Aviation dedication, board meeting set for Battle Creek

The University will dedicate its new aviation facilities at the W.K. Kellogg Airport on Oct. 3. The dedication will begin at 12:45 p.m. following a private luncheon in the hangar/laboratory/maintenance building at 237 N. Helmer Road. Preceding the dedication, the Board of Trustees will conduct its regular meeting at the facilities. The meeting will begin at 10:45 a.m. in the library of the classroom building. Speakers at the dedication will include: President Haenicke; U.S. Sen. Carl Levin; U.S. Rep. Fred Upton; Battle Creek Mayor Ted Dearing; Joseph H. Danlap, director of the School of Aviation Sciences; Capt. Fergus Woods, head of standards for Civil Aviation Authority Flight Crew Licensing; and Richard G. Haworth, chairman of the WMU Board of Trustees. Serving as master of ceremonies will be George A. Franklin, a member of the WMU board and vice president for worldwide government affairs at the Kellogg Co. in Battle Creek.

The event marks the culmination of a four-year process to relocate the School of Aviation Sciences from aging and cramped facilities at the Kalamazoo/Battle Creek International Airport. The school has moved from a 2,700-square-foot facility in Kalamazoo into 76,500 square feet in Battle Creek.

The new facilities include three buildings that have been expanded at the Kalamazoo/Battle Creek International Airport. The school has moved from a 2,700-square-foot facility in Kalamazoo into 76,500 square feet in Battle Creek.

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The entire value of the project is estimated at $38 million. Construction costs were financed by a $6 million grant from the U.S. Department of Commerce and $5.5 million in matching funds from the Battle Creek Tax Increment Finance Authority. The project also was supported by Battle Creek Unlimited, the city of Battle Creek, the W.K. Kellogg Foundation and the Kellogg Co.

The School of Aviation Sciences offers the state’s only public four-year bachelor of science degree program in aviation and currently enrolls some 550 students. The school recently earned stamps of approval from both the Council on Aviation Accreditation and the United Kingdom Civil Aviation Authority, paving the way for its new International Pilot Training Centre. Public tours will follow the ceremonies. Agenda items for the Board of Trustees meeting include a recommendation on the appointment of a presidential search consultant firm. The firm would assist the board, the Presidential Search Advisory Committee and associated staff in finding a successor to Haenicke, who this summer announced that he would step down as president to return to the faculty, effective July 31, 1998. The board also is expected to consider a recommendation on Haenicke’s annual evaluation and compensation.

Committee meetings will precede the full board meeting in the same room. Times are: Academic and Student Affairs Committee, 9:45 a.m.; and Budget and Finance Committee, 10 a.m. All meetings are open to the public.

Haenicke to remain ‘vigorously’ involved in next year

President Haenicke has no intention of being a lame duck during his final year as president of the University, he told the Faculty Senate Sept. 4.

"Neither the Board of Trustees nor I want to have any momentum lost or a lame duck as president," Haenicke said. "You will not see me hiding in my office during my last year in this position."

While he will remain "vigorously and visibly involved in the affairs of this University," he said, he expects to consult "more carefully and in greater detail" with the Board of Trustees and others who set direction for the campus than has sometimes been the case.

"We have had a very vigorous and public relative to the board," he said. "But the coordinating major actions that have an impact on the development of the University for the next several years."

These include preparations for the University's next large capital campaign, in which he has been especially active, and also larger construction projects that he hopes to complete or initiate before leaving office next year.

The president noted that he had received a great deal of mail since he announced last summer that he would retire from the presidency on July 31, 1998, and return to the faculty.

"You were very gracious to write rather significant pieces," he told senators. "And many, many alumni wrote that they would look with renewed pride upon their alma mater.

"Proud they have always been of this University," he said. "But many of them comment that so much has changed. These alumni remember with great fondness the wonderful teachers they encountered here on campus, and they can’t imagine that the campus ever changes."

"But when they come back, they see not only that the buildings and the roads and the walkways have changed, but also that in recent years we have experienced a significant renewal of our faculty," he said.

He explained that 150 new faculty members had been added to the faculty over the past two years alone, most of them replacements of faculty members who have retired.

"We have added very few to the faculty roster," he said. "We are replacing our losses to retirement, to new opportunities, and the institution is changing dramatically right now, and it will continue to do so in the next several years."

Turning to the search for his replacement, Haenicke noted that the Board of Trustees is "very excited" about its task and is "keenly aware that this is one of its major functions, probably its major function, namely to select the next president."

"But," he quipped, "since they didn’t see a need to fire the president, they will put all their energy into hiring the president."

"The board is determined," he said, "that the University community and the faculty, in particular, as probably one of its most critical constituencies, will be very much involved in the selection of our next president."" Haenicke said he used the word "our" because he expects to return to what he called his "second love," teaching and writing, after a sabatical leave the board "has graciously granted me."

"As is appropriate, I will stay completely out of the search process," he said. "But I hope that all of you, as is appropriate, will take great interest in the selection, as you did last time. I know that the board is extremely willing and appropriate, will take great interest in the selection, as you did last time. I know that the board is extremely willing and energetic involved inthe affairs of the University, he told the Faculty Senate Sept. 4.

On a new beat

Students living in the Goldsworth Valley residence hall complexes this fall have more than resident advisors and hall directors to help them adjust to campus life. They also have COOPS — Community Oriented Police Services — to help reduce the causes and fear of crime. A $75,000 award from the U.S. Department of Justice's COOPS program to WMU is being used to put Officer Ronald E. Ware in Goldsworth Valley Hall this fall time to form partnerships with students, create problem-solving tactics to promote safety awareness and to cut back on property crimes. From left, Ware, a seven-year veteran of WMU's Department of Public Safety, discussed his new role with Lori Lawrence, Office Manager, Oscar Cuellar and Candace Woodard. He has an office in Garneau/Harvey Halls and is working hours designed to maximize contact with students in the dining halls, in the public living areas and at the recreational facilities. The justice department's funding, which is available to any municipality, will underwrite the community policing program at WMU for three years. "We need to get out where the students are and make an impact," says Robert J. Brown, public safety. "A lot of universities are taking advantage of this program and it's perceived to be very effective. We're going to try it on a small scale and may expand it to other campus areas in the future." (Photo by Neil Rankin)
A modest increase in a student fee this year has resulted in a large infusion of computing technology on campus, providing the University with resources to meet critical educational needs.

In July, the Board of Trustees approved an increase in the former computer fee, now called the technology fee. The fee, which had been $50 a semester, had increased by a factor of 46, with support going primarily to communication (e-mail and Internet services), upgrade to new UNIX workstations, and general computing services.

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Officials decided that the only way to back track on a leader in the field of computing technology was to increase the fee. The effects of the infusion of new money are already being felt across campus.

Working from plans submitted by each college and department, new servers with large storage capacity were installed to meet these new demands as well as provide for future growth.

"Philosophically, we decided that the only way out was to increase the fee. The effects of the infusion of new money are already being felt across campus," says Wright. "We had increased our modern from 506 to 264, but we still had a high volume of over 4,500 calls per hour during peak times," Wright says. "Phone service to the residence halls and e-mail services was installed. But the changes weren't limited to the colleges. Improvements also are evident in the computer labs in the Science Studies and the Bernhard Center." Nearly all PC and Macintosh computers have been replaced, Windows 95 and Macintosh operating system 7.6 are now available and much of the software has been upgraded and standardized across labs.

So far, a total of 207 new machines were put into service, 114 units were upgraded, 47 workstations were retrofitted, improved wiring and another 250 workstations were pushed into use. But the work didn't stop there. Wright says that a total of 72 modern machines have been added to the pool. The campus e-mail system was upgraded to higher speed and more than double the prior capacity. Enhancements to WMU.net, the campus information superhighway, have resulted in faster access to information for faculty, staff and students.

Plans for the future include upgrading the WMU.net from 10 megabits to 100 megabits per second. The expansion includes cooperative efforts by universities dedicated to creating a faster and better computer network. WMU officials also hope to upgrade network speeds to WMU regional centers in other cities. WMU officials are currently meeting to install computer-based multi-media instructional capabilities to 75 to 100 classroom locations. These locations will include classroom computers and video technology in their teaching.

"We've really made a lot of progress over the summer and we're proud of that," Wright says. "These efforts clearly would not have been possible without the technology fee. We hope that this year we can recruit more students who are interested in the field of computer science," he adds.

Computers were being outdated and, with the advent of the World Wide Web, demand for service via modem had increased dramatically.

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Officials hope efforts add up to more success for minorities in science and math classes

Two leading national scholars in mathematics are visiting the University this month as part of a larger effort to improve the success rate of underrepresented minority students in science and mathematics courses.

A.A. Shabazz, chairperson of the Department of Mathematics and Computer Science at Lincoln University in Pennsylvania, conducted a series of workshops with faculty, tutors, academic coaches and minority students. Shabazz, whose career spans 40 years at institutions such as Clark Atlanta University and Union University, was brought to WMU for his success in training mathematics and science students who go on to obtain doctorate degrees. He has established academic coaches to aid underrepresented minority students within remedial mathematics programs at the University. The coaches helped students develop successful learning strategies, accompanied them to tutoring sessions and provided general support between sessions.

This year, organizers hope to take the program to the next level by bringing in high-caliber national mathematicians and academic coaches to conduct training workshops on cutting-edge teaching techniques, while still using coaches and instructional excellence in these disciplines.

The second speaker will be James A. Epperson, professor of woodworking, furniture manufacture and design at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock. Epperson's colleague, Philip Uri Treisman, a leading national scholar in mathematics model. Named after its creator and former University of Michigan professor, the Treisman model challenges minority students last week.

"I figure if we can come from the ethnic rural backgrounds and academic coaching and using the instructional relationships that Treisman put together, there's not too much that we can do in terms of increasing the number of students we would like to see in mathematics and science curricula," says Martha B. Warfield, minority affairs.

"WMU is moving toward becoming a research university with 20 percent of the national mathematics model boasts an 80 percent success rate.

The program challenges minority students to excel, rather than just pass, mathematics. It emphasizes small group teaching, strong faculty sponsorship and collaborative learning efforts, such as teaming up proficient mathematics students with students with challenges.

The speakers represent the second phase of an initiative called the Select Student Support Program that began one year ago within the Division of Minority Affairs.

Lecture series to focus on Canadian issues

Topics ranging from Canadian politics to the North American Free Trade Agreement will be explored in a lecture series this fall.

The series is free and open to the public. All lectures will begin at 7 p.m. in the Lee Honors College. For more information, call:

• Howard Pawley, the Paul Martin Professor of Political Science and chairman of the Department of Political Science, (269) 387-4000, ext. 222
• Brian Oxlander, University Counseling and Support Services, (269) 387-4160, ext. 332
• John E. Campos, music; Tracy Murphy, English.

As a leader of the New Democratic Party, Pawley was the elected premier of the province of Manitoba from 1981 to 1988. He will focus on the political process in Canada and on change with the development of the fourth and fifth para parties.

The Treisman visit was sponsored by the Kinberg Center for Academic Success, the Division of Minority Affairs and the Department of Mathematics and Statistics.

Open enrollment begins Oct. 6-8

This year, organizers hope to take the program to the next level by bringing in high-caliber national mathematicians and academic coaches to conduct training workshops on cutting-edge teaching techniques, while still using coaches and instructional excellence in these disciplines.

Open enrollment begins Oct. 6, and runs through Friday, Oct. 17. During open enrollment, which occurs once a year, benefits-eligible employees have the opportunity to change their health and welfare insurance to meet their current needs and circumstances.

During open enrollment, employees can change health and dental plans and the University offers a choice of three health medical plans to its eligible faculty and staff. The University Plan is managed administratively by Unicare; and two health maintenance organizations, Blue Care Network and Physcare of Michigan.

Benefits Fair set for Sept. 30

All benefits-eligible employees are invited to attend the Benefits Fair from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 30, in the North Ballroom of the Bernhard Center. The fair, sponsored by human resources, will provide employees with an opportunity to learn more about the wide variety of their benefits. Representatives from many of the University's benefit providers will be at the fair.

In your invest for today

The annual WMU savings bonds drive is under way through Sept. 30. All regular employees have been sent a letter and brochure describing the payroll savings plan, which allows employees to purchase U.S. Savings Bonds through payroll deduction.

Savings bonds are a flexible product that is as safe and convenient as they come, yet offers competitive market-based interest rates and significant tax advantages. With the payroll savings plan, employees can determine how much they would like to save every payday and use the funds for any purpose. By purchasing U.S. Savings Bonds, WMU helps the University and benefits the country. A limited number of bonds are available. For more detailed information, you are encouraged to contact an employment services staff member for assistance in securing these positions.

WMU is an EO/AA employer.

On campus

HAPPY TO BE HERE - Barb Peacock has worked in a variety of offices during her 12-1/2 years at the University. But her reasons for staying here cross all disciplines. "I really enjoy working on campus and getting to know people beyond the telephone," she says. "I also like working with the students - they keep me young!" Now an administrative assistant in the Department of Geography, she previously worked in the educational library, on a grant project in the former industrial education area and in a couple offices in the Haworth College of Business. Current responsibilities include working with the budget, class schedules and the Integrated Student Information System as well as supervising the office staff. She is also a member of the University Recreation System Advisory Board and of the Prayer, Support Staff Organization. When not at work, she enjoys spending time with her children, a daughter who's a high school senior and a son who's a freshman. She also enjoys attending concerts and sporting events and performing as well as to do crafts, travel and cross country ski. (Photo by Nell Rankin)

Human resources

Open enrollment begins Oct. 6-8

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WMU teams up to increase Special Olympics participation

WMU, Michigan Special Olympics and the city of Kalamazoo have joined forces in a project that could create a national model for increasing Special Olympics participation.

Funded by a $48,499 grant from Special Olympics International, the initiative is designed to create four new Special Olympics Unified Sports Leagues in the Kalamazoo area, while expanding research opportunities and the broader success of these programs.

Unified Sports is an innovative Special Olympics effort that matches athletes with and without mental retardation, promoting friendship and competition. The goal is to provide mentally retarded athletes with opportunities to interact with non-retarded athletes in hopes of building friendships as well as muscles.

In the past, Michigan Special Olympics and the city of Kalamazoo have offered Unified Sports programs in basketball and bowling to athletes ages 9 through 16. The new initiative will add soccer, floor hockey (poly hockey), and golf to the existing sports. The program will be expanded to include younger athletes in the 8 to 15 year old category. Organizers hope to attract 1,000 new athletes in the Kalamazoo area.

"The whole emphasis on education for people with disabilities has changed to include athletes 16 and older. The new initiative will include younger athletes, a factor that could be crucial to building athletic skills early in life and positive attitudes about mentally retarded citizens," says Edie Wirthsrauer, southwest regional manager for Michigan Special Olympics. "This is Special Olympics' way of understanding that this is important. We're trying to move our programs in that direction, while holding our traditional programs in place."

WMU's Jody A. Brylinsky, health, physical education and recreation, director, and center, and Monica I. Martin, an exercise science major from Monroe, observe the soccer skills of Greg Holcum during a session last weekend in Gulliver Valley. Brylinsky is working with the Michigan Special Olympics and the city of Kalamazoo under a grant from Special Olympics International to create new Unified Sports that match athletes with and without mental retardation.

(Photo by Neil Rankin)

Special Olympics International is now accepting applications to create new Unified Sports leagues to the existing Special Olympics Unified Sports area, while expanding research opportunities and the broader success of these programs.

"The whole emphasis on education for people with disabilities has changed to include athletes 16 and older. The new initiative will include younger athletes, a factor that could be crucial to building athletic skills early in life and positive attitudes about mentally retarded citizens. "If those who are not only mentality retarded grow up playing with those who are, we have a greater chance of building real inclusion into communities as those kids continue to go to school together and develop into adults. That to me is really exciting, both for the athletes and coaches."

A network of volunteers from WMU and Kalamazoo public/private school communities will provide support for the project activities. The majority of the sporting events will take place on the WMU campus and will be staggered throughout the fall and winter semesters.

WMU graduate and under-graduate students studying coaching, recreation, special education and teaching will provide coaching, officiating and services as part of their own field experience. Students also will be involved in the research components of the initiative.

"Special Olympics International has always had a strong research component," Brylinsky explains. "It is very concerned that programs have the type of impact they hope for. There are a lot of myths about people with mental retardation. To break down those myths there is not only publicity and promotion, but research showing that attitudes are changing, healthy lifestyles develop and that this is a good way to do it."

The grant will fund the first year of the four-year project. Completion funding will be based on annual basis and will be based on project needs. By the end of the fourth year, the project will be self-sustaining. Brylinsky hopes to have enough information in place to develop similar cooperative ventures around the United States.

"Special Olympics International is looking at us to be a model program for other universities," Brylinsky says. They are interested in building a network within the university communities. Universities have, in most cases, the space and facilities for athletic events. They have endless numbers of people who may be interested in doing these types of things. So we're hoping after four years of developing the project that we'll be able to share this and develop similar programs at other universities in Michigan and nationwide."

Kurmann selected for study visit to Germany

Brian K. Kurzmann, legal and compliance affairs, is one of a small group of young lawyers from the United States and abroad who have received a fellowship to participate in a 10-month study visit to Germany.

The study visit, called the Young Lawyers Program, is sponsored by the German Academic Exchange Service. The fellowship includes a monetary award and living allowance that will fund Kurzmann's entire study visit to Germany.

The program allows participants to learn about the structure and function of German higher education institutions, to establish closer international links in the area of law and improve mutual knowledge of the legal traditions of different countries.

The exchange service is a publicly funded, self-governing organization of German higher education institutions that promotes international academic relations, particularly through student and faculty exchanges. It annually selects up to 20 attorneys from eight countries for its Young Lawyers Program.

Those selected must have a good command of the German language and be no older than 32 years of age. The program runs from the end of October to the end of August.

A WMU employee since 1994, Kurzmann earned a B.A. in German and his law degrees from WMU as well as a law degree from the Ohio State University College of Law.

Kurzmann, who is fluent in German, was a 1987 recipient of WMU's prestigious Fulbright-German Commission scholarships. He served as student body president in 1990, was named a Presidential Scholar in Philosophy in 1991 and was selected as a presidential intern in 1994.

Calendar

The master calendar maintained by the Office of Marketing, Public Relations and Communications for use in Western News is available through WMU's home page on the World Wide Web. Select University Information and then look for the Calendar of Events under the News and Events heading. You can also link directly to the calendar at this URL: www.snicm.wvu.edu/news/calendar1.html.

Thursday, September 25


*Teleconference, “The Nonprofit Leader of the Future,” Campus Cinema, Oakland Recital Hall, 1-3 p.m.; call 7-4174 to register.

Workshop on topics of the Human Subjects Institutional Review Board, 242 Bernhard Center, 1:30-3 p.m.; to register call 7-8298.

*Woman’s volleyball, WMU vs. Central Michigan University, University Arena, 7 p.m.

*Women’s volleyball, WMU vs. Eastern Michigan University, University Arena, 7 p.m.


*Television, “The Nonprofit Leader of the Future,” Campus Cinema, Oakland Recital Hall, 1-3 p.m.; call 7-4174 to register.

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*Women’s volleyball, WMU vs. Eastern Michigan University, University Arena, 7 p.m.

*Women’s volleyball, WMU vs. Central Michigan University, University Arena, 7 p.m.

*School of Music Dalton Series concert, Eric Shumsky, faculty showcase, Dalton Center Recital Hall, 7:30-9:30 p.m.

*Admission charged