Board approves Roberts 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.

"Dr. Allen is a long-time faculty member who is well known and respected by her colleagues as a hard-working, responsible and caring member of the University community," said 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."

Roberta Allen will work with the director of her department's Business Communication Program. She is a co-author of numerous professional articles and has made national presentations on topics that range from distance education to intercultural business communication.

Allen holds three degrees from WMU. She earned a bachelor's and master's degrees in English in 1971 and 1978, respectively, and a doctorate 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.

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 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 precise instruments that include the latest power generating equipment as well as earlier generations of equipment. The equipment includes generators, dynamometers, oscilloscopes and transformers."

Dickinson, Eyndei 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 be bestowed on Alice M. Dickinson, psychology, and Alexander J. Eyndei, biological sciences. The awards will be bestowed at the University's Academic Convocation at 5 p.m. in the Fuller Center's Krisch Auditorium.

In addition to a plaque, the winners will each receive a $2,000 cash prize.

The Alumni Association established the awards program in 1996 as a way for alumni, students, and faculty 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 1986, 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.

Dickinson emphasized that such classes are well prepared for her phenomenally well-prepared and student-oriented efforts put 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.

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 doctorate in philosophy in applied behavior analysis from WMU in 1985.

Eyndei, 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, Eyndei is an active researcher. He has received numerous grants for his research.
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, and students will be notified of University closings, as well as details about the responsibilities of various administrators, the impact of closure on employee compensation and the list of campus phone numbers 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.

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 the secretary of the board of trustees

2) Vice president for student affairs
   a) Notify vice president for student affairs
   b) Notify vice president for development
   c) Notify vice president for information technology
   d) Notify vice president for research

3) Provost and vice president for academic affairs
   a) Notify academic deans
   b) Notify departmental chairs
   c) Notify other major academic units
   d) Notify library

4) Secretary of Board of Trustees
   a) Notify major unit heads
   b) Notify the president of an associate board

5) Vice president for student affairs
   a) Notify major unit heads

6) Assistant to the president for academic affairs
   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
   b) Notify major unit heads

9) Assistant to the president for operations and planning
   a) Notify major unit heads

F. In order to prevent 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. 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.

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 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.

Teaching excellence—research and 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 environmental technology, which he is working to develop and commercialize.

Most of the former students who nominated Eneyed noted that he is well organized, enthusiastic, and enthusiastic, and his ability to maintain a high level of student interest, even if he has 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 noted that the faculty at Georgia was helpful in building confidence and encouraging critical thinking, effectively facilitating discussion and employs effective teaching strategies with each student with various learning styles. Eneyed’s background includes work as a research scientist with the Physiology Section of the Ontario, Canada, Ministry of the Environment and as a post-doctoral research associate in the Center for Agri-cultural 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 biochemis- try from Pennsylvania State University in 1991.
The following list of vacancies is currently being posted through the Job Opportunity Program by employment services in the Department of Human Resources. Interested-eligible employees should submit a job opportunity application during the posting period, and may contact an employment services staff member for assistance in securing these positions.

Employers may call the Applicant Information Service at 7-3669 to hear the weekly Job Opportunity Program postings seven days a week, 24 hours per 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, 1/2-1/01

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

(N) Office Associate (FTE 7.5, 30 hours per week, term ends 6/30/03), 13, Traverse City Regional Center, 00/01-2182, 1/2-1/01

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

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

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

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

(R) Assistant/Associate Full Professor (tenure track, academic year), 1-30/1-201/10, Mechanical/Aeronautical Engineering, 00/01-2190, 1/2-1/01

N = New hire
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 at a later date. 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 WMU is an M.S. and master's level.

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

"Power electronics comes into play in everything from laptop computers to a manufacturing facility—where more power is needed 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 1997 and enrollment in the program has climbed steadily 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, butMohoney has noted, access to a full range of power generation equipment is critical to students' understanding of the field and how it is changing.

"Power electronics conversion laboratory allows us to show students the relationships between the old and new tools of the field, that there are very precise pieces of equipment that are difficult to manufacture, and replacements are often not readily available."

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 solicitation materials and 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 300 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 Woodward Hall headquarters, and, starting now, the Phonathon will be able to make more than 50,000 phone contacts annually. "It's a huge opportunity to keep alumni in touch with our alma mater," Pritchard says.

When she came to WMU in 2000, the Annual Fund's mission was to raise $1.7 million. By 2002, the goal was $2 million. "It's a good goal," she says. "When an institution is outgrowing itself, or has a special need, it's a good goal."

Among the things she's implemented is a move to computerized 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 student who completed 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 as 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 an event comes, the Big Rapids, Mich., native and self-described "outdoor person" loves to travel and indulge in one additional form of contact—the feel of a tennis racket hitting the ball.

Campus set for weeklong MLK celebration

For the second time, 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 year, the University 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 "Ross Parks," an upcoming University Theatre musical drama directed by David C. Piller in Washington, D.C.

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 his vision 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 Student Government.

The annual "I Have a Dream" Speech Competition at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 17, 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 how Indonesia is trying to live on the wage of a Nike factory worker. Their presentation, at 6 p.m. in 110 Rodd, is sponsored by the University 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 Ethic Relations. The committee is chaired by Steven J. Veldkamp, student life, and includes students and faculty and staff members.
Calender

Trustees approve academic appointments

The WMU Board of Trustees approved the appointment of Dickson J. Seiler on October 27 as chairperson of the Department of Geological Sciences.

Seiler, a professor of English, has been a faculty member at WMU since 1970 and has served as department chair for 15 years.

The Board also approved the appointments of Paul Szarmach as interim chairperson of the Department of Education.

The Board approved the appointment of J. D. Jones as the director of the Office of University Relations.

The Mosier Calendar maintained by the Office of University Relations includes events such as the Mosier Calendar, which is available online at www.wmich.edu/wmu/news/events.

Native American artist Jaune Quick-to-See Smith, Gallery II, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. weekdays; Saturday, Jan. 6, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

Slide lecture, visiting artist Jaune Quick-to-See Smith, Corrales, N.M., Walwood Hall, 2-4 p.m.

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

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

January 16, 2001

MLK workshop, "How contemplation, prayer and mediation can help manifest MLK's dream," Kiva Room, Room no. 1.

MLK workshop, "MLK's legacy and role of education," 2451 Knisner, 4:30 p.m.

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

*Men's basketball vs. Toledo, University Arena, 8 p.m.

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