



Western NEWS

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www.wmich.edu/wmu/news

Engler appoints new trustees

Michigan Gov. John Engler announced May 2 that he has appointed two new members to WMU's Board of Trustees, his second such announcement in a month.

Peter L. Aseritis of Williamsburg replaces Lori Waddles for a term that expires in 2006. Vernice Anthony of Detroit replaces William Carmody on the board and was appointed to a term expiring in 2004. Aseritis and Anthony are expected to be sworn in May 30 at the trustees' next regular meeting, along with Sarah DeNooyer and Dan Pero, who were appointed April 13.

Anthony is senior vice president for corporate affairs and community health for St. John Health System, Detroit. In 1998, she served on the board of governors of Wayne State University, and she was director of the Michigan Department of Public Health from 1991 to 1995. Anthony holds a bachelor's degree in nursing from Wayne State and a master's degree from the University of Michigan.

Aseritis, a WMU alumnus, is president of Portfolio Performance Analysis Inc. in Traverse City. He earned a bachelor of business administration in finance from WMU in 1973 and an MBA in finance from Penn State in 1982. He is a life member of the WMU Alumni Association and a member of the President's Circle of major donors.

Grundler prize for medieval scholarship goes to Yale writer

A Yale scholar has won a prestigious prize for medieval studies scholarship from WMU.

Paul H. Freedman, professor of history at Yale University, received the 2001 Otto Grundler Prize for his book "Images of the Medieval Peasant." He received the award during ceremonies at the 36th International Congress on Medieval Studies held on campus May 3-6. The \$2,500 prize is named for the former director of WMU's Medieval Institute.

Freedman's book was selected from among submissions from the United States, Canada and Europe. Published in 1999 by Stanford University Press, the book examines the image of peasants in the Middle Ages.

Established by WMU President Emeritus Diether H. Haenicke to honor Grundler, the prize recognizes a book or monograph on a medieval subject judged by a selection committee to be an outstanding contribution to the field.

Meeting on emergencies set

More than 200 staff members will learn about emergency planning issues and their responsibilities in the event of a campus emergency during a conference from 2 to 4 p.m. Monday, May 21, in the Fetzer Center.

President Elson S. Floyd, who launched the emergency planning initiative, and Kalamazoo County Sheriff Thomas Edmonds will give opening remarks. Other conference speakers will include officials from the Michigan State Police and the MSU/Safe Schools Program.

Future activities will include specialized training for some staff members and a simulated disaster exercise. For more information, call Vernon Payne, Emergency Planning Committee chairperson, at 7-2150.

Floyd lobbies Senate subcommittee for increased funding from state

To present the University's case for increased state funding for the coming academic year, WMU President Elson S. Floyd traveled to Lake Superior State University May 11 to testify before Michigan's Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Higher Education.



Floyd

As he told members of the House subcommittee on March 5, Floyd said WMU has achieved much over the past year. He cited the University's recent inclusion in the Carnegie Foundation's top research classification and its growing enrollment which makes it the fastest growing of the state's 15 public universities.

"This growth places us in the top 10 percent nationwide amongst our 102 Carnegie-classified peer institutions," Floyd

told members of the subcommittee led by Sen. John Schwarz of Battle Creek. "Unfortunately, we fall within the bottom 10 percent when measured against our peers in unrestricted state appropriations per student."

He also outlined for the senators his vision for WMU's future and key priorities presented to the University community in his recent State of the University address. Included among those priorities, he noted, is the need to increase the number of faculty and staff members to meet the demands of a growing student body and the University's top research status.

"In spite of generous increases (over the past few years), overall University growth has resulted in a per student increase of less than 1 percent in the past two years," Floyd told the senators in response to one of several subcommittee questions.

The next steps in the budget process will be for Senate committee members to de-

cide upon a budget recommendation and then meet with their counterparts in the House to forge a joint budget resolution. Under the House's March budget recommendation, WMU was slated for a 7 percent increase.

However, in light of recent reports of declining state revenues, Gov. John Engler has proposed zero growth in higher education spending for the coming year, which makes a large budget increase for higher education unlikely. Floyd told senators that under that scenario, WMU would be forced to raise tuition and fees by as much as 16.9 percent to offset lower state support.

Final resolution of the state higher education budget is expected by late June.

For the president's full testimony and to find out how you can help in the appropriations process, visit the legislative relations Web site at <www.wmich.edu/legislative>.

Solar cars to be inspected at WMU before race

Southwest Michigan auto buffs will get a glimpse of what the cars of the future may look like when solar race car teams from around the world bring their vehicles to WMU this summer to qualify for this year's American Solar Challenge cross-country race.

More than 50 solar race teams with a total of as many as 1,200 members will arrive in Kalamazoo beginning Saturday, July 7. The teams represent the nation's top engineering schools as well as corporate and club teams from around the world. They will come to WMU for the week prior to this year's solar race to take part in the Western Michigan University Formula Sun Grand Prix, which has been designated as a final qualifying event for the national event.

After successfully completing inspections and road tests at WMU and at South Haven's GingerMan Racetrack, the teams will head to Chicago for the start of the July 15-25 American Solar Challenge. The 2001 version of the biennial solar race will begin in front of the Museum of Science and Industry and conclude 10 days later in Los Angeles with the racers following historic Route 66 to complete the race's 2,300 miles—all without consuming a single drop of fuel.

WMU's solar car, Sunseeker, is among the cars entered in this year's event, which is sponsored by the U.S. Department of Energy and its National Renewable Energy Laboratory in Golden, Colo., and by Terion, a wireless communication firm with headquarters in Melbourne, Fla. The 2001 race is 1,000 miles longer than Sunrayce 99, the last collegiate solar race, which took entrants from Washington, D.C., to Orlando, Fla.

"The American Solar Challenge is about creativity and creativity is the heart of engineering," says Dean Daniel Litynski, College of Engineering and Applied Sciences. "It's taking the latest



Route 66 ★ July 2001 ★ Chicago-Los Angeles

science to solve people's problems and make life better. This event is a chance to see teams of the best engineering students from around the world competing against

each other and on the road from Chicago to Los Angeles. My advice is quite simple—don't miss it!"

While in Kalamazoo, solar race cars will spend Monday through Wednesday of the qualifying week on the WMU campus undergoing "scrutineering"—an inspection process to make sure cars are roadworthy and meet all ASC requirements for this year's race. At stations in the Miller Auditorium parking ramp and on lots surrounding Kohrman Hall, the cars will be tested for steering and braking performance and for such safety processes as rapid driver ejection.

Upon successful completion of those tests, race teams will take their cars to South Haven for qualifying events on the GingerMan track that will begin on Wednesday, July 11, and conclude Friday, July 13. Members of the public are welcome to attend all the qualifying activities.

Racers will take off from the Museum of Science and Industry Sunday, July 15. The start of the race caps a two-week outdoor solar exhibit at the museum that will include a giant electronic message board featuring race information and using solar technology similar to that used by cars entered in the ASC.

"The Museum of Science and Industry is delighted to be part of the American Solar Challenge," says Keith Gill, a 1988 WMU alumnus who is curator of transportation and the U-505 Submarine Exhibit. "Our fascinating mix of historic and current technology exhibits make the race a perfect fit with our mission to educate the public about cutting-edge technology."

From the start in Chicago, racers will continue along Route 66 through Illinois, Missouri, Oklahoma, Texas, New Mexico, Arizona and into California. The race will conclude in Claremont, Calif.

WMU students have been active in national solar racing since the first Sunrayce was held in 1990. During that and subsequent races in 1993, 1995, 1997 and 1999, WMU teams have used the name Sunseeker for each of their entries. In all, WMU has built four cars. This year's entry is a revamped version of the team's popular and successful Sunseeker 95 vehicle.

WMU is one of only eight schools in the nation and the only Michigan school to have competed in and finished all five solar races to date. This year, three other Michigan schools—the University of Michigan with its veteran solar racers, and newcomers Michigan State University and Michigan Technological University—also will compete.

Business college offering MBA program for non-business types

Trudy Verser knows what it feels like to enter an MBA program without a business background. Now the associate dean for external affairs in WMU's Haworth College of Business, Verser launched her business studies after earning a bachelor's degree in organizational psychology.

"It was culture shock," Verser says of her early MBA studies. "I encountered a completely different environment, where people interacted in a very different way than I was accustomed to. It took quite awhile before I felt comfortable in the business college."

Today, Verser is helping to launch the Haworth College of Business "Cooperative Master of Business Administration Program," which is designed to ease the process of earning an MBA for students whose bachelor's degrees are in non-business fields. The college is recruiting students both from the WMU undergraduate ranks and from liberal arts and historically minority colleges around the nation.

College officials expect to have a first class of 20 to 25 students enrolled by fall. A six-person committee from the college will be working to support those students from day one. Their 21-month MBA studies will begin with an orientation program aimed at

Continued on page 3

Temperature point set for campus community

The new mantra at the University may soon be “don’t touch that dial.” Although Michigan residents face their first big hike in energy prices this month, WMU has been battling rising energy costs for several years. As part of an ongoing effort to control those costs, the University recently instituted a campuswide temperature set point.

During the summer cooling season, building temperatures must be set at 76 degrees. In cold weather, the set point is 70 degrees.



AWARD-WINNING STAFF MEMBERS—WMU’s Administrative Professional Association honored two of its members recently at a spring luncheon. APA President Sue Oole, center, is flanked by Tony Griffin Service Award winner Lisa Knutson, auxiliary enterprises, and Lori Wingate, Evaluation Center, who received the Outstanding New Professional Award. (Photo by Neil Rankin)

“Our energy costs have risen by more than \$2 million in the last year alone,” says Carl Newton, maintenance services, who is coordinating the set point implementation. “And that rise is despite a variety of energy reduction initiatives we’ve already implemented. We’re counting on the campus community to pitch in and help reduce consumption.”

According to Newton, the 70/76 set point is more moderate than those implemented around much of the nation during the 1970s oil crisis. The industry standard at that time, he notes, was 68 degrees in the winter and 78 degrees in the summer. Even today, federal law mandates that temperatures in California federal buildings be set at 78 degrees during the cooling season.

“We understand that individual physical makeups are different, and we tried to find a set point where everyone will be reasonably comfortable,” says Newton. “However, the change may require a bit of a sacrifice from all of us. At this point, there’s no alternative.”

Over the next few weeks, staff members from maintenance services will adjust temperatures in some 50 campus facilities with computer-controlled heating and cooling systems. Faculty, staff and students in spaces with older systems are being asked to comply voluntarily.

Maintenance service staff members will begin random checks of thermostat settings in offices around campus this summer. Space heaters are forbidden under the new policy, and Newton asks that members of the campus community with personally owned space heaters take them home immediately. University-owned space heaters will be collected over time.

“We want to encourage people to view this as a positive change for conservation and preservation of the environment,” Newton says. “Our office will let the campus community know about the most accommodating building occupants.”

“We also hope that people will learn more about energy reduction through the University’s policies, and will perhaps institute some of those same approaches in their homes. Energy costs are going to be a big issue for some time to come.”

Information about the University’s energy reduction program can be found on the Web at <www.pp.wmich.edu/maintenance>.

Book urges English teachers to explore context of literary works

If you think gang warfare is a concept created by recent generations, then read “Romeo and Juliet.” And just as there are homeless teens wandering the streets of Seattle now, “Oliver Twist” was doing the same in 19th century London.

That’s why when it comes to teaching English literature, Allen Carey-Webb believes that topics like homelessness, youth violence and race not only belong in the classroom, but classics like “Oliver Twist” or “Huckleberry Finn” can’t be taught without them.

“For too long, high school and college teachers have taught literature without providing an understanding of the history and culture these books were written in,” he explains. “When you bring these topics in and explore the context surrounding the author’s work, then you make literature more relevant to the student.”

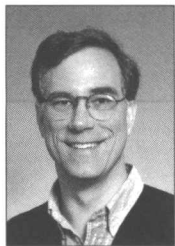
Integrating social issues, history and culture into the teaching of literature is what

Carey-Webb, English, espouses in his new book “Literature and Lives: A Response-Based, Cultural Studies Approach to Teaching English.”

In the book, which is geared toward present and future teachers, Carey-Webb draws from his own two decades of classroom experience in outlining methods of teaching literature using a cultural studies approach.

“I try to show how teachers can move away from isolated, abstract concepts of literature and into the history and culture that influenced the writings,” he says. “When you bring in the cultural context, it makes the literature more powerful to the reader. It also paints a clearer picture of the author’s intentions and motivations.”

In one chapter of the book, Carey-Webb describes a class he taught that examined homelessness as a theme in a variety of literary works. In addition to reading the Charles Dickens classic “Oliver Twist,” about an orphan who lived on the streets of London, the class read several works about homelessness and poverty, including Alan Paton’s “Cry, the Beloved Country,” Jonathan Kozol’s “Rachel and Her Children: Homeless Families in America,” and George Orwell’s “Down and Out in Paris and London.” They also viewed “Streetwise,” a documentary film about homeless teens in Seattle.



Carey-Webb

“Through ‘Oliver Twist,’ the students were able to view homelessness in a historical perspective,” explains Carey-Webb. “While they were still studying classic authors like Dickens, Crane and Orwell, the students were thinking about them in historical, social and political contexts, and developing connections that put classic authors and works in dialogue with popular culture and common experience.”

“In addition, reading and discussing the portrayal of homelessness in literary works gave students the critical tools they needed for their own analyses of real world people and institutions.”

A student that participated in the class echoed Carey-Webb’s observation, stat-

ing that “most other [English] classes just talked about characters and irony... This class made me think about the world, how little/lot we’ve changed our attitudes, our thoughts and what we’ve learned from our past history.”

It is those critical thinking skills that Carey-Webb says are crucial to having students embrace and absorb the literature rather than just read it.

“I want to take literature off that pedestal so that students can knock it around and really examine it,” he says. “I want them to question it and see it as more than just pretty words.”

Other chapters in the book address Carey-Webb’s experiences teaching literature through the perspectives of gender, youth violence, multiculturalism, race and media. He also discusses the issue of censorship in the classroom.

Carey-Webb also offers ways for teachers to weave literary scholarship and theories like new criticism, postcolonialism and post-Marxism into the teaching of literature. He says that too often, literary theory is discounted as obscure, dry and esoteric with little relevance to middle school, high school or undergraduate English teaching.

“I tried to provide a sort of teacher’s guide to literary scholarship and theory,” he says. “In my teaching journey, I have found that literary scholarship and theory can make the connections between literature and our students’ lives stronger, better and, as the kids say now, ‘fresher’ than ever.”

“Literature and Lives: A Response-Based, Cultural Studies Approach to Teaching English,” published by the National Council of Teachers of English, is Carey-Webb’s third book. He is also the author of “Making Subject(s): Literature and the Emergence of National Identity” and the co-editor of “Teaching and Testimony: Rigoberta Menchu in the North American Classroom.” Carey-Webb, who has a doctoral degree from the University of Oregon, also has degrees from Lewis and Clark College and Swathmore College. His teaching and research areas include English education and postcolonial and American minority literature. He maintains a Web site for English teachers at <vms.cc.wmich.edu/~careywebb>.

Latulippe returns from mission

Laura Latulippe, director of the Career English Language Center for International Students, recently participated in a two-week trade mission to Argentina, Brazil and Chile that helped open doors for U.S.-based intensive English programs, or IEPs.

The March 25-April 5 trip was a great experience for all of the delegates, Latulippe says.

“The mission provided a starting point for us to share information and establish relationships with trade partners and related U.S. offices, educational institutions, multinational corporations and local entities such as counseling agencies,” she reports.

“It also provided a forum for us to promote U.S.-based IEPs and educational exchanges and gave us a chance to learn about our host countries’ international education needs and student recruitment potential.”

The mission was affiliated with the U.S. Department of Commerce and organized by the American Association of Intensive English Programs, which is comprised of the directors of IEPs from across the nation.

Delegates from 10 IEPs participated in the trip. They reflected the geographic diversity of U.S. programs as well as differing types of administrative structures—programs governed by universities, as CELCIS is, and privately run programs based at universities or in their own facilities.

Tremblay joins board of local training and adventure center

Christopher Tremblay, admissions and orientation, recently was elected to a three-year term on the board of directors for the Adventure Centre at Pretty Lake.

The center, which annually serves nearly 5,000 people, is a nonprofit education and training facility for public and private school systems, colleges and universities, treatment centers and court systems throughout the Midwest. It is one of only 38 such programs in the world that is accredited by the Association for Experiential Education.

Since 1978, WMU’s orientation programs have been a client of the Adventure Centre, where orientation leaders participate in ropes course training. Tremblay first attended the center in 1991 as an orientation student leader.

“We’re excited to add one of our clients as a member of our board of directors,” says Jack Holtman, executive director of the center. “Christopher will bring a different perspective because he really knows and understands our programs and their impact on people.”

Mousavinezhad visits Sweden

Hossein Mousavinezhad, chairperson of electrical and computer engineering, recently returned from a visit to Sweden’s Orebro University.

Mousavinezhad was invited by that university to participate in a mentors meeting program. Similar to the advisory boards that guide many WMU programs, the mentors meeting included engineering experts from around the world. The only advisor from the United States, Mousavinezhad offered input on the university’s research activities in the fields of robotics and intelligent control systems.

During his visit, he also spoke with Orebro officials about the possibility of establishing an international exchange program with WMU to increase the global knowledge of engineering students.



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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. Spring and summer 2001 publication dates are: May 3, May 17, May 31, June 14, June 28, July 12, July 26 and Aug. 9. 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 following vacancies are 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) **Office Coordinator**, 14, Mathematics and Statistics, 00/01-2338, 5/15-5/21/01

(R) **Information Specialist Research**, 16, Vice President for Research, 00/01-2396, 5/15-5/21/01

(N) **Assistant Director Major Gifts** (term ends 6/30/03), 18, Development Office, 00/01-2397, 5/15-5/21/01

(R) **Programmer Analyst**, 19, Office of Information Technology, 00/01-2398, 5/15-5/21/01

(R) **Coordinator Alumni Relations** (term ends 6/30/04), 14, Office of Alumni Relations, 00/01-2399, 5/15-5/21/01

(R) **Director Development** (term ends 6/30/03), 20, Development Office, 00/01-2401, 5/15-5/21/01

N = New

R = Replacement

WMU is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer

Service

The following employees are recognized for 30, 25, 20, 15, 10 and five years of service to the University during May.

30 years—Robert R. Lassiter, public safety.

25 years—Marilyn V. Duke, Academic Skills Center; Jon H. VanderMeer, information technology-telecommunications.

20 years—Lila J. Gray, research; Judith A. Medendorp, geography; Diana L. Sherburn, human resources; Sally A. Veeder, Evaluation Center.

15 years—Daryl E. Buczkowski, information technology; Linda J. Doremus, Bernhard Center; Jeffery A. Johns, physical plant-maintenance services; Jo E. Morrisson, campus planning; Teresa J. Oakes, continuing education.

10 years—Patricia A. Evans, University Recreation Programs and Facilities; Kathi Fuller, College of Health and Human Services; Arlen R. Gullickson, Evaluation Center; Andrew C. Huang, academic planning and institutional data; Candace E. List, industrial and manufacturing engineering; Charlotte Persinger, accounts payable.

Five years—Amy Anderson, intercollegiate athletics; Nancy L. Arneson, chemistry; Carol J. Ashley, Sindecuse Health Center; Jerome Carter, Center for Disability Services; Paul E. Choker, Fetzer Center; Michael Eugene Hodgkinson, physical plant-utilities; Tracey Lawie, Miller Auditorium; Janell Elizabeth Svinicki, Center for Disability Services; Bethany Ann Timmerman, WMU Bookstore; Stacey Lynn Wasmuth, student financial aid and scholarships.

On Campus with Penelope Wood



WMU ALUMNA, EMPLOYEE, STUDENT: WOOD KNOWS THIS PLACE INSIDE AND OUT (Photo by Neil Rankin)

Penelope Wood has school spirit. At any given moment, you're likely to find the Faculty Senate administrator sporting a variety of WMU apparel, from hats and socks to T-shirts, sweatshirts and jackets—not one jacket, but two. She also has countless buttons and pins, a name plate, a business card holder and a license plate, all adorned with the WMU name, seal or Bronco logo.

A 1998 graduate of the University, Wood also is a life member of the WMU Alumni Association. She's currently pursuing her master's degree in organizational communication from WMU, of course. And she'll finish the full-time program in December after just 15 months, instead of the typical two years.

"My biggest challenge is juggling between my job and my school work," Wood reports. "But I live in an apartment and don't have children, pets or a garden. So basically, this place is my life right now."

In her Faculty Senate post, Wood coordinates meetings for the senate and its five councils and three committees, including managing agendas, catering, PowerPoint presentations and minutes. She also served as chair of the most recent Presidential Scholars Convocation Committee, and helped plan for President Floyd's February State of the University address.

"I think I've learned more about the University in one year as Faculty Senate administrator than I did during the entire time I was an undergraduate," says Wood, who joined the WMU staff in 1999 as a prospect research secretary in the Development Office. "Just this morning, I was out delivering packets on campus, and I had the chance to stop and talk with so many people. It's nice to put faces with names."

On the rare occasions she does manage to tear herself away from campus, Wood keeps active by skiing, biking, rollerblading and traveling to Chicago.

Exchange

FOR SALE—1998 Transport Montana, 4-door extended quad seating, leather interior, loaded. \$17,000. Call 375-0625.

Last chance to support nominees

Employees who wish to submit supporting information for a Staff Service Excellence Annual Award candidate may do so through tomorrow, Friday, May 18. Any such additional information must include specific examples of how the candidate has exhibited excellence that far exceeds normal job expectations.

The SSEA Selection Committee will select only four candidates to win an Annual Award, which carries a \$1,000 cash prize. A listing of all 24 candidates appeared in the May 3 issue of *Western News*.

Supporting information should be sent to Kitty Scheffers, human resources, by memo, e-mail to <kitty.scheffers@wmich.edu>, or fax to 7-3441.

MBA program

introducing them to the business culture and encouraging strong bonds between participants.

"These students will form a kind of support group," Verser says. "They will take classes together and meet on a regular basis, so they'll always have access to others with a similar background."

The first of five semesters will include an intensive introduction to business studies, including courses in accounting, finance, economic analysis and global business. During the second and fourth semesters, the students will undertake full-time internships in concert with one electronic course, to be supplemented with additional classroom work during the remaining two semesters.

The focus on internship training is to introduce students to the corporate world, according to David Burnie, finance and commercial law, who is helping to spearhead the program.

"At WMU, we have a very high percentage of employed people in our MBA program," says Burnie. "And traditionally, even full-time MBA students usually have several years of work experience behind them. In order for these non-traditional candidates to be competitive in the job market, they need some solid work experience behind them."

College officials expect the MBA students to come from fields as diverse as social work, biology, journalism and mathematics. Verser believes that graduates of the program will offer valuable combinations of skills to potential employers.

Grad programs make U.S. News national lists

Five graduate programs in WMU's College of Health and Human Services were identified as being among the top such programs in the country by *U.S. News & World Report* in the magazine's recently released 2002 rankings of the best graduate programs in the nation.

Four of the programs were ranked among the top 50 in the nation among comparable programs, with three being included in the top 30. In addition, a new program in rehabilitation counseling was ranked among the top 60.

The programs include: a master's degree programs in physician assistant, which was ranked 23rd; master's programs in occupational therapy and speech pathology, which both were ranked 30th; a master's program in audiology, which was ranked 49th; and the new rehabilitation counseling master's program that was ranked 60th. The rehabilitation counseling program started in winter 1995.

"I see these MBA graduates doing some really interesting work," she says. "For instance, someone who has an undergraduate degree in music might combine that experience with their MBA work to become an executive in the recording industry, or perhaps take a position with an Internet music company. And I envision that some of the students from social work backgrounds will gain the skills needed to run an effective nonprofit agency. The possibilities are limitless."

Students, faculty member attend writers conference

Nine WMU graduate students and a faculty member did their part to heighten awareness of the University's creative writing program when they recently attended the Associated Writing Programs' annual conference in Palm Springs, Calif.

Herb Scott, English, and students Adela Najarro, Patricia Jabbeh Wesley, Shanda Hansma Blue, Beth Martinelli, Meggan Carney, Lydia "Jade" Melvin, Eric Lesniewski, Marianne Swierenga and Margaret von Steinen were among the more than 2,000 authors, publishers, teachers and students attending the conference April 18-21.

With nearly 50 panel and roundtable discussions and readings offered daily, the three-day conference provided the students with numerous opportunities to learn more about their craft and to network with writers, editors and publishers.

The group also had the chance to share

WMU's occupational therapy and speech pathology programs were the only Michigan programs ranked among the nation's top 30 programs in those disciplines. Both programs are among the University's oldest and were among the first such programs established in the nation.

"Many of our programs enjoy national, as well as international, reputations," says Janet Pisaneschi, dean of the college. "The College of Health and Human Services is pleased to contribute to the University's status within and outside the state of Michigan."

Though the college and its various schools and departments are well known to experts in the fields of rehabilitation, occupational therapy, speech pathology, audiology, blind rehabilitation and physician assistant, Pisaneschi points out that many in the Kalamazoo community aren't aware of how highly regarded they are.

"These programs are truly treasures," she says, "treasures to the University, treasures to the community and to the people they serve, both directly and indirectly. But I'm afraid they may be hidden treasures that many have yet to discover."

The prominence that such high rankings in a national magazine can bring should not be underestimated, Pisaneschi says.

"Millions of people read *U.S. News & World Report*," she says. "And of course it's nice to be noticed on such a broad level. But what I really enjoy is that WMU alumni, whether they are graduated by our college or by another, can find their alma mater listed, not once, but five times. The work our faculty members have done can make all of us associated with the University very proud."

with others through a booth for *New Issues Press Poetry & Prose* and *Third Coast* literary magazine at the conference's book fair and by sitting on a panel on first poetry book contests. The panel, moderated by Najarro with panelists including Wesley, Melvin, Scott and *New Issues* Associate Editor and WMU alumnus David Dodd Lee, drew a standing-room-only crowd. According to Scott, the panel presentation was instrumental in helping to spotlight WMU's creative writing program.

"The panel helped put *New Issues Poetry & Prose* and WMU's graduate program right on the map," Scott says. "It became obvious that the participation of our graduate students at this national conference was especially good for getting the word out about Western. Many prospective graduate students stopped by our book fair display to ask about the program and to get our Web address."



SKY BRONCOS' HOPES RIDING HIGH FOR NATIONAL TITLE—The 15-member Sky Bronco team is in Grand Forks, N.D., this week competing in the May 15-19 National Intercollegiate Flying Association championship. The precision flight team has placed in the top three at the NIFA event in each of the past nine years and last captured the title in 1998. (Photo by Neil Rankin)

Malaysian students to visit campus for games

The Malaysian ambassador to the United States and other dignitaries from Malaysia will be in town Memorial Day weekend, when WMU plays host to Midwest Games 2001.

The event brings some 500 Malaysian international students from across the United States to the Midwest each year for a weekend of spirited athletic competition.

Iraz Syamil Mohd Zahari, chairperson of WMU's organizing committee for the 2001 games, says the event fosters sportsmanship and camaraderie among the participating Malaysian student teams in addition to promoting school pride and friendly institutional rivalries.

Syamil notes that the public is invited to view the competitions and to attend the opening ceremony at 9 a.m. Saturday, May 26, at Kanley Track, which will be officiated by Ahmad Shahizan Abdul Samad, counsel general for the Malaysian Consulate General office in New York.

Spectators attending the ceremony will be able to welcome competitors to campus, then enjoy a brunch at 10:30 a.m. and obtain detailed information about the various athletic contests scheduled to take place from 11 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. Saturday and 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday, May 27.

Sports being featured this year include men's and women's badminton, soccer, tennis and volleyball. Competitions will take place at the Student Recreation Center, the Valley Intramural Fields and Sorensen Courts.

"The games date back to the 1970s and started out as a modest athletic congregation of Malaysian students studying at Midwestern schools and have grown tremendously in popularity," says Syamil, a senior from the Malaysian state of Johor who is majoring in mechanical engineering and political science. "Now, this is a much-anticipated event that draws students from states as far away as Texas and California and even countries such as Canada and the United Kingdom."

A private closing ceremony and medals presentation will be staged at 6:30 p.m. Sunday in Kalamazoo's Radisson Plaza Hotel in conjunction with an academic awards initiative of the Malaysian government called Ambassador Award Night. The Malaysian ambassador to the United States, Dato' Ghazzali Sheikh Abdul Khalid, will present both the athletic medals and the academic awards.

Ambassador Award Night recognizes the academic and extracurricular achievements of Malaysian students studying in the United States who graduate in April or June of each year. Recipients are nominated by their respective universities and are chosen by the Malaysian Student Department in Washington, D.C., based on their grade point averages and active involvement in student organizations and community service activities.

Midwest Games 2001 is being sponsored by WMU; WMU's Malaysian Student Organization; private Malaysian institutions; and the Malaysian Student departments in Chicago, Washington, D.C., and Los Angeles.

Anyone wishing to volunteer at the event or to be a funding, products or services sponsor is encouraged to contact Felicia Ng Soo Lee in the Malaysian Student Organization by phone at 381-4211 or by e-mail at <feliciang@yahoo.com>.

Doctoral student wins prestigious fellowship

A graduate student working on a doctoral degree in history has established a legacy of his own as the first WMU student to ever be awarded a Fulbright-Hays Fellowship.

Kevin Kain was awarded a Fulbright-Hays Doctoral Dissertation Research Abroad Fellowship for the 2001-02 year. He will use the nearly \$30,000 award to conduct nine months of research in Moscow and St. Petersburg, Russia.

The fellowship will allow Kain, a native of Wilmington, N.C., to continue his research on Patriarch Nikon, a 17th-century leader of the Russian Orthodox Church who introduced reforms that split the church and resulted in the mass religious dissention in Russia known as the Great Schism. Specifically, Kain will look at the image of Nikon as it appeared in art, architecture and literature from the 17th century to the present.

While his student's work is historical, says John O. Norman, history and Kain's advisor, it has resonance in today's Russia.

"The collapse of the Soviet regime and the reemergence of Russian Orthodoxy as an institutional and political force underscores the vital relevance of this undertaking," Norman says. "An investigation of the role of the Russian Orthodox Church and its patriarchs as patrons of art and architecture is critical to a full and less-politicized view of Russian cultural history. In today's Russia, the role of the Orthodox Church and of the patriarchate is one of the most pressing issues awaiting resolution."

Kain will begin his fellowship in September. Previous funding

from WMU's Department of History, Graduate College and Office of International Affairs allowed him to spend the past two summers conducting fieldwork in Russia, where he established valuable contacts with the Historical, Architectural and Art Museum "New Jerusalem" and the State Historical Museum in Moscow, and Moscow Spiritual Academy's Kabinet. Much of his research will be conducted using artifacts, literature and art collections at these institutions.

"The contacts I made there have been pivotal in my research," he says. "Affiliation with Galina Zelenskaia of New Jerusalem allowed me to broaden my research in Russia. In addition, Michael Levintov has been invaluable in helping to make arrangements and work out the logistics in Russia."

Kain also credits Norman as well as Judith Stone and James Palmitessa, both History, with providing encouragement and guidance in applying for the fellowship.

"Kevin's award of the Fulbright-Hays fellowship confirms my belief that the best of WMU's graduate students are fully competitive with those of better-known and more-established research institutions," says Norman. "I can only hope it will encourage others to compete for these prestigious awards."

Kain earned a master's degree from Appalachian State University in 1995 and a bachelor's degree from the University of North Carolina at Wilmington in 1990.

Recognition dinner to honor retired or retiring faculty members

Nearly 40 faculty members who are retiring or who have recently retired will be feted Tuesday, May 22, at the annual Faculty Retirement Recognition Dinner hosted by the Faculty Senate.

Retirees being honored this year are Raymond E. Alie, management; William C. Appel, music; Joseph T. Buckley, mathematics and statistics; Norman E. Carlson, English; Phillip P. Caruso, economics; Ralph C. Chandler, public affairs and administration; Joe R. Chapel, teaching, learning and leadership; David J. Cowden, teaching, learning and leadership; Kenneth A. Dahlberg, political science; H. Byron Earhart, comparative religion; Robert C. Eisenberg, biological sciences; Gyula

Ficsor, biological sciences; Margie J. Geasler, family and consumer sciences; Robert J. Griffin, foreign languages and literatures; Meshulam Groper, mechanical and aeronautical engineering; Salim E. Harik, economics; Helen Healy, university libraries; George W. Hobbs, health, physical education and recreation; James A. Howell, chemistry; Frank R. Jamison, information technology; Robert L. Jones, finance and commercial law; Michael E. McCarville, chemistry; Dalia Motzkin, computer science; Larry D. Oppliger, science studies; Fred C. Orlofsky, health, physical education and recreation; Kathleen M. Reding, public affairs and administration; William A. Ritchie, po-

litical science; James R. Sanders, educational studies; Beatrice Sichel, university libraries; Herbert L. Smith, sociology; Carol L. Stamm, Office of the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs; John H. Stroupe, English; Michael D. Swords, environmental studies; Darrell B. Thomas, family and consumer sciences; Edward L. Trembley, counselor education and counseling psychology; Earl M. Washington, black Americana studies; Robert L. Whaley, music; and Kenneth L. Williams, computer science.

For more information about the event, contact the Faculty Senate office at 7-3310.

National certifying group endorses nursing school's holistic practices

WMU's Bronson School of Nursing recently received endorsement for its baccalaureate nursing curriculum from the American Holistic Nurses' Certification Corp.

The endorsement entitles nursing school graduates to take the holistic nursing certification examination, recognizing them as meeting qualifications and competencies in holistic nursing practice. All graduates who completed the nursing program during the 1999-2000 academic year, as well as those who graduate within the next five years, are qualified to apply for certification.

In addition, nursing school graduates will be exempt from the requirements of providing evidence of one year of practice and

completing the Qualitative Assessment prior to the examination as other applicants must do.

"When nurses care for people in a holistic way, they see clients as whole beings, as mind-body, spirit connections—not just as bodies to be cared for," says Marie F. Gates, director of the nursing school.

The AHNCC has offered this opportunity because of its belief that baccalaureate nursing schools are "change agents" and "keepers" of core values, Gates says. The American Association of Colleges of Nursing position statement espouses the idea that nursing is contextual, holistic in nature, and nurtured in human relationships; that nurses attend to the meaning of an illness; and that such a meaning is vital for

the healing process. The profession's continued focus will be on the whole person across the life span, taking into account developmental, physical, mental health and spiritual needs in a comprehensive approach to care.

The curriculum of the WMU Bronson School of Nursing was evaluated as being consistent with these views.

"Since holistic nursing is one of the foundations of our program, our school was very pleased to learn that we were enthusiastically endorsed by the AHNCC," Gates says. "The endorsement is an exciting privilege bestowed on the nursing program and recognizes our commitment to the highest quality, most comprehensive educational preparation of our nursing students."

Designers receive recognition

Two WMU interior designers were recently recognized by the Association of University Interior Designers.

In AUID's national interior design competition, Julie Lenczycki, campus architecture and design, took third place in the "Renovations under \$50,000" category for her project that involved bedroom furnishings and finishes in the Oaklands. Awards in the competition were made at the AUID national conference held at Iowa State University.

Jo Morrisson, campus architecture and design, was elected to the AUID board of directors. Lenczycki was elected as AUID publicist. Their two-year terms began in January and continue through December 2002.

Lenczycki and Morrisson are graduates of WMU's interior design program. They were both recently named 2001 Outstanding Alumni by the Department of Family and Consumer Sciences.

WMU offices to be closed May 28 for Memorial Day

University offices will be closed and no classes will be held Monday, May 28, for the Memorial Day holiday. Offices will reopen and classes will resume Tuesday, May 29.