Winter classes pushed back two days to provide Y2K cushion

The University will delay the start of its winter semester classes to give WMU staff members two business days after Jan. 1 to check systems and assure a smooth computing transition into the new millennium. Winter semester classes will begin at 7 a.m. Wednesday, Jan. 5, and students and faculty need not report back to the University until that day. Staff members must still return to work on Monday, Jan. 3, and University offices will reopen, as previously scheduled, at 8 a.m. that day. Jan. 3, the first business day of the new year, had originally been planned as the first day for winter semester classes.

Details about student life and academic calendar changes were communicated to the University community earlier this week in a memo distributed across the campus.

"By delaying the beginning of classes, we are allowing our staff members an opportunity to perform systems checks during the first two business days after the Y2K rollover," said President Elson S. Floyd. Floyd said that University computer systems have been thoroughly tested to be Y2K compliant and we're ready for the event, but substantial interface with systems outside the University is part of the normal course of business. We plan to use the additional time to address any problems that arise once regular business hours are resumed.

Floyd noted that WMU is a designated Red Cross Emergency Center and could need if serious power failures or other infrastructure disruptions occur in the region as a result of Y2K. Delaying the return of large numbers of students would ensure that the University would be able to serve in that capacity. The delay also will allow students and faculty more flexibility in making travel plans to return to the University after the holiday break, since students will not need to travel on the holiday weekend.

University residence halls are sched­uled to open for the semester at 8 a.m. Tuesday, Jan. 4. Students who must return early to participate in designated student activities such as athletic practices or performance rehearsals may return as early as 8 a.m. Saturday, Jan. 2. Designated student employees also may return early. Adjustments to the academic calendar also have been made, extending the regular drop and add period to Jan. 11 and extending the last day to drop classes without academic penalty to Feb. 25.

"We're taking this action to assure a smooth start to the semester," Floyd said.

Campus session will address Y2K readiness

When the University opens for business on Jan. 3, will campus telephones work? Will returning staff members be able to use their building entry ID cards? Will desktop computers work? Faculty, staff and students can find out if they are ready for Y2K and learn what steps the Uni­versity has taken to prepare for the event at a special "Ready for Y2K" seminar from 8 to 10 p.m., Fri­day, Nov. 12, in 2000 Schneider Hall.

Presumably will be Greg Looze, and K. Penskar of the Office of Information Technology. Looze, assistant di­rector of technical computing services, will be in charge of the risk management and contingency planning aspect of preparing such mission-critical systems as student records and the physical plant for the Y2K rollover. Penskar is manager of the University computing Help Desk and has been advising units across the campus on how to make sure equipment is Y2K compliant.

The pair expects to cover questions about software, hard­ware, protecting data and backing up critical records. They also will talk about new tools available to evaluate Y2K compliance level­s. Leaving the techni­cal issues behind, they will discuss the personal steps people need to take to prepare for the rollover.

"We'll be focusing on what steps fac­ulty, staff and students need to take in the 49 days between Nov. 12 and Jan. 1," Penskar says. "There will be a formal presentation as well as a question and answer period to address the concerns of those attending.

Penskar says several of the University's television journals have been working on the University's Y2K planning will be on hand to help provide detailed information.

House Speaker Perricone and ABC's Hickey to receive honorary degrees at December 11 commencement

The University will grant honorary doc­toral of public service degrees this coming December to two alumni, James Paul Hickey, a veteran ABC Network News correspondent and anchor, and Charles Perricone, speaker of the Michigan House of Representatives.

The degrees, approved by the Board of Trustees in October, will be bestowed dur­ing Dec. 11 commencement ceremonies in rec­ognition of Hickey's distinguished ca­reer in journalism and Perricone's contri­bution to the people of Michigan.

Hickey is currently a New York-based correspondent for ABC. In addition, he is the morning "drive time" anchor for the WMU WMU Television Network of ABC News Radio and also broadcasts "ABC News Notebook for Kids" on Radio Disney, the only daily radio news cast designed spe­cifically for young children.

He began his broadcasting career at WEMU, WMU's student radio station. He received a bachelor of arts degree in speech and political science from WMU in 1969 and, while still in college, worked at WKZO Radio/FM in Kalamazoo.

After a stint in the U.S. Army and work at television stations in Georgia and Penn­sylvania, he joined ABC in 1980 as a Chicago-based correspondent. Two years later, he began nearly a decade of work overseas as a foreign correspondent, earn­ing news bureau postings in France, West Germany; Johannesburg, South Af­rica, where he also was bureau chief; and Cuba.

Over the years, Hickey has covered a wide range of momentous events, such as the dismantling of apartheid, the fall of the Soviet Union, the Gulf War, the World Trade Center bombing, President Clinton's impeachment and trial, and Pope John Paul II's visit to Cuba.

Hickey has covered a wide range of momentous events, such as the dismantling of apartheid, the fall of the Soviet Union, the Gulf War, the World Trade Center bombing, President Clinton's impeachment and trial, and Pope John Paul II's visit to Cuba.

He has won numerous awards for his radio and television journalism, two Edward R. Murrow awards, an Emmy nom­i­nation and a United Nations bronze medal.

Perricone, who resides in Kalamazoo Township, was selected by Michigan's House Republican Caucus last November to serve as speaker for the 1999-2000 legis­lative session. He is the fifth Kalamazoo County lawmaker to become speaker of the state House of Representatives.

The three-term legislator was first

(Continued on page four)

Groundbreaking set for research, technology park

Groundbreaking for the new business, technology and research park that will be adjacent to the University's new engineer­ing facilities on the Lee Baker Farm has been set for Tuesday, Nov. 16.

Among those participating in the 2 p.m. ceremony will be Joan H. Krause, chair­person of the WMU Board of Trustees; President Elson S. Floyd; Jeffrey Kaczivitis, president of the Michigan busi­ness development services for the Michi­gan Economic Development Corp., who will represent the state; Dean Daniel M. Litynski, engineering and applied sciences; and project architect Robert L. O'Boyle of the firm of O'Boyle Corwell Blakoo & Assis­tants.

Alumni adds rare mineral collection to Rock museum

The Department of Geosciences and Rock Hall are the home of a unique new set of mineral specimens given to the University by WMU graduate James H. Duncan Jr., center, while Lloyd J. Schmaltz, emeritus in geology, looks on. The collection of some 250 multicolored crystal specimens is now housed in the Rock Hall museum that bear's Schmaltz' name. The collection Duncan donated includes flawless samples of such items as tourmaline, fluorite and barite from well-known mining districts. They will be used for classroom instruction as well as public display, Duncan, an expert on the U.S. broadcasting industry, is former owner of Duncan's American Radio. He is a member of the WMU Foundation and a former Kalamazoo resident. (Photo by Neil Rankin)

Next News is last for fall

The next issue of Western News will be published Thursday, Dec. 2, and it will be the last issue of the fall semester. The deadline for that issue is 5 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 24.

The volume number of the Western News is Volume 26, Number 6.

www.wmich.edu/wmu-news

November 11, 1999

WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY

WESTERN NEWS
Carnegie classification system may change its structure soon, but our mission remains the same

An issue of some significance for us has emerged that will require our continued attention, both as we consider what we're doing now within the academy and what's on the horizon for us, and that is a new Carnegie classification system that will be announced soon.

As you know, we've already met the standards for current Research universities, and now we're at the threshold of the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching. This is based on our long-standing commitment to research and creative activity as well as our vision for WMU as one of the nation's leading student-centered public research universities.

Nothing the Carnegie Foundation has done or will do can affect this commitment except to recognize it in the larger context of American higher education and the 3,600 institutions embraced by its system.

The system is about to change in significant ways. It will no longer use as part of its classification system external funding that flows into our colleges and universities but rather measure our performance by the number of doctoral degrees each of them awards.

The Carnegie has been the Research I category—for institutions that grant 50 or more doctoral degrees per year in at least 15 disciplines. That new category is to become Doctoral/Research I universities.

The other category, which we have already been included in, is Doctoral/Research II universities. It would become Doctoral/Research II universities. It would include institutions that awarded 10 or more doctorates per year across at least three disciplines or 20 or more doctorates over all. Carnegie is going to look at institutions over an average of three years. It appears that the last year upon which it will accept data will be 1996-97. If that is the case, it becomes a question of the future, on average, we awarded 50 doctorates in 15 or more disciplines.

The question further becomes whether those are discrete disciplines. Will education, for instance, be counted as a single discipline and will the separate degree we award in education be counted? We're not sure. No rules have come from the Carnegie Foundation in that regard. And that will be the determining factor for us as an institution.

There is no doubt that WMU would be at least in the Doctoral/Research II university category and, depending on how it counts out, we could be in the Doctoral/Research I university category.

Whatever the outcome, we must remain diligent in our research endeavors and maintain a complete understanding of the relationship between research and graduate education and its impact on the quality of undergraduate instruction, as has been the case here for many, many years.

We will keep our antennae up and our vision clear. Meanwhile, I want to thank each member of the University community for all that you continue to do to advance the teaching, research and scholarship that makes such a difference in the lives of so many people who are served so well by this outstanding University.

Serving our state and nation

One of the critical ways we serve our state and nation is economic development. We are, in fact, one of the few institutions in our region that seeks to forge meaningful collaborative partnerships between the public and private sectors.

I also want to emphasize, as strongly as I can, that we will continue to seize important opportunities for such partnerships as those suggested in a recent report in the Kalamazoo Gazette. In it, the state's top economic development officer, Doug Rothwell, singled out WMU as an institution actively seeking such cooperation.

We are encouraged that our position in this regard has been recognized at the state level. We will continue as a University to seize opportunities, to seize ways in which we can actually match the scholarship of our faculty with what's happening within the private sector.

It will obviously add very much to the dollars that we have and it also will help tremendously in pushing forward the teaching and research agenda of our faculty. At the same time, it will provide our students with a real, live laboratory in which to learn.

I believe that where universities since, and I'm pleased that today we are as a University—making a difference in the lives of our students and others we serve, here on campus, close to home and around the world.

Elsen S. Floyd

Smith, Demetrakopoulos retirement receptions set

The University community is invited to two open houses in coming weeks to mark the retirements of long-time members of the WMU community.

A reception on Thursday, Nov. 18, will honor the retirement of Carol Payne Smith, teaching, learning and leadership. The house is from 3 to 5 p.m. in the Oaklands.

The retirement of Smith, who has been a faculty member for 35-1/2 years, is effective Jan. 1, 2000.

A retirement reception on Tuesday, Nov. 30, to honor the retirement of George Demetrakopoulos, director of academic advising for the College of Arts and Sciences who has been at WMU since 1965. The reception is from 4 to 6 p.m. in the Oaklands. His retirement is effective Jan. 3, 2000.

Speaker to give legal perspective on business in Asia

The chief counsel of Anwary Corp.'s Asia division will discuss the legal intricacies of doing business in Asia Tuesday, Nov. 30, as part of the Haworth College of Business Global Business Lecture Series. Professor Scott R. Smith will talk about "Doing Business in Asia: A Legal Perspective" at 4 p.m. in 1120 Schneider Hall. His free public talk is part of the college's Asia Pacific Education Program. The talk is one of four presentations this year by business leaders with experience in the Asian-Pacific region.

Balfour joined Anwary in 1998 after spending a year at a South Korean law firm. He coordinates Anwary's legal services in 11 Asian countries. Asian sales for the company accounted for 70 percent of Anwary's global sales in fiscal 1999.

A famed Nigerian sculptor who has a 30-year association with WMU will make a campus appearance Monday, Nov. 29, before heading to Washington, D.C., to open an exhibition of his work at the Smithsonian.

Fakeye's life.

The two artist and Haight. The two featured in the exhibit.

Sindecuse Health Center. The exhibition is being held in conjunction with the opening of the larger Africa Wing of the museum that has been under construction since 1992. An opening reception will be held Dec. 14, 2000, at the Africa Wing officia-

Lamidi Fakaye to make pre-Smithsonian appearance on campus

A famed Nigerian sculptor who has a 30-year association with WMU will make a campus appearance Monday, Nov. 29, before heading to Washington, D.C., to open an exhibit of his work at the Smithsonian. His will be the first work featured in the new Visiting Artist's Gallery of the Smithsonian's National Museum of Modern History. The exhibition is being held in conjunction with the opening of the larger Africa Wing of the museum that has been under construction since 1992. An opening reception will be held Dec. 14, 2000, at the Africa Wing officially opening the new general public the following day.

Fakaye's exhibition will open with a lecture demonstration by the artist and Haight. The two featured in the exhibit.

Two Fakaye works that are part of WMU's collection have been shipped to Washington for the Smithsonian exhibit. They are one of two undated posts and a medical door acquired by the University in 1998 for the Sindecuse Health Center. The latter piece is prominently featured in the exhibit.

Fakaye first visited the WMU campus and was impressed several times since then as artist-in-residence and as a visiting international scholar. Fakaye, who was born in 1937 and studied at the University of Ife in Nigeria. His work has focused on depicting the Yoruba people, who, at 30 million strong, comprise the largest ethnic group in western Nigeria.
State's chemistry educators meet at WMU

An examination of chemistry in popular culture, poster presentations of current research, and science research facilities are on the agenda Saturday, Nov. 13, when Michigan's college chemistry teachers meet at WMU. The Fall 1999 meeting of the Michigan College Chemistry Teachers Association will offer the general public as well as chemistry teachers from more than 15 Michigan colleges and universities a chance to see the activities that will focus on the issues and research affecting chemistry educators today. The event will be held from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the Wood Hall atrium.

A highlight of the day's activities will be "Almost Like Weighing Someone's Soul—Reflections on Chemistry in Contemporary Film," The 10-minute presentation, by Dr. Wink, professor of chemistry at the University of Illinois at Chicago, will take place in 100 Wood Hall. Using clips from such recent films as "The Rock," "Apollo 13" and "Legends of the Fall," Wink will examine the popular culture views that students bring to the classroom concerning what chemistry does or does not involve in practice.

According to conference organizer Elke Schoffers, chemistry, those attending the event will include chemistry teachers and students from a number of Southwest Michigan high schools as well as faculty members from such schools as Wayne State University, Michigan State and Ferris State universities. Instructors from community colleges across Michigan will also attend.

The meeting also will include a tour of WMU's Haeincke Hall research facilities, a book publisher exhibition and poster displays as well as a discussion on "Building a 'Chem Club': Activities of Successful Affiliates," astrochemistry of the Moon and "Careers in the Chemical Sciences." That talk, presented by Mark A. Benvenuto, a faculty member at the University of Detroit Mercy, will be by William P. Buffin, chemistry and WMU professionals.

For more information, contact Schoffers by phone at 7-2256 or by email at eschoffers@wmich.edu.

Four named departmental chairpersons by BOT

The Board of Trustees approved the appointments Oct. 7 of four persons to hold new endowed departmental chairs.

The new departmental chairpersons and their effective dates of appointment are: W. Allen Cooley, chairperson of teaching, learning and leadership education, effective Aug. 1, 2000; Patricia J. Rabiej, interim chairperson of construction engineering, materials engineering and industrial design, effective Aug. 9 through June 30, 2000; Steven Rhodes, interim chairperson of communication, effective Aug. 23 through June 30, 2000; and W. Allen Cooley, interim chairperson of Asian and Middle Eastern languages, effective Sept. 1 through May 31, 2000.

Cooley, a faculty member since 1996, had a 22-year career in positions ranging from high school to university administrator in Marion and Westfield, Ind., before coming to the University. An expert in staff development and in the infrastructure in which they serve, he replaces Julie Stoffels, associate dean of the College of Education, who has been serving as interim chairperson.

Rabiej came to WMU as a faculty member in 1995 and is a specialist in educational assessment. The 1992 graduate of Franklin University in Columbus, Ohio, she has served as chairperson of the Department of Arts and Sciences at the University of Dayton for six years.

Wang, a Chinese language specialist, has been an assistant professor at WMU since 1997. Prior to joining the WMU faculty, he was coordinator of two Chinese language programs at the University of Arizona. He also has taught at the Beijing Language Institute. He replaces Hiroshi Abe, who is on a short leave of absence.

Exchange

For sale—Beautifully renovated Victorian home within walking distance of WMU campuses and close to a refurbished wool shop and workroom and floored throughout. Kitchen and baths totally renovated, including new cabinets, floor and ceramic tile. Spacious, light and spacious, with skylights, tracklighting and ceiling fans. On corner lot with private brick patio. All new mechanicals. $239,000. For best offer. Perfect Christmas gift. Call 7-2725.

Floyd to head area savings bond effort

President Elson S. Floyd has been named chairperson of the 1999 Greater Kalamazoo and Battle Creek Area Savings Bond Campaign, U.S. Department of the Treasury officials in Detroit have announced.

Rhodes has been a faculty member in the Department of Communication since 1975 and has been active in departmental and University governance. An expert in the field of organizational communication, he is widely published and has served as a consultant to a number of firms and organizations. He replaces James G. Cooper, whose appointment as interim associate vice president of the College of Arts and Sciences was approved by trustees Oct. 7.

Wang, a Chinese language specialist, has been an assistant professor at WMU since 1997. Prior to joining the WMU faculty, he was coordinator of two Chinese language programs at the University of Arizona. He also has taught at the Beijing Language Institute. He replaces Hiroshi Abe, who is on a short leave of absence.

Nine earn Staff Service Excellence Awards

Nine outstanding University employees have been selected to receive semi-annual Staff Service Excellence Awards. Each winner will receive a $1,001 prize and a certificate.

Two award recipients are from the AFSCME employee group: Willie E. Dean, physical plant maintenance services, and Valerie J. Levenske, Valley 3 dining services. Three recipients are from the clerical/administrative ranks: Terry Fawntrella L. Willis, area manager of the Student Services Office of Information Technology; and Brian Rock, men's football staff in intramural athletics. The final three award recipients are from the non-traditional and at-home work force: Dr. Aretha E. Buckner, University libraries; Marsha A. Magga, health, physical education and recreation; and Pinkus, University computing services' Office of Information Technology; and Brian Rock, men's football staff in intramural athletics.

Staff Service Excellence Award recipients are nominated by their peers and selected by a diverse departmental committee. The winners are chosen for their excellence in service and performance above and beyond job requirements.

Libraries

The Oxford Analytica Research Archive, OxWeek, provides researchers with 13 political and economic news sources detached and authoritative analysis of events and the appearance of scholarly research. The depth of the materials brings the world of ideas and the world of economic developments. With extensive cross-referencing within the database, events are related in their national and international context. The database can be searched by countries, regions, time, source material, format. Options under countries provide easy selection by geographic area. Topic searches, which are from which selections may be made in various formats. The depth of the materials brings real-world relevance to political and economic developments. With extensive cross-referencing within the database, events are related in their national and international context.

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On campus

FT'S THE STUDENTS—For Gladys Sims, a secretary in the University's Grand Rapids Regional Center for the past 20 years, it all boils down to the students. While she does share her knowledge of clerical duties, including word processing, computer filing, she also assists with registration and finds her greatest satisfaction in her contact with students, both on the telephone and in person. "It's nice to know when they graduate, which often takes them quite a while since most of our students are non-traditional and attend classes on a part-time basis," Sims says. She also spends the last hour of each work day at the center's front desk, where she's able to greet students and others in person. "I'm usually the first person they see when they walk in the door for class," she says of the students. "I find myself saying 'hello' a lot!" When she's not helping students and colleagues, Sims enjoys spending time with her grandchildren, ages 5 and 10, and reading. "I like mysteries, usually, although I can't say I have a favorite author," she says. When Sims started at the Grand Rapids Regional Center in 1979, it was located downtown in what was known as the West Building of Grand Rapids Community College. Since then, the center has had two locations, including its current one on the East Beltline near 28th Street and Westnedge Avenue.

Staff Service Excellence Award recipients are nominated by their peers and selected by a diverse departmental committee. The winners are chosen for their excellence in service and performance above and beyond job requirements.
Wednesday, Nov. 17
Ten Years After the Wall lecture series, “The Security Dimension of European Integration,” Lawrence Zering, political science, Lee Honors College Lounge, 7:30 p.m.

Thursday, Nov. 18
Retirement reception for Carol Payne Smith, teaching, learning and leadership, the Oaklands, 4-6 p.m.

Friday, Nov. 19
Emerging Scholars in American Studies Speakers Series, “Atlantic Migrations,” John Saillant, history, Meader Rare Book Room, Waldo Library, 3-5 p.m.

Pi Mu Epsilon presentation, “Using the Rights Directions to Find Trees, Stars and Other Interesting Objects,” Mark Crawford and Oscar Neal, WMU students, Alavi Commons Room, 6th floor of Everett Tower, 4 p.m.

Graphic design seminar, visiting graphic designer Frank Anello of Anello Design, Chicago, 159 Bernhard Center, 3 p.m.

Department of Biological Sciences seminar, Jim Langeland, Kalamazoo College, 1718 Wood Hall, 3:30 p.m.

*Film showing (through Nov. 21), Eric Rohmer’s “Autumn Tale,” Campus Cinema, Oakland Recital Hall; Friday and Saturday, Nov. 19 and 20, 7 and 9:30 p.m.

Kalamazoo Symphony Orchestra performance, Miller Auditorium, 8 p.m.

Monday, Nov. 22
Department of English reading, essayist David Shields, 3512 Knauss Hall, 8:30 p.m.

Tuesday, Nov. 23
*Men’s basketball vs. Loyola, University Arena, 7 p.m.

Wednesday, Nov. 24
Safe on Campus prospective member orientation, 212 Bernhard Center, noon.

Thursday, Nov. 25
Thanksgiving recess (through Nov. 28) University offices closed.

Monday, Nov. 29
*Art exhibits (through Dec. 3), printmaking by Mary Brodbeck, MFA Degree Show, Rotunda Gallery, paintings by Lisa Matlock, MA Degree Show, South Gallery, East Campus; Friday, Dec. 3, 5-7 p.m.

Visiting artist slide lecture, Lamidi Fakeye, 2302 Sangren Hall, 7 p.m.

Tuesday, Nov. 30
College of Engineering and Applied Sciences’ 25th Senior Design Conference, Bernhard Engineering Center, 9 a.m.

Retirement reception for G.H. Yorgo Demetrakopoulos, College of Arts and Sciences, 25th Senior Design Conference, Bernhard Engineering Center, 9 a.m.

Tuesday, Dec. 1

Wednesday, Dec. 2
Faculty Senate meeting, Fetzer Center, 5 p.m.

Thursday, Dec. 3
March to the Millennium Lecture Series, “Walter Benjamin's Apocalyptic Eschatology: Messianic Interruptions of the Historical Continuum of Force and Counter-Force,” Rudolf J. Siebert, comparative religion, 3512 Knauss Hall, 7:30 p.m.

*Admission charged

## Honorary degrees

**Continued from page one**

Elected to the Michigan House of Representatives in 1994. He represents the 61st district and, prior to being selected speaker, elected to the Michigan House of Representatives in 1994. He represents the 61st

- Perricone became interested in politics as a teenager and, while studying at Kalamazoo College, interned full time at an insurance agency with companies in Battle Creek, Otoe and Kalamazoo.
- He kept a hand in politics, volunteering for the Kalamazoo Republican Party and serving as president of the Westwood Community Association in Kalamazoo. In addition, he developed a local Cable Access television show, “Politics and You,” in which he interviewed elected Republican officials from around the state.
- Perricone has received a number of awards, among them being named “Champion of Commerce” by the Michigan Chamber of Commerce and “Guardian of Small Business” by the National Federation of Independent Business.

A public session has been set for 3:30 to 5 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 27, in 2020 Fetzer Center to give community members a chance to provide feedback on this vision of the University that has been created as part of the continuing master planning process. The Ann Arbor consulting firm JIR Inc. has created a plan for how the campus could develop over the next 20 to 25 years. The plan integrates months of discussion with campus groups that began in February and is about 75 percent complete. Major elements include:

1. A redistribution of housing and parking;
2. Changes in East Campus parking and access to buildings;
3. Location of an indoor athletics practice facility and game/practice fields on South Campus;
4. Development of South Campus that could include the College of Health and Human Services as well as student housing; (5) space reserved for a vehicle/pedestrian/bicycle bridge over Stadium Drive to connect South and West campuses; (6) the preservation of Goldsworthy Valley with existing parking and intramural fields and additional daylight-only intramural fields. Key recommendations include a ring road on South Campus; making Stadium Drive a boulevard with a central water feature; open space along a West Campus mall; and more inviting points of arrival and entrance to the campus, including those at Stadium Drive and Howard Street, West Michigan Avenue and Howard Street, and Oliver Street and Stadium Drive. More information is available at <www.wmich.edu/masterplan>.