be provided in regional digitization centers throughout the state. Incentive grants will be administered by the Library of Michigan to provide assistance to smaller libraries and to enable broader participation and wider access to the unique materials on Michigan history housed in their collections.

The Making of Modern Michigan" digital collection will benefit scholars, students and lifelong learners of all ages. Information about the project is available online at http://wmich.lib.msu.edu/narrative.htm.

In addition to WMU, project partners include: Michigan State University Libraries, Digital and Multimedia Library Services, Central Michigan University, Clarke Historical Library; Hamlin and Library Cooperative; Library of Michigan, Michigan Library Consortium; Traverse Area District Library; University of Detroit Mercy Library; Media Service, University of Michigan, Digital Library Production Service; and Wayne State University, Digital Library Services.

Exchange

FOR RENT—Duplex with Kalamazoo Country Club golf course in backyard. Two bedrooms, fireplace, air conditioning, full basement. Call (269) 994-2198 for more information.

Zest for Life

It's not too late to join Zest for Life! This program is offered through University Recreation and is free to WMU employees, retirees and their spouses.

These Zest programs are among the many offered:

• "Walk This Way" is a 10-week walking program that meets each Tuesday anywhere between noon and 3:00 p.m. Participants will walk distances throughout the week. For each Tuesday attended, the participant's name will be put in a raffle for a drawing at the end of the class, which runs through Nov. 26.

• "A New Me in 2003" will be coming in January and will help participants focus on eating for a healthy lifestyle. More details will be sent out soon.

In addition, members of the campus community are urged to check out group exercise programs that currently range from aqqua aerobics to kickboxing. It is never too late to become involved.

Those with questions should call 73-3543 or send an e-mail to cfe@wmich.edu.

Watch for additional updates and new programs in future issues of the Western News.

On Campus with Renee Smith

Renee Smith began her career as a preschool teacher, she knew what it was like to learn. However, she wasn't counting on handling a million sheets a year.

Smith, now a scan operator in WMU's Counseling and Testing Center, estimates her processing at least that many classroom exams, course evaluations, grade reports, placement tests, doctoral student research forms and materials each month. "We're seeing demand for our services increase as more people discover that we've here and what we can do for them," she says, noting that final and midterm exam periods are among their busiest times.

Smith and other scan operators work in the office, located in Student Services Building, to handle "mass sheet" work. The organization forms on which people mark their selection from among multiple-choice answers. The forms submitted to them are run through a sophisticated scanner, which interprets the information.

The work, however, amounts to far more than simply feeding the machines. "One of the challenges is that we work with hundreds of users and everyone has a different interest," she says. "It's kind of like a party manager." Smith, who began work at the University in 1994 as a child development teacher at the former Sara Swickard Preschool, is now the owner of the campus center in a temporary position. Within months, the job became permanent.

"I'm a little surprised that I've enjoyed it so much," says the Oxonohoma college graduate. "I probably prefer being in a class all day with small children." The McCallus name may have changed jobs, but she still spends plenty of time with small children—and she and her husband live in Kalamazoo with their three kids, ages 7, 5 and 1.

Nominations sought for annual service prize

The deadline for submitting nominations for the 2003 Distinguished Service Award is 4:30 p.m. Monday, Nov. 11.

Up to two awards may be made each year, in the programs that began in 1980. When two awards are made, one goes to a faculty member and the second goes to a member of the staff.

The awards are made for service that affects a significant segment of the University community in one or more of the following areas: service through innovative and effective programs which are academic or related to some facet of University life; service in areas and organizations that have been creative and effective programs which are aca-

Nominations and questions can be sent to Beth Hoeger, chairperson of the Distinguished Service Award Committee, by cam-

PSSO begins annual holiday poinsettia sale

The Professional Support Staff Organization's annual holiday poinsettia sale is under way.

The 6.5-inch poinsettias are $9 each. They come in four color options—red, white, marble and jingle bells.

Orders are being taken by Susan Nap, Col-

College of Arts and Sciences, 2304 Friedman. She will accept phone orders made by calling (269) 387-7430. Orders also can be made by e-mail sent to susan.nap@wmich.edu. Payment options include cash or check at the time plants are picked up. Plants used for decoration may be paid for by credit card.

Orders for the plants will be taken through Nov. 15. Plant pickup will take place from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday, Dec. 2, in 211 Bernhard Center.
Recent changes in the Division of Student Affairs have resulted in promotions for three veteran administrators and the filling of two vacant director positions as well as a name change for one office and the creation of one new director position.

Promoted were Suzanne J. Nagel as associate dean of students, Vernon Payne as associate vice president for student affairs and Martha B. Wurfel as assistant vice president for student affairs. Diane K. Swartz, who was elevated to vice president for student affairs July 1, remains dean of students.

All three new promotions were approved by the WMU Board of Trustees at its Sept. 22 meeting and were effective Aug. 1. Also during the September meeting, trustees approved the previously announced appointment of Gary M. Kirk, M.D., as director of the Sindecuse Health Center.

Nagel came to WMU and DOSA in 1997 as judicial affairs assistant in student judicial affairs, which was renamed the Office of Student Conduct this past July, and was appointed office director in 1998. In her new post, Nagel will direct procedures and training initiatives designed to educate students on the values of character, civility, intercultural and citizenship. She also retains leadership responsibility for the Office of Student Conduct.

The student conduct office’s new name better reflects the unit’s disciplinary mission and function as well as its increased focus on developing programs that promote and recognize positive behaviors. It also helps clarify that WMU’s disciplinary processes are unrelated to criminal law processes.

Payne came to the University in 1982 as head basketball coach and was appointed assistant director of admissions and orientation in 1989. He joined DOSA in 1992 as director of what is now University Recreation and was named assistant vice president for student affairs in 1998.

In his new post, Payne will supervise DOSA’s business operations and facilities unit. He also retains leadership responsibility for the University Recreation, Residence Life and information technology units.

Wurfel came to WMU and DOSA in 1992 as a psychologist and associate director of University Counseling and Testing Center and was appointed director of the Division of Multicultural Affairs in 1993.

In her new post, Wurfel will work on programs and policies related to diversity, academic collaborations and enrollment. She also retains leadership responsibility for the multicultural affairs unit.

Among DOSA’s other recent organizational changes were the filling of two vacant positions.

Susan J. Frost was appointed director of Residence Life, effective July 1, replacing Kathleen M. Karu, who resigned. Frost came to WMU and DOSA in August 2001 as associate director of facilities in Residence Life and has been serving as interim director since this past November.

Wurfel came to WMU and DOSA in 1992 as a psychologist and associate director of University Counseling and Testing Center.

In addition, Sharon Seabrook Russell was appointed to the new position of director of development and marketing, effective July 1. Russell, a University staff member since 1990 and DOSA staff member since 2001, had been manager of business operations.

Nominations sought for staff service awards

Nominations are now being sought for the fall 2002 semiannual Staff Service Excellence Awards.

Members of the University community are asked to submit nominations for staff members who perform in true service excellence, exceeding normal job expectations. Winners are selected by representatives of the participating organizations: American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, Local 1668; the Administrative Professional Professors, Michigan State Employees Association, the Police Officers Association and the Professional Support Staff Organization.

Up to 12 staff members will be selected to win a seminar award with a $130 prize. The winners of the 2002-03 seminar awards will be the only employees eligible to win an annual award—with a $1,000 prize—in spring 2003.

All nominations will be considered solely on the basis of the nomination content, which should include specific examples of service excellence. Nominations will be submitted by Oct. 25 to Kathy Schellers, human resources, by memo or e-mail to chsellers@wmich.edu or by using a nomination form that can be obtained from human resources by calling 7-3620. Winners will be announced in November.

Egyptian grant

continued from page 1

source development, management and protection. The group also will meet with community and environmental organizations in Southeast Michigan.

"This grant project matches Egypt's needs with WMU's strengths in geosciences," says Howard Dooley, WMU's executive director of international affairs. In addition to the goal of bringing an adequate supply of fresh water to Egypt, Dooley sees the project in a broader context.

"The contacts formed through this project will not only strengthen our bond with the two universities, but also will help develop student-to-student exchanges. This is important because the Middle East, which are more important than ever," Dooley says.

Cathleen Fuller, overseas program coordinator for WMU, and William Snuck, and Duan Hampton, both geoscientists, will serve as the university's other principal investigators on the project.