



Western NEWS

www.wmich.edu/wmu/news

JANUARY 4, 2001
volume 27, number 8

Campus United Way effort surpasses its 2000 goal

With money still trickling in early in December, the annual WMU United Way campaign came to a close with a total of more than \$208,000 raised.

According to Dawn J. VanderPloeg, campus United Way coordinator, faculty and staff pushed the total well past this year's \$205,000 goal. The final tally was \$208,160. The WMU campaign was part of the \$8.5 million goal of the Greater Kalamazoo United Way drive.

VanderPloeg, her co-coordinator Charlie DeVries and the President's Office extended a note of thanks to all the departmental fund-raisers who made the campaign a success.

Topic is fertility, economics

The effect that fertility and children have on the female labor supply will be explored in a presentation by an expert visiting campus Wednesday, Jan. 17.

Dr. Susan L. Averitt, associate professor of economics and business at Lafayette College in Easton, Pa., will discuss "The Economics of Fertility" at 3 p.m. in 3508 Knauss. Her presentation is part of the ongoing Werner Sichel Lecture Seminar Series on "The Economics of Work and Family" and is free and open to the public.

Averitt's research interests cover a broad range of topics relating to fertility, child care and the female labor supply. Among articles she has recently published are some that explore whether maternity leaves promote having children, an examination of whether or not women choose children over career after giving birth, and the effect of paternal child care on children's cognitive development.

Averitt earned a doctoral degree in economics from the University of Colorado in 1991. That year, she received the Michael E. Borus Dissertation Award from Ohio State University and the Center for Human Resources Research for outstanding dissertation work using the National Longitudinal Survey of Youth database.

Gift total tops last year's figure

The University received cash gifts totaling \$2.3 million during October, more than double the amount received in October 1999.

The 2000-01 cash gift receipts for July through October are running about 12 percent ahead of the same four-month period one year ago, said Bud Bender, vice president for development, who presented the figures to the Board of Trustees Dec. 8. The 1999-2000 fiscal year was a record year in both cash and total gifts.

The \$2,337,573 received in October brings the current fiscal year-to-date total of cash gifts to \$4,344,838, an increase of \$459,739 or 12 percent over the same four months of the previous fiscal year, when the cash-gift total for July through October 1999 was \$3,885,099.

According to Bender's report, current and deferred cash gifts received by the WMU Foundation during the 2000-01 fiscal year totaled \$4,235,502 through Oct. 31. An additional \$109,336 in cash gifts was received by the Paper Technology Foundation.

Board approves Roberta Allen as associate VP for academic affairs

Roberta S. Allen, business information systems, has been named associate vice president for academic affairs at WMU.

Allen's appointment, effective Dec. 11, was approved by the Board of Trustees at its Dec. 8 meeting.

Allen's duties will include faculty relations and overseeing budget issues for the Office of the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs. She will work with budget officers in the University's various colleges and advise the provost on strategic planning issues.

"Dr. Allen is a longtime faculty member who is well known and respected by her colleagues as a hard-working, responsible and caring member of the University community," says Fredrick J. Dobney, provost

and vice president for academic affairs. "We think she's going to be a valuable addition to the staff and an excellent person for this particular position."

A WMU faculty member since 1979, Allen also has been director of her department's Business Communication Program. She is the author or co-author of three books and manuals in her area of expertise, including the 1997 book "The Process of Writing: Composing Through Critical Thinking." She also is the author of numerous professional articles and has



Allen

made national presentations on topics that range from distance education to intercultural business communication.

Allen holds three degrees from WMU. She earned bachelor's and master's degrees in English in 1971 and 1978, respectively, and a doctoral degree in educational leadership in 1982.

In addition to her academic duties, Allen also serves as a court-appointed special advocate in the Michigan district court system for neglected and abused children. Her current caseload involves four children.

Allen replaces Carol L. Stamm, whose retirement with emeriti status also was approved by the board Dec. 8.

Dickinson, Enyedi earn top teaching honors

Two University faculty members will be recognized Feb. 1 for their superior classroom skills when they receive Alumni Teaching Excellence Awards for 2000.

Annually presented by the WMU Alumni Association, the 2000 awards will go to Alyce M. Dickinson, psychology, and Alexander J. Enyedi, biological sciences. The awards will be bestowed at the University's Academic Convocation at 5 p.m. in the Fetzer Center's Kirsch Auditorium. In addition to a plaque, the winners will each receive a \$2,000 cash prize.

The Alumni Association established the awards program in 1966 as a way for alumni, students, and faculty and staff to recognize exceptional teachers at WMU. An Alumni Association committee chooses recipients from nominations by alumni, students and departmental colleagues.

Dickinson, who came to WMU in 1984, is an expert in industrial/organizational psychology. An active researcher, she has co-edited two books, written more than 30 journal articles, and served as a reviewer for professional psychology and behavior analysis journals. She also has been a presenter and discussant at scores of workshops, conferences and meetings and is involved in a variety of professional associations and University committees.

Nearly all of the former and current students who nominated

Dickinson emphasized that her classes are remarkably well organized and structured. In addition to praising her for the phenomenal effort she puts into preparing for her undergraduate and graduate classes, many called her a model teacher and wrote that she has played a significant role in their career development.

"Dr. Dickinson has consistently been one of the most organized and effective professors that I have encountered during my years at WMU. I have found every course, research project and applied project to be interesting and significant in relation to my educational goals," one former student remarked.

In addition, Dickinson's students repeatedly commented on how resourceful and flexible she is in bringing "the real world" into the classroom.

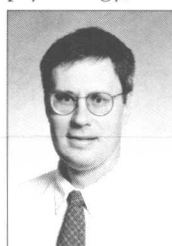
Prior to coming to WMU, Dickinson was a personnel selection specialist for the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey from 1977 to 1979 and a personnel analyst for the New York State Office of Court Administration from 1979 to 1980. She received a bachelor's degree in psychology from Lycoming College in 1974, a master's degree in industrial/organizational psychology from Fairleigh Dickinson University in 1978 and a doctor of philosophy degree in applied behavior analysis from WMU in 1985.

Enyedi, who came to WMU in 1993, is a plant physiologist. He teaches at both the undergraduate and graduate levels and helps mentor teaching assistants through his seminars on effective teaching and other activities.

A member of several professional societies in his field, Enyedi is an active researcher. He has received numerous grants for his



Dickinson



Enyedi

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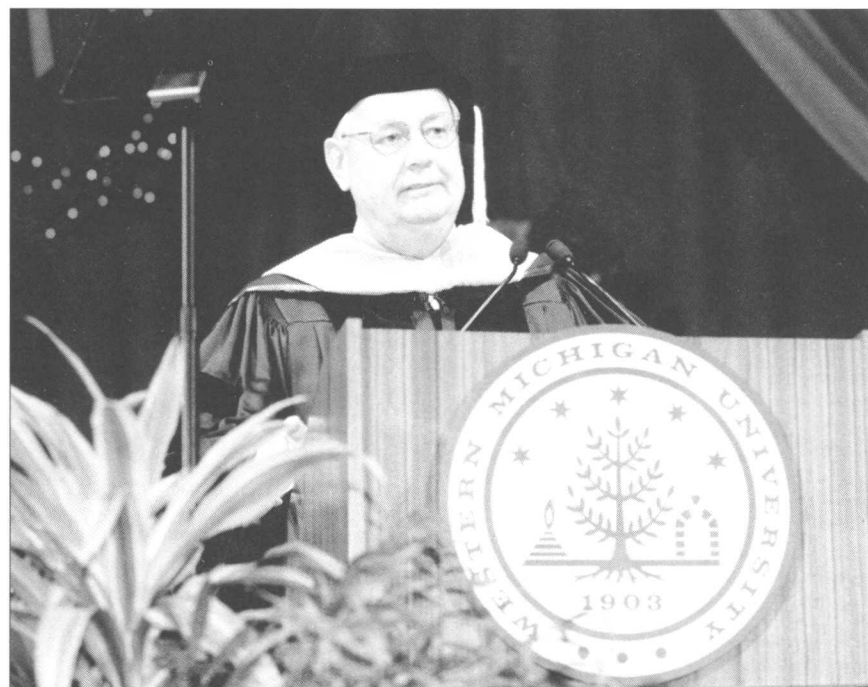
New funds will boost energy lab's assets

A \$30,000 award from the Consumer's Energy Foundation of Jackson, Mich., will be used to boost facilities for power engineering education at WMU.

The grant will support expansion and modernization of the University's Energy Conversion Laboratory in the College of Engineering and Applied Sciences. The lab provides a hands-on opportunity for students to learn the dynamics of power engineering by working with precision instruments that include the latest power generating equipment as well as earlier generations of the equipment. Lab equipment includes generators, dynamometers, oscilloscopes and transformers.

According to S. Hossein Mousavinezhad, chairperson of electrical and computer engineering, the University has maintained a strong program since the 1970s in the relatively neglected field of power engineering and power electronics. The lab improvements will allow his department to enhance the power engineering option

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TRADING COMPLIMENTS—Sen. John J.H. Schwarz of Battle Creek was honored as a champion of higher education at commencement Dec. 9, when he was awarded an honorary doctor of public service degree. He took the opportunity to praise Michigan's public higher education system. "In this state," he said, "it is our great good fortune to be blessed with 15 public but autonomous universities of superb quality." (Photo by Neil Rankin)

J.D. Dolan's spring memoir makes several top book lists

J.D. Dolan, English, closed the year 2000 with a spate of honors for his memoir "Phoenix," which was published in March.



Dolan

"Phoenix" was named one of the best nonfiction works of 2000 by the *Los Angeles Times*, one of the year's 10 best memoirs by the *Detroit Free Press* and one of the top books of 2000

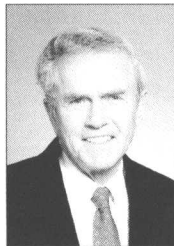
by *Wag* magazine.

The book tells the story of Dolan's relationship with his estranged brother and the impact that dealing with the brother's lingering death in a burn unit had on the Dolan family.

Dolan, who teaches in the Creative Writing Program, went on a 38-city book tour to promote the work last spring.

Paul Maier's Christmas includes national media hits

A WMU faculty member with a long history of serving as an expert on the beginnings of Christianity had a triple dose of national exposure this holiday season.



Maier

Paul L. Maier, history, appeared Dec. 14 on the PAX Network program "The Miracle of Christmas." In the Dec. 23 issue of *U.S. News &*

World Report, he was quoted by author Jeffrey L. Sheler in the cover story, which was titled "In Search of Christmas."

Finally, during Christmas week, he appeared on the national television broadcast "Who Is This Jesus?" The program was shown on the PAX Network as well as on a number of FOX, CBS and ABC affiliates in major markets across the nation.

Maier is the author of several books on the early days of Christianity.

Kirklin's 40 years at WMU to be noted at retirement event

The University community is invited to attend a retirement reception Thursday, Jan. 11, honoring James D. Kirklin, information technology, who is retiring this month after more than 40 years on the WMU staff.

The reception is set for 3 to 6 p.m. at the Oaklands.

Kirklin, who is director of instructional technology, began working at WMU as a student in 1955 and became a full-time staff member in 1960. He will retire Jan. 13.



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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.

WESTERN NEWS is distributed without charge to faculty and staff members, retirees and friends of the University, and is available at several campus locations. Many of the articles also are available online at www.wmich.edu/wmu/news.

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. Winter 2001 publication dates are: Jan. 4, Jan. 18, Feb. 1, Feb. 15, March 8, March 22 and April 5. Items may be submitted by mail, fax [387-8422] or e-mail (cheryl.roland@wmich.edu).

OFFICES that receive too many copies — or too few copies — are asked to call 387-8400. WMU is an equal opportunity/employer/affirmative action institution.



The University has updated its policy for suspension of normal operations due to severe weather or other emergency conditions.

The new policy is effective immediately and includes clarification of ways in which faculty, staff, students and the general public will be notified of University closures as well as details about the responsibilities of various

administrators, the impact of closure on employee compensation and the list of campus services that must be continued during closure periods.

A new campus phone number, 387-1001, has been added to the University Web site and local news media outlets as a means of rapidly disseminating news of emergency closure.

Official University Policy for Closure

University operations may be suspended due to weather conditions, physical damage or other emergency conditions that prevent normal operations.

The decision to close all or part of the University for reasons of weather, building conditions or disruptive actions will be made by the president or his/her designee. The Office of the Vice President for Business and Finance and the Department of Human Resources will handle details and questions regarding this policy.

In cases of complete or near complete shutdown, local news media will be used under normal circumstances for notification purposes. The University will make every reasonable attempt to notify local news media by 6 a.m. in such instances. The emergency and information number for the University is 387-1001. Employees may call that number to find out the status of the University. If only selective operations are involved, or if the closure occurs after the beginning of the workday, each affected department will be notified. The lack of specific notification to the contrary should be interpreted to mean that normal operations are to be maintained.

It is recognized that severe weather conditions may cause problems for some employees in coming to or leaving the University. In such circumstances, unless a collective bargaining agreement provides otherwise, employees are permitted to use annual leave or leave without pay, subject to approval by the supervisor, for times they are absent due to weather-related reasons when the University remains open.

Specific cases and varying conditions or circumstances may require special action or decisions. However, some basic policy statements regarding closure decisions are presented:

A. In the absence of notification to the contrary, all normal operations will continue as scheduled. If there is any doubt as to whether the University will be in operation, a message will be available on the University's Web home page <www.wmich.edu> with additional details in WMU News <www.wmich.edu/wmu/news> and also through WMUK-FM (102.1), WIDR-FM (89.1), and telephone access at 387-1001. Closure announcements will be on these same sources as well as the general public media.

B. In the event that emergency conditions are so severe that on-campus classes must be canceled, the University will close except for essential services.

C. The vice provost for Continuing Education is authorized to cancel off-campus classes in accordance with policy established by that office.

D. Essential services will be maintained during a period in which the University is closed. These include the following units:

- 1) Information Technology—network connectivity, operations and production control, and telephone services
- 2) Dining services — consolidation may be required
- 3) Landscape services — for snow removal
- 4) Police
- 5) Power plant
- 6) Recreational facilities — e.g., Student Recreation Center, Lawson Ice Arena, Gabel Natatorium
- 7) Bernhard Center
- 8) Fetzer Center
- 9) Sindecuse Health Center
- 10) Waldo Library
- 11) WMUK-FM
- 12) Others as may be designated

E. When a decision is made to close the University, the following notification steps should be taken:

1) Vice president for business and finance

- a) Notify associate vice president for university relations
- b) Notify provost and vice president for academic affairs
- c) Notify business and finance major unit heads
- d) Notify secretary of Board of Trustees
- e) Notify vice president for student affairs
- f) Notify vice president for development
- g) Notify vice president for information technology
- h) Notify vice president for research
- i) Notify general counsel

2) Associate vice president for university relations

- a) Notify area news media
- b) Notify director of intercollegiate athletics
- c) Notify assistant to the president

3) Provost and vice president for academic affairs

- a) Notify academic deans
 - 1) Notify departmental chairs
- b) Notify other major academic units
- c) Notify library

4) Secretary of Board of Trustees

- a) Notify trustees

5) Vice president for student affairs

- a) Notify major unit heads

6) Vice president for information technology

- a) Notify major unit heads

7) Vice president for research and dean of the graduate college

- a) Notify major unit heads

8) Vice president for development

- a) Notify major unit heads

9) Assistant to the president

- a) Notify major unit heads

F. In order to protect unavoidable income losses to employees whenever the "University is closed," and subject to any applicable collective bargaining agreement, all faculty and staff not required for essential operations during the period of closure will be excused from work and be paid as though the period of closure were a holiday. However, it is the University's sole judgment as to who is required to work and who is not. Whenever the University is closed from normal operations, employees will fall into several groups for the purpose of determining pay.

1) Employees who are required to work to continue essential services will be paid for the time worked in the same manner as though the period of closure were a holiday. Thus, they will receive holiday pay plus time and one-half.

2) Employees who report for their regular work period prior to the announcement of closure, but who are not required to maintain essential services, will be released from their work stations by their supervisors at the effective time of closure and will be paid for the balance of their work period as though it were a holiday.

3) Employees who, for whatever reason, are unable to report for their regular work period prior to the announcement of closure may use annual leave for the time from the beginning of their regular work period to the effective time of closure, without the requirement of prior approval for annual leave.

4) Any employee who, prior to the announcement of closure, has reported in as "sick," was scheduled to be on annual leave, or who has decided to leave work early or not come to work due to weather-related reasons will be paid as though there were no closure and thus will be charged for sick leave, annual leave, or leave without pay for the period not worked.

Should any part of this policy conflict with a collective bargaining agreement, the collective bargaining agreement shall prevail.

(Approved by the president March 23, 1978; revised June 1978; August 1979; April 1985; December 1986; February 1988; November 1989; January 1991; December 1992; January 1994; January 1996; December 2000.)

Teaching excellence

research and has more than 30 published abstracts and journal articles to his credit. He also has a patent pending with the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office related to enhancing disease resistance in plants.

Most of the former students who nominated Enyedi noted that he is well organized, creative and enthusiastic.

"It took no time at all to realize the high caliber of his teaching skills," one alumnus wrote. "Not only does he have superior knowledge of plant physiology, but he can

relay the information to students in an easily comprehensible fashion with effective use of support materials."

Another former student said she feels Enyedi approaches teaching in a way that encourages critical thinking, effectively facilitates discussion and employs different techniques to reach students with various learning styles.

Enyedi's background includes work as a research scientist in the Phytotoxicology Section of the Ontario, Canada, Ministry

of the Environment and as a post-doctoral research associate in the Center for Agricultural Molecular Biology at Rutgers University. He received a bachelor's degree in agriculture from the University of Guelph's Ontario Agriculture College in 1981, a master's degree in environmental plant physiology from the University of Guelph in 1985 and a doctor of philosophy degree in plant pathology and biochemistry from Pennsylvania State University in 1991.

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Jobs

The following list of vacancies is currently being posted through the Job Opportunity Program by employment services in the Department of Human Resources. Interested benefits-eligible employees should submit a job opportunity transfer application during the posting period, and may contact an employment 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.

Grade 10 clerical positions are not required to be posted. 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 at 7-3669 for up-to-date information on the Job Opportunity Program and vacancies available to external applicants.

(R) **Manager Human Resources Information Processing**, 18, Human Resources, 00/01-2180, 1/2-1/8/01

(N) **Office Assistant**, 11, Southwest Regional Center, 00/01-2181, 1/2-1/8/01

(N) **Office Associate** (FTE .75, 30 hours per week, term ends 6/30/02), 13, Traverse City Regional Center, 00/01-2182, 1/2-1/8/01

(R) **Director Printing Pilot Plant**, 17, Paper and Printing Science and Engineering, 00/01-2183, 1/2-1/8/01

(R), **Assistant to the Dean**, 16, College of Health and Human Services, 00/01-2186, 1/2-1/8/01

(N) **Contract and Grant Specialist** (term ends 6/30/03), 16, Office of the Vice President for Research, 00/01-2188, 1/2-1/8/01

(N) **Contract and Grant Specialist** (term ends 6/30/03), 16, Office of the Vice President for Research, 00/01-2189, 1/2-1/8/01

(R) **Assistant/Associate/Full Professor** (tenure track, academic year), I-30/I-20/I-10, Mechanical/Aeronautical Engineering, 00/01-2190, 1/2-1/8/01

N = New

R = Replacement

WMU is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer

Obituary

Cara L. Monroe, flight instructor in the College of Aviation, died Nov. 23 in Battle Creek. She was 47.

A University employee since 1998, Monroe taught flying in Traverse City, Mich.; St. Petersburg, Fla; and Kailua-Kona, Hawaii; before coming to WMU. She taught in the University's International Pilot Training Centre.

A memorial service was held on campus Dec. 1. Memorial donations to the Brain Tumor Research Fund may be arranged by contacting Karen Gwillim in the College of Aviation at 7-4544.

Engineering

in electrical engineering currently offered at both the bachelor's and master's levels.

Such degrees are in high demand, particularly in a manufacturing environment that requires conversion of energy from electrical to mechanical motion.

"Power electronics comes into play in everything from laptop computers to a manufacturing facility—wherever you need to provide power," he says. "Right now, there's a real shortage of new engineers in that area, and many companies have to recruit employees from China and Russia."

WMU has offered a master's degree in power engineering since 1987 and enrollment in the program has climbed steadily



FUND RAISING IS A CONTACT SPORT AS FAR AS AMBER PRITCHARD IS CONCERNED
(Photo by Neil Rankin)

On Campus with Amber Pritchard

As director of the University's Annual Fund, Amber Pritchard oversees operations that put WMU ambassadors in touch with an ever-increasing number of alumni and University friends by phone or through direct mail. She manages all direct-mail solicitations, undertakes special projects and makes personal calls on behalf of the Annual Fund, in addition to overseeing a year-round Phonathon operation that employs more than 50 students and three full-time staff members.

Some 30,000 telephone contacts were made last year and \$650,000 was raised for the Annual Fund. Upgraded hardware and software has been installed in the WMU Phonathon's newly remodeled Walwood Hall headquarters, and, starting next week, Phonathon staff will be able to make more than 50,000 phone contacts annually. "It's a huge opportunity to keep alumni in touch with their alma mater," Pritchard says.

When she took the reins of the Annual Fund more than a year ago, the 1997 WMU alumna already had a clear vision of why people should support WMU and how she could make a difference. "It's nice to be able to work for your alma mater since you already know what makes this place special. It's our job to convey to alumni the impact of cost increases and remind them how valuable their support is."

Among changes she's implemented is a move to constituent-based fund raising in which the focus is on raising money for WMU's individual colleges. It works, she says, because alumni have a stronger affinity for those smaller units within the University.

The Lee Honors College member earned a bachelor's degree in communication and sociology before going on to earn a master's degree in nonprofit organizations in 1998 from Case Western Reserve University. She spent a year as a fund-raiser at Michigan State University before returning to WMU for a job she says offers the independence and freedom to try new things while building a program and working with a great staff.

"It's a chance to implement my vision," she says.

When not on campus, the Big Rapids, Mich., native and self-described "outdoors person" loves to travel and indulge in one additional form of contact—the feel of a tennis racket hitting the ball.

Service

The following employees are recognized for 35, 20, 15, 10 and five years of service to the University during December.

35 years—Subhash R. Sonnad, sociology.

20 years—Eileen B. Evans, Graduate College; Cynthia D. Jackson-Ekeledo, Sindecuse Health Center; Arthur R. McGurn, physics; Rick A. Reist, physical plant-landscape services; and Peter J. Strazdas, physical plant-maintenance services.

15 years—Linda L. Jones, Office of the President; Pamela J. McMakin, physical plant-maintenance services; Ali M. Metwalli, finance and commercial law; Mary E. Pratt, physical plant-landscape services; and Ralph Tanner, industrial and manufacturing engineering.

10 years—Patrick A. Benton, College of Aviation; Anne C. Hopkins, psychology; Patricia M. Negrevski, Evaluation Center; Kelly L. Penskar, information technology; Christine M. Smith, music; Jane L. Tomlin, information technology; Connie White, Burnham dining service; and John D. Winchell, Archives and Regional History Collections.

Five years—Joel Boyd Jr., Career English Language Center for International Students; David Ladd, Student Financial Aid and Scholarships Office; Lois Lemon, paper and printing science and engineering; Thomas C. Marks, Career English Language Center for International Students; Abraham L. Poot, mechanical and aeronautical engineering; Donna M. Ritenour, intercollegiate athletics; and Julie A. Tabbia, Sindecuse Health Center.

Campus set for weeklong MLK celebration

A number of free public events and activities, including a presentation by rap artist Chuck D, have been scheduled at the University the week of Jan. 15-19 to celebrate the birthday Monday, Jan. 15, of the late Martin Luther King Jr.

For the second year, Jan. 15 will be observed as an official University holiday. In earlier years, classes were canceled for the observance but the University remained open. This is the 11th year that WMU officially has recognized the birthday of the slain civil rights leader.

With the theme "Living the MLK Legacy in the New Millennium," this year's weeklong observance features several major events, including:

MLK Discovery Day, a free fair for children in kindergarten through eighth grade, from 1 to 4 p.m. Monday, Jan. 15, on the tennis courts in the Student Recreation Center. Children wishing to participate must have permission slips signed by a parent or guardian.

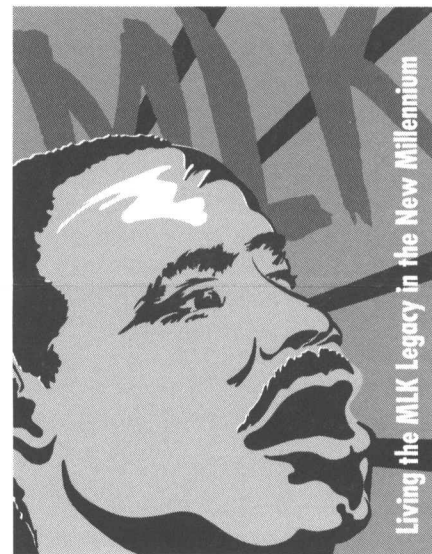
The **MLK Convocation**, featuring keynote speaker Chuck D, co-founder of the rap group Public Enemy and an outspoken commentator on such issues as race, inequality and rage, at 8 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 16, in University Arena. Other convocation speakers will include President Elson S. Floyd and U.S. Rep. Fred Upton. In addition, there will be a performance by the WMU Voices Choir of an excerpt from "Rosa Parks," an upcoming University Theatre musical drama directed by Von Washington, theatre.

A **candlelight vigil** featuring guest speaker Michigan Rep. Kwame Kilpatrick at 8 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 17, in 204 Bernhard Center. Sponsored by the WMU student chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, the ceremony will honor and reflect on Martin Luther King Jr.'s life, while stressing the importance of continuing King's mission into the 21st century.

Many other events are also scheduled, including activities in the campus residence halls. A complete list of events and activities is being distributed to the University community this week and is available on the World Wide Web at <www.wmich.edu/mlkday>.

Other campus events honoring Martin Luther King Jr. include:

A **commemorative march** at 10 a.m. Monday, Jan. 15, from the Bernhard Center to MLK Memorial Park on North Rose



Street, sponsored by the student chapter of the NAACP.

The annual **"I Have a Dream" Speech Competition** at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 18, in 210 Bernhard Center. Sponsored by the WMU Residence Hall Association, students will compete with oral presentations on the theme "Living the MLK Legacy in the New Millennium."

Also on Wednesday, Jan. 18, several guest speakers will address issues of race and inequality. They include:

Dr. Beverly Vandiver, assistant professor of counseling psychology at Penn State University, who will address the question "Why Did the Bullet Come?" at 5 p.m. in 212 Bernhard Center. Sponsored by the WMU Department of Counselor Education and Counseling Psychology, Vandiver's presentation will explore the struggles of King and his allies as they confronted power, privilege and oppression in America and the roles that individuals can play in helping create a more inclusive environment in today's society.

Jim Keady and Leslie Kretzu of the Olympic Living Wage Project will discuss their experiences in Indonesia trying to live on the wage of a Nike factory worker. Their presentation, at 6 p.m. in 1104 Rood, is sponsored by the United Students Against Sweatshops.

The University's observance of King's birthday is being coordinated by the MLK Committee of the Faculty Senate through the Lewis Walker Institute for Race and Ethnic Relations. The committee is chaired by Stevan J. Veldkamp, student life, and includes students and faculty and staff members.

Continued from page 1

since the early 1990s. Faculty and students in the program often are involved in research and development work with such firms as Consumer's Energy, but Mousavinezhad notes, access to a full range of power generation equipment is critical to students' understanding of the field and how it is changing.

"Our Energy Conversion Laboratory allows us to show students the relationships between the old and new tools of the field. It is very expensive to maintain because these are very precise pieces of equipment that are difficult to manufacture, and replacements are often not readily available."

Trustees approve academic appointments

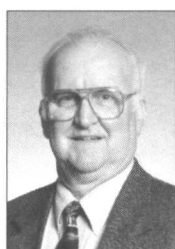
The WMU Board of Trustees approved the appointments Oct. 27 of five people to lead various academic units at the University as well as the previously announced appointments of two athletic head coaches.

The board approved the appointments of: David G. Dickason as chairperson of geography, effective Aug. 1; Paul E. Ponchillia as interim chairperson of blind rehabilitation, effective July 24 through June 30, 2001; Thomas H. Seiler, as interim director of the Medieval Institute, effective Aug. 7 through Dec. 10; Judith F. Stone as interim chairperson of history, effective Aug. 1 through June 30, 2001; and Earlie M. Washington as director of the School of Social Work, effective Nov. 27.

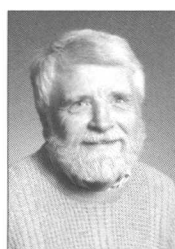
The board also approved the previously announced appointments of Jill Janek as the synchronized skating coach, effective Sept. 27, and Kathy Leitke as the softball coach, effective July 24.

Dickason has been a member of the faculty since 1966. An expert in geographic information systems, he has extensive research experience using that technology in such areas as water quality and land use. He has attracted substantial grant funding for his research and has published and presented the results widely. He replaces Eldor Quandt who has returned to the faculty and whose one-year sabbatical leave also was approved by trustees at the meeting.

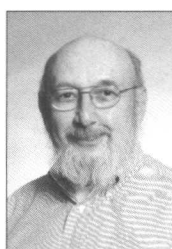
Ponchillia has been a WMU faculty member since 1978. Prior to joining the faculty, he taught at Northern Illinois University and was a rehabilitation teacher in Elkhart County, Ind. Ponchillia is the co-author of "The Foundations of Rehabilitation in Teaching with Persons who are Blind or Visually Impaired," and he is the organizer of sports and art camps for visually impaired youth. He replaces William Wiener, who was recently appointed senior associate dean of the Graduate College.



Dickason



Ponchillia



Seiler



Stone



Washington

Seiler, a professor of English, has been a faculty member at WMU since 1970 and has served as managing editor of Medieval Institute Publications since 1978. Prior to joining the WMU faculty, he taught at the University of Texas at Austin and the University of Toledo. He also has been a high school teacher in Northern Nigeria and in Greensburg, Pa. A specialist in medieval and British literature, Seiler replaced Paul Szarmach, whose four-month professional development leave also was approved by trustees at the same meeting.

Stone, WMU's Mary U. Meader Professor of Modern European History, has been a faculty member at the University since 1986 and has served as her department's director of undergraduate studies. She also has taught at Reed College, Central Michigan University and in the State University of New York system at Stony Brook and at Empire State College. A specialist in 19th century French political culture, 19th century European history and gender in history, Stone is the author of two books and numerous journal articles and has done many presentations at international professional conferences. She replaces Bruce Haight, whose return to the faculty also was approved by trustees Oct. 27.

Washington comes to WMU from the University of Southern Mississippi, where she was director and associate professor in the School of Social Work. She also has taught at the University of Chicago, Illinois State University, and Tougaloo College. In addition, she served in a variety of other roles, such as director of the Life Skills Pre-employment Training and Counseling Program in Chicago and director of an elderly support project, also in Chicago. She has extensive experience directing funded grant and contract projects and is widely published on such topics as Internet-based instruction and behavioral programming for Alzheimer's clients. She replaces Tracey Mabrey, who has been serving as interim director of the school.

The Board also approved the return to the faculty of two other department chairpersons. Hideko Abe, Asian and Middle Eastern languages, returned to the faculty Aug. 7 and Thomas Joyce, paper and printing science and engineering, returned to the faculty, effective June 30.

In related action, trustees approved the promotions of Willem Homan to professor in the College of Aviation and John Neil to professor of economics. They also approved a yearlong professional development leave for Paula Brush, sociology.

Eight at WMU among first Gates Scholars

Eight WMU students, all from Michigan, are among the 4,100 students from around the country who have been selected to receive financial awards through the new Gates Millennium Scholars Program. All eight were recognized at a recent on-campus breakfast.

The millennium scholars program was created last fall with a grant of private money from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation in Seattle, Wash. The 20-year, \$1 billion initiative targets hardworking, high-achieving students from low-income minority families.

It is administered by the United Negro College Fund, in partnership with the Hispanic Scholarship Fund and the American Indian College Fund. The merit-based scholarships that the program provides cover the remaining college costs minority students face after universities award financial aid packages.

The initiative encourages and supports students who want to complete college or continue on and earn master's and doctoral degrees in disciplines where ethnic and racial groups are currently underrepresented. It will enable 20,000 young Americans to attend undergraduate and graduate institutions of their choice and become prepared to assume important roles as leaders in their professions and in their communities.

"The best and the brightest students shouldn't be denied access to higher education simply because they can't afford it," says Bill Gates, co-founder of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.

The WMU students who have received one of the Gates Millennium Scholarships and the amounts of their awards are:

Veola Bradford, a senior from Kalamazoo majoring in special education, \$3,692.

Bernard Brown, a sophomore from Plainwell, majoring in industrial technology, \$5,048.

Maria Magdaleno, a sophomore from Covert, majoring in elementary education, \$9,542.

Melissa Matlewski, a sophomore from Eastpoint, majoring in special education, \$10,124.

Sharnise Riddle, a sophomore from Battle Creek majoring in marketing, \$8,232.

James Sawyer, a sophomore from Marshall majoring in computer science, \$8,996.

Jessica Torrez, a senior from Kalamazoo majoring in Spanish education, \$2,671.

Jacquelyn West, a graduate student from Kalamazoo, \$8,955.

Calendar

The master calendar maintained by the Office of University Relations for use in *Western News* is available through WMU's home page on the World Wide Web. Select WMU News and then look for Calendar of Events. You can also link directly to the calendar at <www.wmich.edu/wmu/news/events>.

JANUARY

Thursday, Jan. 4

Exhibition (through Jan. 26), painting, drawing and printmaking by Native American artist Jaune Quick-to-See Smith, Gallery II, Sangren Hall, weekdays, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

*Film showing, Campus Activity Board's "Remember the Titans," Miller Auditorium, 7 and 9:30 p.m.

Saturday, Jan. 6

*Men's basketball vs. Toledo, University Arena, 2 p.m.

Monday, Jan. 8

Exhibition (through Jan. 12), "Lives Never Led," mixed media group show, Rotunda and South Galleries, East Hall, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. weekdays; reception, Friday, Jan. 12, 5-7 p.m.

Tuesday, Jan. 9

Emeriti program, "WMU's Second 50 Years," Susan Carlson, University Archives and Regional History Collections, Emeriti Lounge, 2nd floor of Walwood Hall, 2-4 p.m.

Wednesday, Jan. 10

Slide lecture, visiting artist Jaune Quick-to-See Smith, Corrales, N.M., Dalton Center Recital Hall, 7 p.m.

*Women's basketball vs. Ball State, University Arena, 7 p.m.

Friday, Jan. 12

*Film showing (through Jan. 14), Kalamazoo Film Society's "Wind Will Carry Us," The Little Theatre, Campus Cinema; Friday and Saturday, Jan. 12-13, 7 and 9:30 p.m.; Sunday, Jan. 14, 2:30 and 5 p.m.

Saturday, Jan. 13

*Hockey vs. Notre Dame, Lawson Arena, 7 p.m.

Monday, Jan. 15

Martin Luther King Day, WMU offices closed. No classes.

Exhibition (through Jan. 19), "Dedicated to Women," Amelia Falk, photography, Rotunda Gallery, East Hall, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. weekdays; reception, Friday, Jan. 19, 5-7 p.m.

MLK March to MLK Memorial Park on North Rose Street, sponsored by NAACP, begins at Bernhard Center, 10 a.m.

MLK Discovery Day, free fair for children, kindergarten through eighth grade, featuring diversity activities, arts, crafts and games, Student Recreation Center tennis courts, 1-4 p.m. Call 387-3230.

*Men's basketball vs. Central Michigan, University Arena, 7 p.m.

*Admission charged

Tuesday, Jan. 16

MLK workshop, "How contemplation, prayer and mediation can help manifest MLK's dream," Kiva Room, Faunce, noon to 1 p.m.

MLK workshop, "MLK legacy and role of education," 2452 Knauss, 4-5:30 p.m.

MLK workshop, explores the history of racism and its effects on current race relations 2304 Sangren, 5:30-7:30 p.m.

*Performance (through Jan. 21), "Ragtime," Miller Auditorium; Jan. 16 18, 7:30 p.m.; Jan. 19, 8 p.m.; Jan. 20, 2 and 8 p.m.; Jan. 21, 2 and 7:30 p.m.

All-University Convocation honoring Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday, keynote address by rap artist Chuck D, University Arena, 8 p.m.

Wednesday, Jan. 17

MLK workshop, roundtable dialogue to promote awareness of profiling at WMU and other universities, B-106 conference room, Faunce, 10-11:30 a.m.

MLK program for faculty to assess training programs' effectiveness in preparing students to live in a global society, Dr. Beverly Vandiver, Penn State University, 3210 Sangren, 10-11 a.m.

MLK program for graduate students on preparing students to live in a racially diverse society, Dr. Beverly Vandiver, Penn State University, 2301 Sangren, 2-3 p.m.

Lecture, Werner Sichel Lecture-Seminar Series, "The Economics of Fertility," Susan L. Averett, associate professor of economics and business, Lafayette College, 3508 Knauss, 3 p.m.

MLK program, "Why did the bullet come?," the struggles of Dr. King and his allies, Dr. Beverly Vandiver, Penn State University, 212 Bernhard, 5-6:30 p.m.

MLK program, Jim Keady and Leslie Kretzu discuss their experiences in Indonesia trying to live on the wage of a Nike factory worker, 1104 Rood, 6-8 p.m.

Speech contest, "Living the MLK Legacy in the New Millennium," 210 Bernhard, 7 p.m.

Candlelight vigil, speaker Kwame Kilpatrick, 204 Bernhard, 8 p.m.

Thursday, Jan. 18

MLK workshop, roundtable discussion on diversity issues in university admissions standards, 204 Bernhard, 10:30 a.m. to noon.

MLK program, lecture and video presentation explores ties between self-esteem and an idealized standard of beauty regarding hair styles, Division of Multicultural Affairs, 2nd floor Ellsworth, 1-3 p.m.

AMBUCS awards funds to 28 WMU students

AMBUCS, a nationwide service club, recently presented scholarship certificates to 28 WMU students enrolled in occupational therapy and speech pathology and audiology.

Awards presented locally this year by the organization totaled \$17,500. To date, more than \$350,000 in scholarship money has been awarded to students by Kalamazoo AMBUCS. Since 1955, the national AMBUCS Scholarship Program has provided more than 10,500 scholarships totaling \$5,706,000.

Students enrolled in an accredited program in physical therapy, occupational therapy and speech language pathology and hearing audiology are eligible to apply in their junior or senior years or while in a graduate program. Students are recommended for scholarships by their local AMBUCS chapter.

Kalamazoo AMBUCS also provides additional funds annually to WMU from the Kalamazoo Living Endowment fund, with money raised each year from a \$10,000 raffle. This year, \$20,000 was divided among occupational therapy, speech pathology and audiology, and music therapy programs to be used for scholarships within those areas.