



# Western NEWS

JUNE 14, 2001

volume 27, number 18

www.wmich.edu/wmu/news

## 1,389 degrees to be awarded at June 23 commencement

The University will award nearly 1,400 degrees in commencement ceremonies Saturday, June 23, in Miller Auditorium.

President Elson S. Floyd will preside over two ceremonies:

- A 9 a.m. ceremony for graduates of the College of Arts and Sciences, College of Aviation, College of Engineering and Applied Sciences, and College of Health and Human Services; and

- An 11:30 a.m. ceremony for graduates of the Haworth College of Business, College of Education, College of Fine Arts and General University Studies program.

A total of 888 bachelor's degrees, 463 master's and specialist degrees, and 38 doctoral degrees will be awarded for a total of 1,389 degrees. Students taking part in the ceremonies will include those earning their degrees in June at the end of the spring session and those earning their degrees in August at the end of the summer session. The University does not hold commencement ceremonies in August.

No tickets are required to attend the June commencement ceremonies. If Miller Auditorium fills to capacity, the ceremonies may be viewed on a large-screen television in 3512 Knauss Hall.

## Trustees to meet next on July 6

The next meeting of the WMU Board of Trustees, originally scheduled for June 22, has been rescheduled for Friday, July 6.

Board members are expected to tackle finance issues tabled at their May 30 meeting, including recommendations on increases for tuition, room and board, and vehicle registration rates.

Meeting times and locations for the board and its standing committees have not yet been set. Watch future issues of *Western News* and its online counterpart, WMU News, for further information.

## June 16 memorial service set for artist, alumna Gwen Frostic

A memorial service for Gwen Frostic will be held Saturday, June 16, at Corson Auditorium at the Interlochen Center for the Arts. Former WMU President Diether H. Haenicke will preside over the service, which begins at 2 p.m. Also speaking will be retired WMU development officer Helen Flaspohler, who first met Frostic in 1974 and maintained a relationship with her during the past 26 years.

A distinguished artist, poet and naturalist, Frostic is one of WMU's most accomplished and celebrated alumni. She died April 25 at her home in Benzonia.

## Last 'big' News for the summer

This is the last issue of *Western News* for the spring session and the paper's last large format edition for this academic year.

Publication will resume June 28 at the start of the summer session. Additional summer issues are slated for July 12, July 26 and Aug. 9. Those issues will be published in the *Western News*' traditional smaller summer format. The deadline for each issue remains 5 p.m. Friday before each publication date.

## University anticipates topping last year's record for private gifts

WMU is on course to duplicate the one-year record total of \$17.5 million in private gifts received the previous year.

According to a report presented to the University's Board of Trustees at its May 30 meeting, \$16,474,538 in gifts was received during the first 10 months of the 2000-01 fiscal year, which ends June 30. That is virtually identical to the amount raised during the same period the previous fiscal year.

With May and June gifts still to be reported, the University is within \$1.1 million of surpassing the one-year record total. The \$17.5 million record set in 1999-2000 exceeded the previous one-year record, set in 1995-96, by \$5 million or 40 percent.

All gifts to WMU are received through the WMU Foundation or the Paper Technology Foundation, which supports the

University's internationally known paper programs. For the first 10 months of the 2000-01 fiscal year, the WMU Foundation reported current and deferred cash gifts totaling \$14,664,022 and non-cash gifts valued at \$1,296,768, for a total of 15,960,790. The Paper Technology Foundation reported cash gifts of \$395,224 and non-cash gifts valued at \$118,504, for a total of \$513,748.

All of the larger gifts reported at the May 30 board meeting were made anonymously. A gift of \$360,000 was received to support the jazz studies program in the School of Music, which also received \$25,000 from anonymous donors for the Russell Brown Honors Quintet Scholarship.

The special collections endowment for the University libraries received slightly more than \$1 million in the form of two gifts from an anonymous donor. Two gifts

totaling \$558,571 were given to support the Center for Integrated Design in the College of Engineering and Applied Sciences, which also received an anonymous contribution of \$450,000 for equipment.

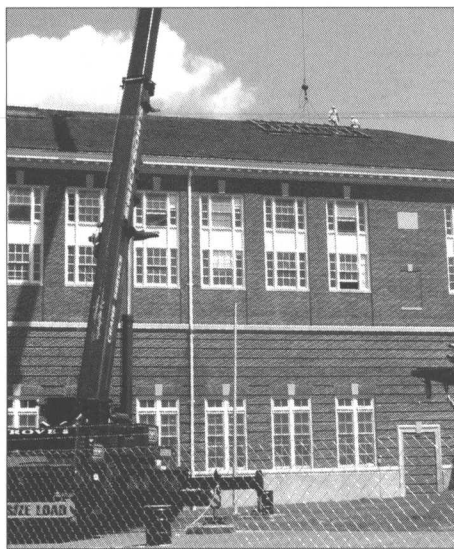
Also given anonymously were gifts of \$47,665 to support a study fellowship in the Medieval Institute, \$31,053 for the New Issues Press in the Department of English, \$50,000 for the Southwest Michigan Children's Trauma Association Center in the College of Health and Human Services, and \$30,000 for scholarships in the Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures.

Also at their May 30 meeting, the trustees approved minor changes to the WMU Foundation bylaws regarding titles of officers and committee structure.

## Seelye Center structure to incorporate gym

Site preparation has begun around Oakland Gym on East Campus to get ready for construction this fall of the Donald "J" Seelye Athletic Center.

The 120,000-square-foot building, announced last summer and originally planned for a site south of Oliver Street, will be constructed at the north end of Waldo Stadium and have major entry points on Stadium Drive and through the front of what is now Oakland Gym on Oakland Drive. The Brink Printing Services building will be demolished to make way for the new facility, which will be the first indoor



athletic practice facility built at WMU in more than 40 years.

When completed in 2002, the facility will serve as a practice site for men's and women's soccer, football, baseball, softball and golf.

It will also house coaches' offices for several of those sports and for track. A future addition to provide indoor practice space for track will be built on the current site of the Physical Plant.

The Seelye Center will provide an attractive new focus for those entering the campus on Stadium Drive. The Oakland Drive entrance to the building has been designed to preserve the look and atmosphere of historic East Campus by incorporating the existing front wall and roofline of Oakland Gym. A portion of the interior will be dedicated to honoring the history of athletics at WMU and provide a meeting place for alumni athletes and boosters who are members of the W Club.

Removal of interior structures and asbestos abatement has been under way for several weeks at Oakland Gym. This week, the back and roof of the building are being opened to remove debris. Construction on the new facility is expected to be in full swing by fall.

The \$20 million Seelye Center is named for the late Don Seelye, Kalamazoo businessman and a longtime Bronco athletics booster. Some \$8 million in private funding will be used to build the facility.

## Web site 'under construction' to provide campus updates

Site preparation for the new Seelye Center is just one of a number of construction projects now under way at WMU.

To help the University community keep tabs on the status of projects across the campus, a new WMU construction update Web site will soon be available, with a link to the WMU home page.

The site will include the latest information on the Parkview Campus, home to the new College of Engineering and Applied Sciences buildings and Business Technology and Research Park; the Oakland Drive Campus, future site of the College of Health and Human Services; the new Graduate Center in downtown Grand Rapids; and the Seelye Athletic Center on the main campus. Other campus construction projects will be added as details become available.

Watch future issues of the *Western News* for a Web address.



I SWEAR...

U.S. District Judge Richard A. Enslen, right, gives the oath of office to four new members of WMU's Board of Trustees prior to the board's May 30 meeting. The new trustees are, from left, Dan Pero of Dimondale, Sarah DeNooyer of Kalamazoo, Peter L. Aseritis of Williamsburg and Vernice Anthony of Detroit. All four were recently appointed to the WMU board by Gov. John Engler.

(Photo by Ed McKinney)



# New appointments given nod by trustees

The appointments of two associate deans and six department chairpersons were among personnel moves approved by the WMU Board of Trustees at its May 30 meeting.

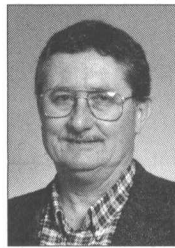
The board approved the appointments of William W. Cobern as professor and associate dean for academic programs in the College of Education, and Edmund Tsang as associate professor and associate dean for undergraduate programs and assessment in the College of Engineering and Applied Sciences. In addition, Leonard Ginsberg, associate dean in the College of Arts and Sciences, was given the added responsibilities of serving as interim director of WMU's new Institute for Science Education. The appointments are effective July 1.

The board also approved the previously announced appointment of Kenneth J. DeVries as associate vice president for development, effective March 28.

New chairpersons approved by trustees and the departments they will head are Marion W. Gray, history; Bassam Harik, economics; Daniel Mihalko, statistics; Nina Nelson, dance, through June 30, 2002; Roman Rabiej, construction engineering, materials engineering and industrial design, through June 30, 2002; and Brian Wilson, comparative religion. All six appointments are effective July 1.

In addition, the board also approved the naming of Benjamin Wilson as interim director of the Africana Studies Program, effective Jan. 1, 2001, through June 30, 2002.

**Cobern** has been an associate professor of science education and coordinator of the elementary school master's program at



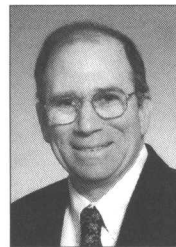
Cobern

WMU since 1996. Prior to coming to the University, he held faculty positions in science education at Arizona State University, Austin College in Texas and Judson Baptist College in Oregon. He also has been a visiting professor at Curtin University of Technology in Australia, the University of Auckland in New Zealand and New College Berkeley in California as well as a visiting lecturer in Nigeria. Cobern has served since 1993 as a section editor for the journal *Science Education*. He earned a bachelor's degree from the University of California at San Diego in 1971, a master's degree from San Diego State University in 1975 and a doctoral degree from the University of Colorado at Boulder in 1979.

**Tsang** comes to WMU from the University of South Alabama, where he has been a faculty member in mechanical engineer-

ing since 1980. Prior to that, he was a post-doctoral research fellow at Freie University in Berlin and a faculty member at the University of Nebraska. He also has been a visiting scientist at Ames Laboratory at Iowa State and a visiting scholar at both the Center for Defense Information in Washington, D.C., and the American Society for Engineering Education. During his career, Tsang has been active in curriculum development and laboratory design research as well as in implementing service learning initiatives in engineering education and student recruitment efforts, particularly in the area of underrepresented minorities. He earned a bachelor's degree from the University of Nebraska in 1973 and a doctoral degree from Iowa State University in 1977.

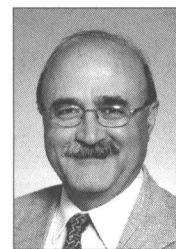
**Ginsberg** has been a faculty member at WMU since 1977 and served as chairperson of the Department of Biological Sciences from 1991 until being named associate dean of the College of Arts and Sciences in 1996. He will head WMU's new Institute for Science Education, which was created by board action at the May 30 meeting to consolidate the University's science education degree programs and research and outreach programs.



Ginsberg

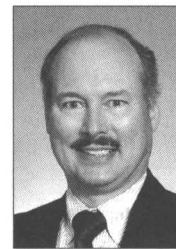
**Gray** comes to WMU from Kansas State University, where he has been a faculty member since 1969. A professor of history and women's studies at that university, he has served as acting head of the Department of History several times and as director of undergraduate studies from 1975 to 1984. A European history specialist who focuses on Germany, he is widely published and has received numerous travel and research grants to conduct research and attend conferences abroad. Gray earned a bachelor's degree from Texas Christian University in 1964 and master's and doctoral degrees from the University of Wisconsin in 1966 and 1971, respectively. He replaces Judith Stone, who was serving as interim chairperson.

**Harik** has been a faculty member since 1979. During the past decade, he has coordinated research that has produced three studies detailing WMU's economic impact on Kalamazoo County. His areas of specialization are money and banking, economic history and development, econometrics, and mathematical economics. He also has been a faculty member at Central Michigan University and has worked as a research economist at the Arab African International Bank in Cairo. Harik earned a bachelor's degree from the American University of Beirut in 1970 and master's and doctoral degrees from Wayne State University in 1973 and 1978, respectively. He replaces Werner Sichel, whose administrative leave and return to the faculty also were approved by the board at the meeting.



Harik

**Mihalko** will take the reins of the new Department of Statistics, created when trustees approved the division of the Department of Mathematics and Statistics earlier this year. He has been a WMU faculty member since 1993 and serves as a consultant to both the U.S. Air Force School of Aerospace Medicine and National City Corp. He also has been a faculty member at the University of Nebraska and a statistician and visiting scholar for the USAF School of Aerospace Medicine. Since 1996, he has served as associate editor for the *Journal of the American Statis-*



Mihalko

*tical Association*. Mihalko earned a bachelor's degree from Bowling Green State University in 1969 and master's and doctoral degrees from Purdue University in 1972 and 1977, respectively.

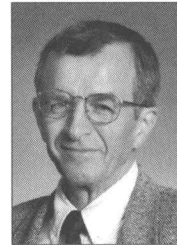
**Nelson** has been a faculty member in the Department of Dance since 1982 and served as chairperson from 1988 to 1990. Prior to



Nelson

coming to WMU, she served as guest artist at the University of Iowa, coordinator of the Dance Department at the Ashtabula (Ohio) Arts Center and assistant director of Ballet Western Reserve Inc. in Warren and Youngstown, Ohio. Nelson earned a bachelor's degree from Smith College in 1976 and a master of fine arts degree from Case Western Reserve University in 1978. She also holds certification from the Laban Institute of Movement Studies and the Pilates-based Dancer Specific Training Program. She replaces Jane Baas, whose return to the faculty also was approved by trustees.

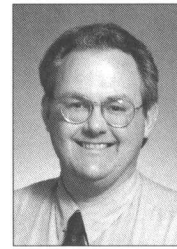
**Rabiej**, a faculty member since 1987, has served as interim chairperson of his department since 1999. Previously, he was a senior research scientist with Franklin International in Columbus, Ohio, and a faculty member at Warsaw Agricultural University in Poland. A woodscience specialist, he also has worked in the Furniture Research Center at



Rabiej

Purdue University and served as an invited visiting scientist at several universities in Eastern Europe. Rabiej also has industrial experience in Finland and Sweden and holds several patents both in Poland and the United States. He earned a bachelor's degree in Lomza, Poland, in 1960 and master's and doctoral degrees from Warsaw Agricultural University in 1965 and 1975, respectively.

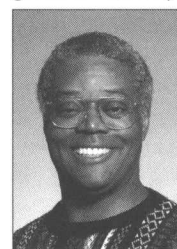
**Brian Wilson** came to WMU in 1996 as a member of the religion faculty. He previously was coordinator of the "Religious



Brian Wilson

Contours of California" project at the University of California, Santa Barbara and an editorial assistant for the journal *Religion*. He also served as a Peace Corps volunteer in Honduras. An expert on American religious history, Wilson earned a bachelor's degree from Stanford University in 1982 and master's and doctoral degrees from the University of California at Santa Barbara in 1991 and 1996, respectively. He replaces E. Thomas Lawson, whose administrative leave and return to the faculty also were approved by the board at the meeting.

**Benjamin Wilson**, a faculty member since 1975, will head the Africana Studies Program created by the board May 30. Prior to



Benjamin Wilson

coming to WMU, he was a faculty member at General Motors Institute, now Kettering University, and a graduate assistant at Michigan State University. His research over the years has covered such topics as the black experience in rural Michigan and Idlewild, the famed black resort community in West Michigan. He has traveled extensively, visiting such African nations as Zimbabwe, South Africa and Ghana in the past decade. At WMU, he founded and directs an annual music minifestival that explores music styles ranging from jazz and hip hop to gospel and blues. He earned a bachelor's degree from Benedictine College and master's and doctoral degrees from Michigan State in 1972 and 1974, respectively.

## Business publication features faculty wisdom in new column

Faculty members in the Haworth College of Business recently began writing a monthly column in *MiBiz Southwest*.

A new publication for business leaders in the region, *MiBiz Southwest* is an offshoot of the Muskegon-based *MiBiz West*. The monthly columns from the Haworth College of Business feature faculty members addressing timely topics in their areas of expertise. The inaugural columns have addressed the ISO 13000 environmental management system, the future of e-commerce and accounting fraud.

"Our college creed is 'partners for business knowledge and leadership,'" says Dean James W. Schmotter. "These columns provide an opportunity to spotlight our faculty members' expertise, and help local businesses recognize the college as a valuable resource for information and research."

## Paul tapped for NIH team

Stanley Paul, occupational therapy, was recently invited by the National Institutes of Health to be an operational review committee member for the Warren Gustafson Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation Center of the National Institutes of Health in Bethesda, Md.

The purpose of the operational review is to enable the organization to operate more economically, efficiently and effectively with the goal of maximizing operating results at the least cost. The review team consisted of directors of rehabilitation medicine and chief operating officers of a number of nationally renowned rehabilitation institutes.

Paul was chosen as a team member on the basis of his extensive experience as a faculty researcher, occupational therapist and clinical researcher in subacute and short-term rehabilitation departments during the past decade. The review team analyzed the operating procedures of the rehabilitation department, examined budget and staffing functions, and provided recommendations to increase the efficiency of the center.

## British Library site of NEH seminar directed by WMU

A rare opportunity to study a collection of Anglo-Saxon manuscripts at the British Library in England will be given to 15 medieval scholars through a summer seminar directed by WMU's Medieval Institute and funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities.

The six-week seminar, titled "Anglo-Saxon Manuscripts and Texts," will be held June 25-Aug. 3, and marks the first time the British Library has been host to an NEH seminar or allowed a group access to its wide collection of Anglo-Saxon manuscripts. Considered one of the world's best research libraries, the facility traditionally allows scholars to study its collection only on an individual basis.

"The participants of the seminar will be privileged to handle these materials," says Timothy C. Graham, Medieval Institute and co-director of the seminar.

The Medieval Institute was awarded \$128,000 by the NEH to conduct the seminar, making this the fourth time WMU has received funding from that agency to sponsor its summer institutes. According to Paul E. Szarmach, Medieval Institute director, WMU is one of only a few institutions to consistently receive such NEH funding. WMU has previously held seminars in 1995, 1997 and 1999, with the 1997 seminar also held in England at Cambridge University's Parker Library.



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The following vacancies are currently being posted through the Job Opportunity Program by the Human Resource Services Department. Interested benefits-eligible employees should submit a job opportunity transfer application during the posting period, and may contact a human resource 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) **Coordinator, Conference Operations**, 14, Continuing Education-Grand Rapids Regional Center at East Beltline, 00/01-2429, 6/12-6/18/01

(R) **Coordinator, Underwriting Services**, 14, WMUK Radio, 00/01-2433, 6/12-6/18/01

(R) **Coordinator, Environmental Studies**, 14, Environmental Studies, 00/01-2434, 6/12-6/18/01

(R) **Instructor** (term ends 8/4/02; academic year), 140, Marketing, 00/01-2439, 6/12-6/18/01

R = Replacement  
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## Obituaries

**Charles O. Houston**, emeritus in social science, died May 18 in Ohio. He was 83.

Houston, who retired in 1984 after 19 years on the WMU faculty, originally came to campus as a member of the Institute of International and Area Studies and later became a professor in the College of General Studies.

Houston, who taught and researched around the world, earned a bachelor's degree at Miami University of Ohio and attended lectures at Tsing-Hua University in China while serving there in World War II with the Army Air Corps' Flying Tigers. He earned a doctoral degree in absentia from Columbia University in 1952 while he was teaching at the University of the Philippines. He also served as associate curator at the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D.C., before coming to WMU.

He was the author of numerous articles on history, ethnography and the environment.

Word has been received of the death of **Thomas W. Null**, emeritus in business education, who died in East Lansing, Mich., on March 22. He was 87.

Null, a faculty member from 1945 until his retirement in 1978, was an associate professor of business education and administrative services and began an office training co-op program at the University. He also was instrumental in establishing the Wesley Foundation building on the campus.

Null was a graduate of Ottawa University in Kansas and earned a master's degree from Iowa University.

**Hilda M. Oster**, emerita in teacher education, died April 25 at her home in Paw Paw, Mich. She was 88.

A faculty member from 1946 until her retirement in 1972, she also had worked as a mathematics teacher and department chairperson at Paw Paw High School. She earned a bachelor's degree from WMU and a master's degree from the University of Michigan.



ASK ABOUT HER TATTOOS  
(Photo by Neil Rankin)

## On Campus with Dixie Edwards

Dixie Edwards calls herself an "old hippie." The administrative assistant for legislative affairs says she developed an interest in government while protesting on her college campus, in Lansing and in Washington, D.C.

That early passion for the political led her to a 30-year career in that arena, beginning with a stint as a campaign worker during Gov. William Milliken's first gubernatorial bid and culminating in her current position with the University. Edwards nabbed that post three years ago, after hearing that Associate Vice President Jeff Breneman would be taking over WMU's Office of Legislative Affairs.

"I'd never met Jeff before, but I guess you develop an aggressive attitude after so many years in politics," says Edwards, who is a registered lobbyist. "Without even knowing if there was a position open, I e-mailed my resume to him and told him that he needed to hire me. After he had gone through all of the internal processes, I guess he agreed."

Edwards loves her fast-paced job, contending that she works for "the best people in the world—Jeff and his assistant director Charlie DeVries." Event planning is her biggest responsibility, as she organizes about a dozen activities on campus and in Lansing each year. She also coordinates word processing, PowerPoint presentations and graphics for the University's annual funding request to the state legislature, and supports Breneman and DeVries with materials and equipment needed for their lobbying efforts.

Outside the University, this Rolling Stones fan fills her time spoiling her cat, Grace; singing alto with the Society for Old Music; and relaxing with her husband of two years, who she met 25 years ago while camping out at a motor race. Edwards' two sons, ages 22 and 23, inherited her love of music and politics, as one is currently touring the East Coast with his band, Somber, and the other is poised to take a campaign position with U.S. Rep. David Bonior.

## Exchange

**FOR SALE:** Men's black leather jacket, large, casual style with zipped pockets, \$75; brand new wooden shelves for kitchen or bathroom wall, \$10; luggage: small, medium, large sizes, \$10-\$30. Call 342-8362.

**FOR SALE:** Home with 4 bedrooms in Arcadia area. Short walk to campus, family neighborhood. Large living room, 2-1/2 baths, family room, finished basement, new furnace, A/C, hot water heater and roof. Available in September. \$149,900. Call 372-5752.

**FOR SALE:** Rattan furniture, 4 pc. set, with two love seats, chair, and table and rust, brown and off-white cushions. Great for cottage, student apt., sun room; \$250. Call 372-5752.

## Service

The following employees are recognized for 35, 30, 25, 20, 15, 10 and five years of service to the University during June.

**35 years**—Joseph A. Kelemen, health, physical education and recreation.

**30 years**—Robert G. Bowsher Jr., physical plant-building custodial and support services; David H. McKee, University libraries; Joseph P. Stoltman, geography; and Shirley G. West, comparative religion.

**25 years**—Willard E. Breur, logistical services; Thomas E. Campbell, physical plant-landscape services; Dona G. Icabone, educational studies; and Laura Latulippe, Career English Language Center for International Students.

**20 years**—Bonnie L. Guminski, economics; Randall M. Keils, information technology; and Mary A. Warren, physical plant-building custodial and support services.

**15 years**—Randolph Bortolussi, power plant; and Sara L. Wick, University libraries.

**10 years**—Linda M. Lamb, continuing education.

**Five years**—Gordon Frederick Evans, WMUK; Joan F. Herrington, theatre; Susan Longjohn, Center for Disability Services; Gregory A. Moorehead, Office of Alumni Relations; David R. Morin, intercollegiate athletics; and Lester W. Wright Jr., psychology.

## Mountjoy memorial service set

A memorial service for **Paul T. Mountjoy**, emeritus in psychology, will be held Saturday, June 23, in Kanley Chapel. The service will begin at 7 p.m. Mountjoy, a WMU faculty member from 1964 until 1986 and former chairperson of the Department of Psychology, died May 22 in Kalamazoo. A complete obituary appeared in the May 31 issue of the *Western News*.

## Solar car race event in need of volunteers

Volunteers are needed to help out when more than 40 visiting solar car race teams are on campus next month for the WMU Formula Sun Grand Prix.

The event, which runs July 9-13, is the final qualifying event for the American Solar Challenge, a 2,300-mile cross country race along Route 66 that will begin July 15 in Chicago and end 10 days later in the Los Angeles area.

Collegiate and club teams from around the world will spend the week on campus having their entries in the race certified as safe and roadworthy. They will spend the first two to three days of the week on campus and then complete the week's final events at GingerMan Raceway in South Haven.

Volunteers are needed to assist with such tasks as team check-in and site monitoring. There also is an opportunity for volunteers to provide lunches or dinners for members of two solar teams—a total of about 35 people—from June 26 through July 8th. Those interested may sign up to provide either meal on those days in the Kohrman Hall Vehicle Design Center Lab. The meals will feed members of WMU's Sunseeker team as well as team members from England's South Bank University who will be working on their entry in the lab alongside the WMU students.

For more information or to participate as a volunteer, call Jan Selesky, mechanical and aeronautical engineering, at 7-3371.

## Students enlist in dissertation 'boot camp'

Imagine cloistering seven doctoral candidates in a residence hall for a week of intensive dissertation writing. Although this sounds like fodder for a new reality TV show, it's real life for a group of WMU students.

The students have all signed up for a rigorous, supervised retreat that provides a structured time and place to focus exclusively on their dissertations.

"From Sunday, June 10, to Friday, June 15, they'll live, breathe and eat their dissertations," says Paula Boodt, Graduate College. "They'll write from 8 a.m. to 9 p.m., with breaks for meals and little else."

A "boot camp" for scholars, the retreat allows doctoral candidates to make dramatic progress on their dissertations or to jump-start their writing without distractions. It is one of several resources the Graduate College offers to help students successfully complete their academic and research endeavors.

The retreat will be directed by Sonja K. Foss, professor and chairperson of the Department of Communication at the University of Colorado at Denver. Foss has led similar programs in Albuquerque, N.M., and Denver since 1997, but this is the first time she will conduct the innovative program elsewhere in the United States.



## COMMUNITY DIGS ARTIFACTS

Student Brent Schubert, right, shows Melanie Schweitzer, center, of Honolulu, Hawaii, and her grandmother, Merna Holloway of Mishawauka, Ind., how dirt is screened to find artifacts during a recent "Community Day" held at WMU's anthropology field school on the site of Fort St. Joseph in Niles, Mich. The site of the 18th-century fort, believed to be the only colonial fort in Southwest Michigan, was found by WMU archaeologists in 1998. (Photo by Neil Rankin)



## Staff Service Excellence Award winners selected for outstanding contributions on the job

A carpenter, career advisor, office coordinator and regional center director have been selected to receive the University's 2001 Annual Staff Service Excellence Awards.

Carolyn Hornev, career and student employment services; Dan L. St. Clair, physical plant-maintenance services; Mary Swartz, Traverse City Regional Center; and Alicia Yeagley, communication, were selected from the 24 semiannual Staff Service Excellence Award winners from the past fiscal year. They will each receive \$1,000 and a framed certificate at a June 20 luncheon in the Gilmore Theatre Atrium.

### Carolyn Hornev

Hornev, a career advisor, has been at WMU since 1996. An alumna of the University with a master's degree in counselor education and counseling psychology, Hornev advises students and alumni of the College of Arts and Sciences on preparation for employment and works with employers to develop job opportunities for WMU students and alumni.

Her accomplishments include bringing the National Institutes of Health to WMU to recruit for clinical interns, which made the University one of only 18 higher edu-

cation institutions in the country approved to participate in the NIH program. She also developed her department's Web site, volunteers to mentor master's level students in their preparation to become higher education professionals and spearheaded a drive for donations of books, computers and other materials for Russian educators who do not have such resources.

In nominating Hornev for the award, a supporter highlighted a long list of examples of how Hornev goes above and beyond her stated job responsibilities. The nominator pointed out that Hornev "attended the Kalamazoo Public Safety Citizens Patrol for 10 weeks in the evenings just so she could better understand what criminal justice majors might do with their degree."

"She seeks out chances to volunteer on committees, panels and other student-supported events that have nothing to do directly with her job," the nominator wrote. "Carolyn is not only an employee of WMU, but also a true member of this campus community."

### Dan L. St. Clair

A carpenter at the University for 14 years, St. Clair provides maintenance ser-

vices for 15 campus buildings, including the University's Recreation Center. Nominations for St. Clair consistently cited his responsiveness, ingenuity and willingness to help.

"He is a go-getter who ventures beyond expectations to do whatever he can to improve facilities and functions for the students and staff of Western Michigan University," states a nomination signed by several members of one department. "The normal work Dan does on a daily basis is great, but it is what he does beyond those tasks that make him special."

Nominators lauded St. Clair's problem-solving skills, noting his design of special braces to keep weight racks from breaking the mirrors in the Recreation Center's weight room. Another example described how St. Clair discovered that center users were losing identification cards and other items through cracks in lockers and personally caulked all lockers in six locker rooms.

"There are examples of our staff going to Dan with visions of specialty items they wanted for their programs," the nominators wrote, "Dan took the idea, created drawings and then constructed the piece."

We have rolling display boards, drop off boxes that hold marketing flyers and floor protectors on the soccer nets, thanks to Dan's creativity. Each project has yielded a custom-designed item at a very low cost to the department."

### Mary Swartz

In her oversight of the day-to-day operations of the University's regional center in Traverse City, Swartz is committed to making students' education at WMU's most far-flung campus "a positive experience," say nominators. They credit Swartz, who has been the director there since 1998, with establishing and growing the center.

"She spent untold hours, initially as a no-benefits, part-time employee, to put the regional center on a firm footing, assure quality education and present Western in the most positive and favorable light," one nominator wrote. "I am sure the reason I am willing to drive three and a half hours to Traverse City to teach is mainly because Ms. Swartz produces the most positive of teaching and learning environments and is supportive well beyond the requirements of her job."

Several nominators stated that, despite the regional center's location in a city more than 180 miles from WMU's main campus, Swartz is successful in bridging that distance for faculty and students.

"Mary goes above and beyond the call of duty to try to smooth out some of the problems that students experience at a distance, and works on their behalf to help the University serve those students who live hours away from campus," one supporter wrote.

### Alicia Yeagley

A familiar face to many, Yeagley has been at WMU since 1978, when she joined the University as a secretary in the Office of the President. Now an office coordinator in the Department of Communication, she has worked for the vice president for governmental relations and the vice president for academic affairs, transferring to communication in 1992. Nominators state that Yeagley is "the life-force" of the Department of Communication, exhibiting "competence, professionalism and 'grace under fire.'"

Yeagley, whose responsibilities include running the department's office, handling the budget and advising undergraduate students, has faced a number of challenges in the past two years of her job, said one nominator. "As if inheriting a green, interim chair two weeks before the start of a fall semester was not enough," he wrote, Yeagley also had to acclimate a new director of graduate studies, coordinate job searches for three faculty positions, operate the office for several months without a secretary and facilitate the transfer of the journalism program into the department.

"What more can I say? If there was ever a staff member worthy of recognition for excellence, it is Alicia Yeagley," the nominator wrote. "I wish there was more we can do to recognize such an exceptional employee."

Yeagley's experience elsewhere on campus has made her an invaluable source of knowledge, noted nominators. One faculty member commented that "when I would go to different offices to ask questions for my grant regarding budgeting or payroll, I was amazed at the number of people who said 'well, go ask Alicia Yeagley. She'll know.' It was then that I realized how respected she is on this campus."

Other nominators noted Yeagley's assistance in non-work-related endeavors as well. When a department faculty member who was pregnant with twins was put on bed rest for more than five months, Yeagley coordinated others within the department to provide meals and assistance to the faculty member and her family.

"Alicia cares about the people with whom she works," a supporter wrote. "This is seen in these described efforts, but also in the daily affirmations that oftentimes go unnoticed."

## Retirements of faculty and staff members given blessing by WMU Board of Trustees

The retirements of 12 faculty members and eight staff members were approved by the University's Board of Trustees at its May 30 meeting. Trustees also accepted the resignations of five faculty members and one staff member.

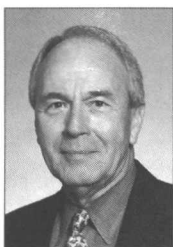
All of the faculty members who are retiring are doing so with emeriti status. Their names, years of continuous service and effective dates of retirement are: Raymond E. Alie, management, 22 years, effective June 30, 2001; Dale M. Brethower, psychology, 24 years, effective Dec. 30, 2001; Mary Anne Bunda, educational studies, 28-1/2 years, effective Jan. 1, 2002; Loren D. Crane, communication, 36-1/2 years, effective Dec. 31, 2001; Ronald A. Crowell, teaching, learning and leadership, 36 years, effective Jan. 1, 2002; Robert C. Eisenberg, biological sciences, 33-1/2 years, effective April 21, 2001; R. Dean Kaul, physics, 34-1/2 years, effective Dec. 31, 2001; Thomas F. Pagel, communication, 31-1/2 years, effective Jan. 2, 2002; Thomas Seiler, English and the Medieval Institute, 31-1/2 years, effective Jan. 1, 2002; Nancy H. Steinhaus, family and consumer sciences, 29-1/2 years, effective Jan. 2, 2002; Ralph K. Steinhaus, chemistry, 33-1/2 years, effective Jan. 2, 2002; and Morton O. Wagenfeld, sociology and community health services, 35-1/2 years, effective Jan. 1, 2002.

The staff members retiring are: Beatrice I. Clawson, alumni relations, 17 years, effective June 30, 2001; William H. Cotton, Haworth College of Business, 14-1/2 years, effective March 6, 2001; Robert Donewald, intercollegiate athletics, 12 years, effective May 1, 2001; Joyce A. Gregg, Valley I dining service, 17-1/2 years, effective April 30, 2001; Sharon K. Johnson, physical plant-custodial services, 21-1/2 years, effective May 31, 2001; Janey Lutzka, manager, WMU Apartments, 27-1/2 years, effective March 4, 2001; Stephen E. Vesbit, continuing education, 12 years, effective June 30,

2001; and Kay I. Yeckley, art, 33-1/2 years, effective June 30, 2001.

The faculty members resigning are: Anthony J. Cataldo, accountancy, effective April 15, 2001; Melissa Gibson, communication, effective Aug. 5, 2001; Anna Liesl Haas, political science, effective Aug. 5, 2001; Yi-Ping Liu, chemistry, effective May 14, 2001; and Michael D. Slack, mathematics, effective Aug. 5, 2001.

The staff member resigning is Julie A. Stoffels, College of Education, effective Aug. 5, 2001.



Alie



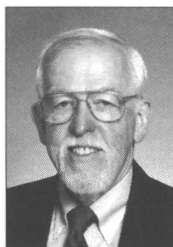
Bunda



Clawson



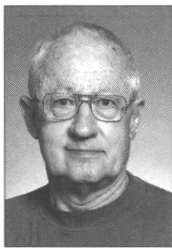
Cotton



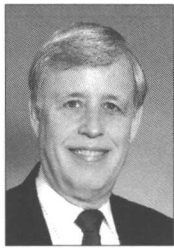
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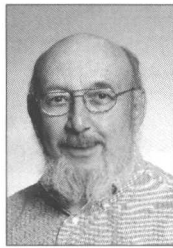
Johnson



Kaul



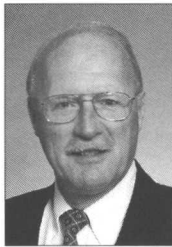
Pagel



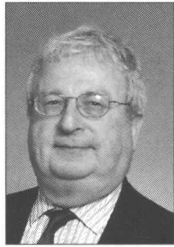
Seiler



N. Steinhaus



R. Steinhaus



Vesbit



Yeckley

## Calendar

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

### JUNE

#### 6.18 Monday

Physics lecture, "Interference Effects in Electron Emission from H<sub>2</sub> Colliding with Fast Projectiles," N. Stolterfoht, Hahn-Meitner Institut, Berlin, 2202 Everett Tower, 2 p.m.

#### 6.20 Wednesday

Spring session ends.

Summer session begins. Classes begin at noon.

#### 6.23 Saturday

Commencement, Miller Auditorium: Colleges of Arts and Sciences, Aviation, Engineering and Applied Sciences, and Health and Human Services, 9 a.m.; Haworth College of Business, Colleges of Education and Fine Arts, and General University Studies, 11:30 a.m.

### JULY

#### 7.4 Wednesday

WMU offices closed. No classes.

#### 7.6 Friday

Board of Trustees meeting, Connable Board Room, Bernhard Center, time of board meeting and times and locations of committee meetings to be announced at a later date.

#### 7.11 Wednesday

Safe On Campus orientation session, 159 Bernhard Center, 1 p.m.

\*Admission charged