Delta deal to impact future U.S. flight crews

Increasing numbers of women and minorities will be piloting the nation's commercial aircraft, thanks to a new agreement between Delta Air Lines and WMU announced Jan. 9 at the College of Aviation campus on Battle Creek's Delta River.

The announcement drew some 40 top Delta executives and WMU alumni who work for Delta as well as national representa-

tives of the Organization of Black Airline Pilots. They arrived on a chartered Delta 727 from Atlanta moments before the an-

nouncement of Delta's support for pilot education.

With $1.65 million in support from Delta over a four-year period, WMU will begin training a minimum of 24 and as many as 40 women and minority pilots who, once training is completed, will be given priority employment consideration by Delta Con-

nexion carriers Comair and Atlantic Southeast Airlines.

The students will include highly qualified graduate students as well as specially recruited undergraduates who will be trained using WMU's "ab initio," or from the beginning, flight training curricular.

Their successful integration into the ranks of commercial pilots will help address an industry-wide lack of female and minority representation in the cockpit. Minorities now account for just 1 percent of pilots and flight engineers. Slightly more than 5 percent are women.

"This investment in quality pilot education will ensure that we are able to continue to build a superior Delta team and will establish Delta as a leader in the hiring of women and minority candidates," said President Elson S. Floyd, WMU's executive vice president of operations of the venture. "We're excited and pleased to launch this relationship with WMU."

"We have a long-term commitment to expanding educational opportunities for women and minorities so they can take full advantage of employment opportunities in the aviation industry," said President Elson S. Floyd, WMU's executive vice president of operations of the venture. "We're excited and pleased to launch this relationship with WMU."

Traditionally, most commercial airline pilots received their training while completing military service. As the pool of military pilots shrinks, airlines are looking to bring highly-trained individuals into the commercial pilot ranks.

WMU's ab initio cur-

riculum is a European-

style flight training regi-

men that takes students with no previous flight experience through a complete program and prepares them for employ-

ment at commercial airlines.

WMU began incorpor-

ating ab initio training into its undergraduate pro-

gram in 1994 when it re-

signed its curriculum to meet what representa-

tives of the U.S. aviation industry said were the industry's most pressing needs. The Univer-

sity is the only training program in the world approved by the Federal Aviation Administration to provide such ab initio train-

ing in accordance with FAA regulations.

During the announcement of Delta's funding of the new pro-

gram, Capt. Dave Bushy, Delta senior vice president for flight

Operations, said, "This represents another major step forward in our efforts to build a more diverse and professional workforce."

HUB to elect officers tomorrow

The WMU Board of Trustees will meet tomorrow at 2:30 p.m. in the Cnrome Board Room of the Bernhard Center.

Trustees will elect new board officers for the year and will hear gift, grant and personnel reports.

Members of the board's standing com-

mittees in 204 Bernhard Center will pre-

cede the meeting of the full board. The Academic and Student Affairs Commit-

tee will meet at 1:15 p.m., and the Budget and Finance Committee will meet at 1:30 p.m.

Physicist Nora Berrah earns 2000 Distinguished Faculty Scholar nod

An atomic physicist who is leading an international "dream team" of scientists exploring atomic and molecular photoioniza-

tion, Berrah received the University's highest faculty honor next month.

Nora Berrah, profes-

sor of physics, has been named the University's 2000 Distinguished Fac-

ulty Scholar. She will receive the award during the University's Academic Convocation Thursday, Feb. 1.

The Distinguished Faculty Scholar Award, established in 1976, recognizes those whose work constitutes a significant body of achievement, most of which has been accomplished in a faculty capacity, at WMU.

Nominations are sought campus-wide for recipients who also must have a wide body of recognition beyond the University. The award includes a plaque and a $2,000 cash award. As an award recipient, Berrah also will have $2,000 added to her base salary.

Berrah, who has been on the WMU faculty since 1991, is recognized as one of the world's leading atomic physicists. She has received nearly $3 million in Department of Energy funding for her re-

search of the structure and dynamics of atoms and molecules. More than $1 mil-

lion of that funding has been for Berrah's leadership of a team of international scien-

tists who developed a sophisticated experi-

mental test facility at the Advanced Light Source, which is located at Lawrence Berkley National Laboratory.

The author or co-author of more than 80 journal articles, Berrah has made more than 60 guest presentations around the globe and has contributed more than 100 papers to national and international con-

ferences. This past year, she served as chair-

person of the Users Executive Committee at the Advanced Light Source. That com-

mittee oversees all scientific operations at that facility.

Her emerging prominence in her field led her to election in 1999 as a fellow in the American Physical Society which, accord-

ing to one WMU colleague who wrote in support of her nomination, "is a particu-

larly high honor since election is limited to no more than one-half of 1 percent of the (organization's) membership in any given year."

It is clear that in her relatively short professional career at WMU, Dr. Berrah has been a truly outstanding researcher, develop-

ment, and vice president of clinical de-

velopment. Before joining that company, he served as an assis-
tant professor of medi-

cine and pharmacology at the Milton S. Henbry Medical Cen-

ter of Pennsylvania State University.

Luderer is a diplomate of the American Board of Internal Medicine and is board certified in clinical pharma-

cology by the American College of Clin-

ical Pharmacology. He is past president of the Association of Clinical Pharmacology Units, and is a member of the American Association for the Advancement of Science and the American Federation for Clinical Research.

After earning his bachelor's degree in chemistry from Miami University in Ox-

cford, Ohio, he went on to earn his master's degree in organic chemistry from that same institu-

tion. Luderer completed his medi-

cal education at Northwestern University Medical School, serving his internship and residency at the Milton S. Henbry Medi-

cal Center of Pennsylvania State Univer-

sity. He also served as chief resident and instructor in medicine as well as a fellow in clinical pharmacology at that institution.

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Pharmacia exec Luderer named associate vice president for research

Pharmacia executive John Richard Luderer will join the WMU staff as associate vice president for research Jan. 22.

The Board of Trustees approved his ap-

pointment at its Oct. 27 meeting.

An accomplished researcher and scien-

tist, Luderer currently serves as the vice president of U.S. Medical Affairs at Pharmacia Corp. A licensed physician, he has published more than 100 articles, ab-

tracts and technical reports.

Luderer has been an employee of the Upjohn Co. and its successors since 1984, holding such positions as executive direc-

tor of clinical pharmacology, vice pres-

ident of clinical pharmacology and devel-


Retirements of five approved by trustees

The retirements of three faculty members approved by the Board of Trustees on Dec. 31, 2000; Carol L. Healy, associate vice president for academic affairs and professor of management, 19-1/2 years, effective Dec. 31, 2000; and Kenneth L. Williams, professor of computer science, 28 years, effective April 30, 2001. The staff members re-tiring are: James D. Kirklin, director of instructional support, 40 years, effective Jan. 13, 2001; and Michael A. Weber, payroll department manager, 35 years, effective Nov. 13, 2000. Resigning, effective Dec. 22, was faculty member Katherine E. Mathews, nursing. The staff member, whose resignation became effective Nov. 7, was Diane R. Berti, Siedes Health Center.

Eastern Europe is focus

Young scholars who have been on the inside of the political and social changes in Eastern Europe, as well as a noted international scholar, will be on campus Saturday, Jan. 27, to participate in the first-ever George Klein Symposium. Sponsored by the Department of Political Science and Geography and the Haenicke Institute for International and Area Studies, the symposium, titled "Transitions in Process: Social, Political and Cultural Dimensions of Change in Eastern Europe," will be held from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. in the Fetter Center.

According to James M. Buttery, political science and the Haenicke Institute, the symposium features researchers who have extensive changes in the Eastern Europe firsthand.

"We invited scholars who had spent extensive time in the area and were bilingual and know what it's like to live in the areas they studied," Buttery said. "Countries in Eastern Europe are undergoing dual transitions, not only the transition to democracy but the transition to market economies as well. The work these young scholars have done will give us a grasp on the social and political dimensions of these transitions.

The symposium will feature researchers in such countries as Poland, Romania, Bosnia and the Czech Republic. Among the topics that will be discussed are the new political parties and their role in the transitions, nationalism and issues surrounding Poland's emerging market economy.

The symposium's featured a well-known international scholar, Stephen Fischer-Galati, as the keynote speaker. Galati, Distinguished Professor of History Emeritus at the University of Colorado and the editor of the scholarly journal East European Monographs, will speak on "Recent Trends in Historiography in Eastern Europe."

The symposium will be presented in a workshop format, with the presentation of papers followed by discussion. Papers will be posted prior to the event on the symposium's Web site: <www.mwich.edu/politics/symposium.html>

Named for George Klein, a longtime professor of political science at WMU who died in 1982, the symposium is supported by an endowment established in his name by his wife, Patricia, professor emerita of political studies. The endowment also has supported a lecture series bearing Klein's name. There is a $15 fee to attend the symposium, which includes lunch. The fee will be waived for members and graduate students from the University's political science, anthropology and sociology departments.

The registration deadline is Wednesday, Jan. 24. Persons wishing to register should call Mary Grant or Dotty Barr in political science at 7-5681.

Geographer to cover range of global issues

Global warming, Amazon deforestation and biodiesel as an energy source are just some of the topics to be discussed by a scholar who will be the visiting University for the next two weeks. Luis Carlos Balcicuco Molon, professor of meteorology at the Universidade Federal de Alagoas in Brazil, is on campus until Jan. 30 as part of WMU's Visitor Scholars and Artists Program.

Molon is an expert in climate, especially relating to the impacts of Amazon deforestation, Brazil's climate, global climate change and variability, ozone layer, water desalination, and renewable energy sources. He will present free public lectures on the following:

"Biodelisle–A Renewable Energy Resource," at 4-6 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 23, in 1110 Virginia engineering building.

"Solar Spots, Jupiter and Climate Variability," at noon Wednesday, Jan. 24, in 201 Wood Hall.

"Effect of Volcanic Aerosols on Tropical Climate," at 9:30 a.m. Tuesday, Jan. 30, in 210 Bamber Hall.

"Airship and Wind Desalination in Brazil," at noon Wednesday, Jan. 31, in 1001 Wood Hall.

Molon is the Latin American representative on the Advisory Working Group of the Commission of Climate. He formerly worked for Brazil's National Institute of Space Research.

Stillwell featured in Chronicle

A photo of Lyda Stillwell, emerita in theatre, appears on the cover of the Jan. 12 edition of the Chronicle, Western Education's Career Network insert.

The photo, shot by Kalamazoo photographer John Gilroy, was taken last winter semester during a series of campus photos shoots done for the Office of University Relations. It was selected from dozens of photos shot after the Chronicle put out a nationwide call last fall for photos depicting faculty members actively engaged in teaching.
On Campus with Shannon Landis
Rolling out the red carpet for University guests is something Shannon Landis knows how to do. She event works exactly where to find one at short notice, and she can tell you where to locate a smoke machine or how to turn a parking lot location into an elegant tent setting.

It’s all part of her job, and having the soul of an artist who keeps lands happy with her job as coordinator of donor relations and special events for the Development Office. For lands, who is just finishing her second year in the position, her work day may look like a Task to turn indoor tennis courts into a winter wonderland for a holiday reception. "I have to take normal buildings and transform them into something magical," says lands, who is always planning for major annals gate as the Redfield, Scholarship Benefit, the President’s Circle Dinner and the Community Holiday Reception. "It’s an interesting mixture of organized skill and creativity. It’s like being an artist without having the talent."

Lands also coordinates dozens of smaller gatherings and has responsibility for handling the details of such regular events as guest accommodations for the President’s Barbecue Luncheon.

The Kalamazoo native and 1991 graduate of Indiana University worked as banquet manager at Schrage’s Restaurant in Stevensville before coming to WMU in 1994 as an event planner for the Washington Center.

"What I really like about this job is that I get to be creative, and Bud (Bender, vice president for development) and the president are very supportive of what I do," Landis says.

When not on campus, lands is busy as mother to two small children, ages 3 and 18 months. She and her husband count among the many fans of singer Jimmy Buffet, and they try to squeeze in at least one concert a year.

Two WMU honors students are now in the largest such de-

From Reservations to Red Carpet, Landis Handles the Details (Photo by Niel Rarken)

Facility, staff urged to give assistance in selection of summer orientation leaders
Faculty and staff are urged to lend a hand to the Office of Admissions and Orientation by identifying students who would be good orientation leaders. A total of 35 students with strong leadership skills are needed for the summer orientation program to help new freshmen and transfer students make the transition to WMU.

Qualifications for the positions include excellent communication skills, a 2.0 minimum grade point average, leadership potential and flexibility. The students who are hired will receive a $2,800 summer stipend, academic scholarships and additional compensation for completed activities.

Personal trainers available for staff
The Student Recreation Center has geared up to get personal with faculty and staff members this summer.

To help members meet their fitness goals for the new year, personal training is now available through the SRC at a competit-\n
tractive rate.

"We’ve developed a program that will, hopefully, give our members motivation to work out while we educate them to use our facility more effectively," says Stars Van Luven, associate director of the SRC. "Our personal trainers will help people reach their fitness goals, no matter what they may be. Some people are focused on weight loss, while others want to increase their general conditioning or sport-specific training."

Van Luven says the cost of hiring a per-\n
sonal trainer at WMU is less than that charged by other programs offered in the community.

WMU’s trainers are students in health, physical education and recreation who have completed in-service training and have passed a practical and written exam. For more information, contact Van Luven at 7-7622.

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 eligible employees should submit a job opportunity form to the Department of Human Resources. 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 form to the Department of Human Resources. 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 form to the Department of Human Resources.

Obituary
John L. Feirer, emeritus in industrial technology and education, died Dec. 23 in Kalamazoo. He was 85.

Feirer, who taught at WMU from 1940 until his retirement in 1983, headed the Department of Industrial Technology for 15 years. At the time of his retirement, it was the largest department in the state.

He was the author of 20 books that were used in high schools across the nation. Some of his books were trans-\n
lated into Spanish, Persian, Slavic and Turkish. One was published in Braille.

In the mid 1970s, Feirer was the founder and director for four years of WMU’s Center for Metric Education. He also served as executive editor of Industrial Education, the oldest and largest magazine for industrial, vocational and technical education in the world.

In 1982, he was named a Distinguished Faculty Scholar, the University’s highest award for a faculty member.

He was an alum of the University of Wisconsin at Stout and earned a master’s degree at the University of Minnesota. He earned a doctoral degree in industrial arts from the University of Oklahoma.

Two UMC students in Washington to study political transition
Two WMU honors students are now in Washington, D.C., to study the historic presidential transition.

Haitham Al-Enab, a senior from Eswill, Mich., and Mercedes Varasteh, a sophomore from Martin, Mich., are taking part in an academic seminar sponsored by the Washington Center. "Campaign 2000: The Inauguration," runs through Jan. 21. Both students are members of the Lee Center dining service; Todd K. Moseman, information technology; and Jacquelyn Rutterting, art.

10 years—Rebecca Blodgett, physical plant-maintenance services; Roger N. Bresson, physical plant, maintenance services; Lorraine A. Caron, WMU; Kim-berly Kay Cho, Career English Language Center for International Students; James M. Davis, physical plant-building custodial and support services; Carrie A. Jordan, University libraries; Carlos A. Giaquinto, information technology; Kathleen Hamilton, admissions; Lynda L. Hunt, Development Office; Francess J. Jess, Valley #2 dining service; Calvin Jones, physical plant-building custodial and support services; Carrie A. Jordan, University libraries; Robin L. Len, physical plant-building custodial and support services; Kathy L. Mitchell, science studies; Paul A. Moore, physical plant-building and custodial services; Veronica Munn, Valley #1 dining service; Maxine C. Robb, Evaluation Center; Joyce A. Simonds, Bernhard Center dining service; Ann E. Soukup, Sindecuse Health Center; Donna L. St John, admissions; Brittna A. Werfield, multicultural affairs; and David A. Wyman, physical plant-building custodial and support services.

Five years—Ann M. Allen, Sindecuse Health Center; Ramon DelCastillo, physical plant-maintenance service; Amy Doxster, sociology; Barbara J. Eshuis, family and consumer sciences; and JoAnn Warren, physical plant-building custodial and support services.

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Grad College programs focus on research

Two upcoming presentations sponsored by the Graduate College will allow grad students to learn more about WMU program designed to enhance grant-seeking skills and to familiarize themselves with WMU's intellectual property policy. The first presentation will be an information session on the Graduate Opportunity for Long-Term Development Program, or GOLD Program, from 4 to 5:30 p.m. today in 1062 Kohrman Hall. The second presentation will be a panel discussion on "Intellectual Property Policy: How it Impacts You" from 4 to 5:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Jan. 31, in 1062 Kohrman Hall. Both presentations will be broadcast via compressed video interactive television to all WMU regional centers. To reserve a space at either presentation, on-campus students should contact the Graduate College at 7-8212 and off-campus students should contact their regional center. The GOLD Program was created last year by Donald E. Thompson, president, to encourage research and dean of the Graduate College. This hands-on learning experience focuses on the student-centered aspects of research, making it the first program of its kind on a college campus.

The 18-month program provides up to nine graduate students with $2,000 scholarships to support their grant-seeking activities. Participants gain a greater understanding of external funding sources and learn how to write grant proposals. In the process, they bring in grants to fund their individual research projects as well as University projects.

"Instead of focusing on the development of grant-seeking by faculty, this comprehensive graduate program is built around funding for student research," says Eileen B. Evans, associate dean of the Graduate College. "And although some universities offer graduate student assistance in grant-seeking, our program is unique in that it combines grant-seeking workshops, mentoring and regular follow-up on the students' grant applications."

This year's GOLD program will run from May 2001 to December 2002. Applications are due March 15. Details about the GOLD Program are available in the "Related Topics" section of the Graduate College Web site, <www.swmich.edu/gold/>.

The intellectual property policy panel discussion will feature Wil B. Emmert, Research and Sponsored Programs; Carol L.J. Hustoles, Office of the General Counsel; William B. Wiener, Graduate College; and doctoral student Rodger R. Zartny. The panelists will address the purpose of the policy, patents and copyrights, and ownership of theses, dissertations and projects.

Berrah (Continued from page 1) having achieved an extensive body of accomplishments that are widely recognized nationally and internationally, "he noted.

Berrah's research also has been credited with uncovering several here-to-date-unknown secrets of atoms and molecules. In supporting her nomination, a scientist at another university cited several examples of her pioneering work, stating that "Berrah's experiments in helium double photoionization have been influential in resolving a decades-long discrepancy between theory and experiment."

"As a result," he said, "we now have a far deeper understanding of this fundamental three-body problem." An international colleague echoed this sentiment, and stated that "Nora Berrah has combined the two most important qualities of a world leader in the study of atomic and molecular photoionization processes."

Berrah also has been lauded for her efforts in mentoring other women scientists and promoting interest in science among young women. Her bearing in the global scientific community is especially important to her work as a mentor, noted one colleague from another university, because "Nora is internationally known and is easily the most visible woman atomic physicist her age."

Her honors have led to a variety of consulting and advising roles in the international scientific community. She advises the U.S. Department of Energy on the construction of large accelerators and on the allocation of financial resources to research. She also is a member of a scientific committee that advises UNESCO on international science.

Since being at WMU, Berrah has garnered several awards in recognition of her scientific contributions, including the international Humboldt Fellowship from the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation and a WMU President's Award for excellence in research. Prior to coming to WMU, Berrah was a visiting scientist at the Fritz-Haber-Institut der Max Planck Gesellschaft in Berlin, and at the Laboratoire pour l'Utilisation du Rayonnement Electronique at the Universite' d'Orsay in Paris. She also worked as an assistant scientist at the Argonne National Laboratory.

\*Women's basketball vs. Michigan State, West Hills Athletic Club, 2 p.m.

\*Performances, Moscow Festival Ballet, Miller Auditorium: "Don Quixote," 7:30 p.m.; "Giselle," 2 p.m.

\*Panel discussion, "Intellectual Property Policy: How it Impacts You," for graduate students, 1062 Kohrman Hall, 4:30 p.m.

\*Women's basketball vs. Bowling Green, University Arena, 7 p.m.

\*Performance, concert series, The Verdeh Trio, in collaboration with the Kalamosap Chamber Music Society, Dalton Recital Hall, 8 p.m.

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