New indoor athletic center will be named for Don Seelye

The University’s first comprehensive indoor athletic facility will be named for Kalamazoo business legend Don Seelye, and the University will seek an additional $4.5 million in private gifts to complete funding for the project.

Vice President for Development Bud Bender announced at a July 18 news conference that the 150,000-square-foot building will be named the Donald J Seelye Athletic Center. A longtime supporter of the WMU Broncos, Seelye was best known as the head of the Don Seelye Ford Agency, which he founded in Kalamazoo in 1963. He died Dec. 10, 1997.

“Just as Don Seelye was a symbol of success in our community, the Donald J Seelye Athletic Center will be emblematic of the success that our Broncos are committed to achieving,” said President Elson S. Floyd, who was unable to attend the event but sent his greetings to the crowd of Bronco supporters attending.

Floyd said the University extends its thanks to Seelye’s wife, Jane, and his sons, Michael and Patrick, as well as other members of the Seelye family for their “leadership gifts” to the new facility.

Representing the family, Michael Seelye responded to the announcement by expressing the Seelyes’ pleasure over the prospect of seeing the project become a reality.

“It is an honor for the Seelye family to partner with Western Michigan on such an ambitious project in memory of Donald J Seelye,” he said. “The new center will enable the Seelye family to provide new opportunities to present and future WMU students. It’s a great day to be a Seelye and a great day to be a Bronco.”

Projected costs for the new facility have been set at $21.5 million, including $16.5 million for construction and the balance for equipment.

 TEAM SET TO GIVE BRONCO ATHLETES AN EDGE—Willard A. “Bill” Brown, left, and Michael Seelye are co-chairing the fund-raising team that will make the Seelye Center the kind of facility WMU Athletic Director Kathy Beauregard, far right, can use to boost intercollegiate athletic team performance.

At right, Seelye outlines the project for WWMT’s Mike Bridges. (Photos by John Lacko)

Lansing Regional Center moves to new home next week

After more than 20 years in downtown Lansing, the University’s Lansing Regional Center is relocating to the Capital City’s near-west side Aug. 1.

The relocation was approved last spring by the Board of Trustees when it authorized the University to enter into an agreement with Auto-Owners Insurance Co. for up to 10 years to lease space in the Verdale Office Park, 6105 W. Saint Joseph Hwy.

The regional center’s offices and classroom facilities have been located in the Community Services Center near the state capitol since 1991. WMU and other tenants of the building are relocating to make way for the Michigan Economic Development Corp., which plans to occupy the entire structure.

The building WMU will move into is part of a large office development owned by Auto-Owners. The development is located within walking distance of the Lansing Sheraton Hotel at the intersection of I-496 and Creyts Road.

The University will occupy more than 10,000 square feet of space on the second floor of its new building. Auto-Owners will make a substantial investment in constructing the necessary offices and classrooms.

Lansing Regional Center Director Gus Breymann notes that the move does not mean WMU will be relinquishing its connection to downtown Lansing.

“We have a long-standing association with Lansing Community College that allows many mid-career students to complete their undergraduate degrees without leaving the tri-county area,” he explains. “We expect that to continue, along with our association with state government, and we’ll be retaining our agreement with LCC to provide extensive library services.”
Promotions approved for 45 faculty members

The promotions of 45 faculty members were approved June 23 by the Board of Trustees.

Seventeen faculty members were promoted to the rank of full professor and 25 to associate professor. Three others were promoted to the positions of associate academic career specialist. All professor and associate professor promotions are effective with the beginning of the 2000-2001 academic year.

The faculty members and their departments, by the academic rank to which they are being promoted, are: professor—Christine Browning, mathematics and statistics; James Butterfield, political science; Van Cooley, teaching, learning and leadership; Nancy Eimers, English; Paul Engelmann, industrial and manufacturing engineering; Tarun Gupta, industrial and manufacturing engineering; Gunilla Holm, teaching, learning and leadership; Emmanuel Kamber, physics; Sheldon Nisula, foreign languages and literatures; Michael Seelye, music; Karen Solomon, art; John Clark, political science; Kevin Corder, political science; Elen C命名, mathematics and statistics; Nina Nelson, dance; Dasha Nisula, foreign languages and literatures; Richard O'Hearn, music; William Olsen, English; Pamela Rooney, business information systems; Jack Ruhl, accountancy; and David Smith, music.

Associate—Robert Areda, aviation; Patrick Benton, aviation; Barbara Brotherton, art; John Chateauneuf, chemistry; John Clark, political science; Kevin Corder, political science; Elen Cutrim, geography; Kristal Ehrhardt, psychology; Tycho Fredericks, industrial and manufacturing engineering; Thomas Gorczyca, physics; Chansheng He, geography; Keith Hartit, communication; Gunther Hega, political science; Elaine Jayne, University libraries; Joyce Kubiski, art; John Lychner, mathematics and statistics; Nina Nelson, dance; Dasha Nisula, foreign languages and literatures; Richard O'Hearn, music; William Olsen, English; Pamela Rooney, business information systems; Jack Ruhl, accountancy; and David Smith, music.

The promotions of 45 faculty members were approved for tenure by the Board of Trustees June 23. The appointments are effective with the beginning of the 2000-2001 academic year.

The faculty members and their departments, by academic rank are: professor—Van Cooley, teaching, learning and leadership.

Associate professor—Thomas Amos, University libraries; Steven Bertman, chemistry; Clement Burns, physics; John Chateauneuf, chemistry; Susan Edgerton, teaching, learning and leadership; Sharon Garber, dance; Janos Granter, electrical and computer engineering; Chansheng He, geography; Keith Hartit, communication; Gunther Hega, political science; Joan Herrington, theatre; Elaine Jayne, University libraries; Michelle Komzin, geosciences; Joyce Kubiski, art; Yuli Ledyaev, mathematics and statistics; Ima Lopez, foreign languages and literatures; Tracey Mabrey, social work; Niloufer Mackey, mathematics and statistics; Ann Miles, anthropology; Koorosh Naghshineh, mechanical and aeronautical engineering; Regena Fails Nelson, teaching, learning and leadership; Mark Orbe, communication; John Saillant, English; Jianping Shen, teaching, learning and leadership; Andrea Smith, teaching, learning and leadership; Jocelyn Steinke, English; Laura VanZoest, mathematics and statistics; Brian Wilson, comparative religion; and Qiji Zhu, mathematics and statistics.
The following list of vacancies is 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.

S-01 and S-02 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.

(N) Student Advisor (term ends 6/30/01), P-02, Office of Admissions and Advising, 00/01-1443, 7/25-7/31/00

(R) Full/Associate Professor (tenure track, academic year), I-10/I-20 Construction Engineering, Materials Engineering and Industrial Design, 00/01-1444, 7/25-7/31/00

(R) Assistant/Associate Academic Career Specialist (term ends 5/31/01; academic year), D-20/D-30, Paper and Printing Science and Engineering, 00/01-1445, 7/25-7/31/00

(N) Assistant Academic Career Specialist (term ends 6/30/01, FTE .94, full year), D-30, Speech Pathology and Audiology, 00/01-1446, 7/25-7/31/00

(R) Secretary I, S-04, Plant-Building Custodial and Support Services, 00/01-1448, 7/25-7/31/00

(R) Assistant Coordinator Child Care (term ends 8/31/01), S-07, Children's Place Learning Center, 00/01-1449, 7/25-7/31/00

(R) Police Radio Dispatcher, S-08, Public Safety, 00/01-1451, 7/25-7/31/00

(R) Assistant Manager Bookstore, P-04, WMU Bookstore, 00/01-1452, 7/25-7/31/00

(R) Secretary Administrative II (Note: This is one position funded by two different sources. 1453-term ends 2/28/01, FTE .50, 20 hours per week; 1454-term ends 8/31/00, FTE .50, 20 hours per week), S-08, Mathematics and Statistics, 00/01-1453 & 1454, 7/25-7/31/00

(R) Physical Therapist, P-05, Sindecuse Health Center, 00/01-1455, 7/25-7/31/00

(N) Admissions Representative (FTE .85, 40 hours per week, fall and winter semesters and spring session), P-03, Admissions and Orientation, 00/01-1456, 7/25-7/31/00

(R) Secretary II, S-05, Office of the Provost and VP Academic Affairs, 00/01-1457, 7/25-7/31/00

N=New
R=Replacement
WMU is an EO/AA employer.

Training offered for supervisors on employee compensation meetings

Supervisors will play a critical role in the Comp 2000 implementation. They'll be meeting with their employees in one-on-one personal meetings to inform increases of their annual adjustment increases; grade in the new compensation system; and any changes that have been made in title, pay, or hourly or salaried status.

The individualized compensation statements for employees will be sent to department heads on Aug. 18. It is up to each department head to decide who will meet with employees. Department heads may choose to meet personally with each employee, or may choose to have their departmental managers or supervisors conduct the one-on-one meetings.

Any supervisor who will be presenting compensation information to employees must attend training. Fliers were recently sent out on the topic. The mandatory, two-hour sessions are being offered Friday, Aug 4, through Friday, August 11, with 8-10 a.m. and 1-3 p.m. sessions offered each day. Register by e-mailing or calling Carrie Soule at <carrie.soule@wmich.edu> or at 7-3625.

The one-on-one meetings with employees must take place between Aug. 21 and 29. Department heads may want to begin scheduling these meetings. Employees who haven't met with their supervisor to review their compensation by Sept. 5 are asked to call Human Resources at 7-3620.

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Compensation 2000 is the University's project to design and implement new compensation and performance management systems for clerical, technical, professional and administrative staff. Towers Perrin is the firm providing professional consulting services to human resources for the project.

Exchange

FOR SALE—Camping equipment: two sleeping bags, cleaned, $15 each; two air mattresses, $10 each; Coleman stove, $30; tent for four, $50. All in good condition. Call 342-8362, after July 30.

FOR SALE—General Electric range with attached microwave, almond color, timer clocks, etc. $200. Call 329-7922.

FOR SALE—1992 Mercury Sable wagon, 76,000 miles, automatic, loaded. $4,000. Call 553-6745.

Diversity is focus of Aug 16-17 program

Diversity will be the topic when a Chicago-based theatre troupe comes to campus in August to offer four theatrical performances to faculty and staff members from WMU, Kalamazoo College and local city and county offices.

"Synergy from Others: Respecting Differences 2000" will take place Wednesday and Thursday, Aug. 16 and 17, at Shaw Theatre. Performances are scheduled for 1:30 p.m. Wednesday and 8:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. Thursday.

The performances by SST Communications will combine comedy and drama with factual information to trace how diversity was dealt with in the past and explore how institutions are embracing diversity and how individual relationships can be improved. Campus or community leaders will serve as introductory speakers for each performance.

The event marks the second summer the University has collaborated with the city of Kalamazoo for such an event. Kalamazoo County and Kalamazoo College also are sponsoring the program.

All faculty and staff are urged to attend. Admission is free, but tickets must be obtained in advance from Human Resources. Call 7-3620 to request tickets or for more information.
Next Board of Trustees meeting date changed

The University’s Board of Trustees will meet on Tuesday, Aug. 15. The Sept. 15 meeting date, which was originally scheduled as the next full meeting of the WMU board, has been canceled.

Details about the exact times and locations for the Aug. 15 meetings of the full board and its two standing committees will be announced in the week prior to Aug. 15.

Next News is summer’s last

The Aug. 10 issue of Western News will be the last one for the summer session. After a three-week break, publication will resume Aug. 31 with the first issue of the 2000-01 academic year.

Obituaries

Elsa Alvarez, emerita in Spanish, died recently in Florida.

Alvarez retired as an associate professor in 1980 after serving 16 years on the faculty. Before joining WMU, she served on the faculties of Fort Dodge Community College in Fort Dodge, Iowa, and Universidad Central-Santa Clara in Las Villas, Cuba.

After receiving her Ph.D. from the University of Havana in 1946, Alvarez went on to earn a master’s degree from the University of Iowa in 1966 and a second doctoral degree from Michigan State University in 1971.

Daniel A. Kyser, emeritus in music, died June 10 in Kalamazoo. He was 81.

Before his retirement in 1980, Kyser served for 33 years on the WMU faculty, rising to the rank of full professor in 1969. He taught woodwind instruments, specializing in the clarinet. In demand as a performer who had mastered several instruments, he served as principal clarinet for the Kalamazoo Symphony Orchestra for 25 years.

An active volunteer on the local and national level, Kyser served on the executive committee of the National Association of College Wind and Percussion Instructors and was a member of the Music Educators National Advisory Board. He also served on the boards of directors of the Kalamazoo Symphony Orchestra, the Chamber Music Society and the Southwest Michigan Council of the Boy Scouts of America.

Kyser earned his bachelor’s degree from Oberlin College in 1940, and in 1941, he was called to active military duty. He served as a musician in the 99th Infantry Division U.S. Army Band, rising to the position of conductor several years later. He earned a master’s degree from the University of Michigan in 1947.

Maestro Yoshimi Takeda, longtime music director of the Kalamazoo Symphony Orchestra and an artist-in-residence in the School of Music, died July 23 in Kalamazoo.

Takeda retired as KSO conductor in 1999 following his 25th season with the organization. He began his WMU classroom activities in 1998 after the Board of Trustees approved his three-year residency to lecture, teach master classes and lead opera performances and special music ensembles.

Takeda, who received an honorary degree from the University in 1989, served as guest conductor with symphonies around the world. During his KSO tenure, he also served as music director and conductor of the New Mexico Symphony Orchestra and as associate conductor of the Honolulu Symphony.

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>.

Friday, July 28
Hockey, alumni exhibition match, Lawson Arena, 7 p.m.

Wednesday, Aug. 9
*Workshop, “The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People,” Fetzer Center, 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
  Call 7-3232 to register.

*Admission charged