



WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY

WESTERN NEWS

Volume 25, Number 22

www.wmich.edu/wmu/news

August 12, 1999

Environmental Institute tapped for study, cleanup of river

WMU's newly established Environmental Institute will benefit from more than \$1 million of federal funds that have been set aside to help clean up the Kalamazoo River.

U.S. Rep. Fred Upton announced Aug. 2 that provisions for the \$1.1 million in funds were included in different appropriations bills—the Energy and Water Appropriations Bill, which passed the House in July, and the VA/HUD Approp-

priations Bill, which is in front of the House. The House and the Senate are expected to take final action on the funding in September.

Of that money, \$1 million will be used by the Environmental Institute to conduct a variety of studies, establish an information clearinghouse and provide scientific information on issues affecting the watershed.

The remaining \$100,000 will be used

by the Army Corps of Engineers to study and assess cleanup projects along the river including habitat restoration, ecosystem enhancement and erosion control.

According to Charles F. Ide, director of the institute, these efforts could ultimately result in a five-year, \$12 million project to evaluate the entire Kalamazoo River watershed.

One of the biggest concerns for the institute, said Ide, is ascertaining the fate and transport of PCBs left in the river by paper companies.

The City of Kalamazoo is also involved in the project and will use data provided by the institute in its efforts to develop the waterfront. Kalamazoo Mayor Robert Jones said that the Environmental Institute's participation will be pivotal to development plans.

According to Upton, the funds to begin the research efforts would be available in October when the federal fiscal year begins. "This will give us time to work with Lansing and others to make it a more comprehensive effort," he said.



MAKING PLANS FOR A CLEAN RIVER — On the banks of the Kalamazoo River, Charles F. Ide, left, director of the Environmental Institute, discusses the institute's future role in research and cleanup efforts as Kalamazoo Mayor Robert Jones, center, and U.S. Rep. Fred Upton look on. (Photo by John Lacko)

WMU researcher selected to evaluate Edison Project schools

A WMU researcher has been selected to evaluate the effectiveness and impact of schools managed by the Edison Project, one of nation's largest private school management organizations.

Gary Miron, principal research associate in the Evaluation Center, has been awarded \$30,000 by the National Education Association to serve as project director for an evaluation of student achievement data that already has been gathered on Edison Project schools by a variety of sources. The study is expected to take about nine months.

Miron and his team will examine data on 12 schools in six states that have been in

existence for three or more years. The overriding goal of the study is to assess the impact of Edison Project schools on student learning.

The Edison Project, founded in 1991, opened its first schools in 1995. It currently operates 51 schools in 12 states, enrolling more than 23,000 students. Edison schools include contract schools, which are operated under management contracts with host school districts, and charter schools, which are operated under contracts with an authorizing agency.

The Edison Project identifies its goals as moving students forward while operating schools for less money at the same

time more services are provided. Studies of educational achievement in the schools have had mixed results. According to Miron, the

(Continued on page four)

Bad News: Summer's over, first fall issue set for Sept. 2

Alas, the end of summer is upon us and so is the summer publication schedule for *Western News*. The next *Western News* will be published Sept. 2 and the deadline for submissions for that issue is 5 p.m. Friday, August 27.

New degree program to prepare students to be teachers of technical education

A new bachelor's degree program offered in cooperation with eight Southwest Michigan community colleges and approved in June by the Board of Trustees will help fill a growing demand for teachers of technical subjects.

Students who enter the program will receive a bachelor of science degree in occupational education studies. Upon graduation they will be ready to teach a wide range of technical subjects, such as automated manufacturing technology, drafting, graphics communication, industrial maintenance or radio broadcasting, at high schools, trade academies, career or technical centers, or community colleges.

The Department of Family and Consumer Sciences program will be offered through general university studies within the Division of Continuing Education beginning this fall. It was established with the help of two \$25,000 grants from the Michigan Department of Education and planned and developed in conjunction with Kalamazoo Valley, Kellogg, Grand Rapids, Muskegon, Glen Oaks and Lansing community colleges as well as Southwest Michigan and Lake Michigan colleges.

In the next five years, it is estimated that 40 percent of technical education teachers will retire, says Carl A. Woloszyk, family and consumer sciences. So expectations are high that the program will grow quickly and possibly expand to other parts of the state.

"The timing is really right for this," Woloszyk says. "We see a tremendous need out there and a lot of interest in the program."

The program is tailored to fit the needs of the many non-traditional students who will be attracted to it. Students will take technical classes at their community college and take education and classes in their teaching minor as well as other classes at WMU. Several education classes may be taken via interactive television starting this fall at four distance learning locations in Battle Creek, Benton Harbor, Grand Rapids and Muskegon. Lansing will be added in the winter semester.

Students also can take part in an intensive two-week summer institute, in which they will do preliminary reading at home before coming to campus to complete course requirements. By conducting courses over 10 days of concentrated study, time away from work and family will be minimized.

Woloszyk says all class requirements are clearly laid out and 62 out of the 122 credits required are taken at the community college.

"So this is really a 'two-plus-two' program," Woloszyk says. "I think we'll be seeing a lot more of this. It really does maximize the efficiency of the educational system, while making things easier and more convenient for students."

Reception set for Thompson

The University community is invited to attend a retirement reception for Anne Thompson, human resources, from 3 to 5 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 25, at the Oaklands.

Thompson will retire Aug. 27 after an 18 and 1/2-year career at WMU. She has served as director of compensation and employee relations since 1989. Her retirement is expected to be approved by the Board of Trustees when it next meets Sept. 17.

Asken to head international architects association

Evie Asken, an architect and director of campus planning at WMU, has been elected to a one-year term as president of the international Association of University Architects.

The organization represents registered professional architects at more than 100 public and private colleges and universities in the United States and Canada. Other

Graduate receives dissertation award

A recent doctoral graduate who is now teaching sociology at St. Cloud (Minn.) State University has received a WMU award for the best dissertation on the topic of gerontology.

Paulina X. Ruf Alvarez, who graduated in December, received the George and Beatrice Fisher Gerontology Dissertation Prize. The prize, which comes with a \$350 award, was established by the Fishers, both alumni of WMU, to promote greater knowledge of the aging process and a higher quality of life for the elderly. It is awarded to the WMU doctoral candidate who is the author of the best dissertation on a topic in the field of gerontology.

Ruf Alvarez's dissertation, "The Impact of Women's Traditional Caregiving Roles on Their Paid Labor Force Participation Throughout Their Lifecourse," explores the impact women's caregiving roles have on their careers and jobs outside the home and details the economic disadvantages that these women usually incur.

Volunteer opportunities abound at fair on Aug. 30

Whether it's to mentor a child, deliver food at a hospice or paint a theatre set, students, faculty and staff attending WMU's Volunteer Opportunities Fair Monday, Aug. 30, will be encouraged to get involved.

The fair, which takes place from 2 to 6 p.m., is usually held in conjunction with the University's Bronco Bash, but this year will start one hour before the bash and be held in a new location—the grass area in front of Waldo Library across from Wood Hall.

For more information, contact Katrina Chester, Lee Honors College, at 7-3230.

WESTERN NEWS

Editor: Cheryl P. Roland; Contributors: Jeanne M. Baron, Marie E. Lee, Michael J. Matthews and Mark E. Schwerin.

Western News (USPS 362-210) is published by the Office of University Relations, Walwood Hall, Western Michigan University, 1201 Oliver St., Kalamazoo, MI 49008-5165, every other week when classes are in session. Periodicals postage paid at Kalamazoo, MI 49008-5165.

Postmaster: Send address changes to Western News, Office of Marketing, Public Relations and Communications, Western Michigan University, 1201 Oliver St., Kalamazoo, MI 49008-5165.

Western News is distributed without charge to faculty and staff members, retirees and friends of the University, and is available at several campus locations. Many of the articles also are available online at www.wmich.edu/wmu/news.

Deadline: Items to be considered for publication should be submitted to the Office of University Relations by 5 p.m. Friday the week preceding the publication date. Summer 1999 publication dates are: July 1, July 15, July 29 and Aug. 12. Items may be submitted by mail, fax (387-8422) or e-mail (cheryl.roland@wmich.edu).

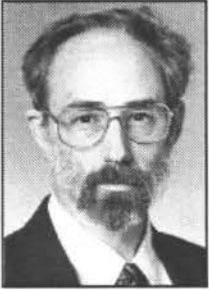
Offices that receive too many copies — or too few copies — are asked to call 387-8400. WMU is an equal opportunity/employer/affirmative action institution.



WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY

McKean named fellow for work in statistics

Joseph W. McKean, mathematics and statistics, has been named a fellow by the American Statistical Association.



McKean

McKean, who is known for his pioneering research on robust statistics, was one of 50 ASA international members selected to receive the honorary title of fellow.

McKean was chosen on the basis of his established reputation and outstanding contributions in the field of statistics. He will be initiated as a fellow at the association's meeting this month.

A faculty member at WMU since 1978, McKean is an expert in the field of robust statistics, an area in which he and a colleague pioneered during his doctoral studies. Their work opened an entirely new field of statistical analysis.

Service

These faculty and staff members are recognized for five, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30 and 35 years of service to the University in August.

35 years—Doralee N. DeRyke, Haworth College of Business; Arthur E. Falk, philosophy; Laurel A. Grotzinger, University libraries; and Carol P. Smith, teaching, learning and leadership.

30 years—Sandra F. Blanchard, College of Engineering and Applied Sciences; David J. Cowden, teaching, learning and leadership; Richard DePeaux, art; Paul J. Eenigenburg, mathematics and statistics; David Hargreave, science studies; Barbara S. Havira, history; Peter G. Renstrom, political science; Robert I. Sundick, anthropology; Arthur T. White, mathematics and statistics; and Ronald J. Winter, health, physical education and recreation.

25 years—Sue L. Barnette, social work; John W. Benson, foreign languages and literatures; David J. Blowers, physical plant-landscaping/grounds maintenance; Thomas A. Carey, management; Lowell E. Crow, marketing; David G. Houghton, political science; Mark S. Liberacki, College of Arts and Sciences; Kenneth H. McCann, physical plant-building maintenance services; Bruce Naftel, art; Peter G. Northouse, communication; James C. Petersen, College of Arts and Sciences;

Jobs

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.

(R) **Secretary Executive II**, S-08, Vice President for Student Affairs, 99/00-752, 8/10-8/16/99

(R) **Assistant Professor** (Term ends 8/8/2000), I-30, Teaching, Learning and Leadership, 99/00-770, 8/10-8/16/99

(N) **Research Fellow** (Term ends 6/30/2000; Renewable), Q-01, Biological Sci-

ences, 99/00-773, 8/10-8/16/99

(R) **Assistant Professor** (FTE 1.0; Academic Year), I-30, Management, 99/00-774, 8/10-8/16/99

(R) **Assistant Professor** (FTE 1.0; Academic Year), I-30, Management, 99/00-775, 8/10-8/16/99

(R) **Assistant Professor** (FTE 1.0; Academic Year), I-30, Political Science, 99/00-776, 8/10-8/16/99

(N) **Assistant Professor** (FTE 1.0; Academic Year), I-30, Business Information Systems, 99/00-777, 8/10-8/16/99

(N) **Coordinator Study Abroad** (Term ends 6/30/2000), P-02, Study Abroad, 99/00-778, 8/10-8/16/99

Exchange

FOR SALE—1996 Chevy Cavalier; 2 dr; black; 5 speed manual; AM/FM&CD; 29,000 miles; excellent condition; \$7,500 (negotiable). Call Michele, 372-1097.

Larry J. tenHarmsel, English; and Rudy Ziehl, Office of the Vice President for Research.

20 years—Raymond E. Alie, management; Kuriakose K. Athappilly, business information systems; Jane Baas, dance; Kailash M. Bafna, industrial and manufacturing engineering; Kathy B. Beauregard, intercollegiate athletics; Andrew A. Brogowicz, marketing; Dwayne E. Channell, mathematics and statistics; David P. Cowan, biological sciences; Mary L. Dawson, health, physical education and recreation; Hans J. Dykxhoorn, accountancy; Bassam E. Harik, economics; Maureen Lassiter, physical plant-building maintenance services; Kathleen E. Sinning, accountancy; Frederick Sitkins, industrial and manufacturing engineering; and Lindsey A. Thomas, dance.

15 years—Robert J. Aardema, College of Aviation; Robyn C. Boyle, College of Arts and Sciences; Regina A. Bruce-Konuah, Valley #2 dining service; Judith A. Canaan, University libraries; Christopher S. Cho, mechanical and aeronautical engineering; Alyce M. Dickinson, psychology; Philip J. Egan, Center for Academic Support Programs; Frank M. Gambino, marketing; John W. Gesink, electrical and computer engineering; Mary Lu Light, Career English Language Center for Inter-

national Students; Joseph R. Morris, counselor education and counseling psychology; Sharon P. Myers, political science; Richard O'Hearn, music; Dennis D. Pence, mathematics and statistics; Susan Ponchillia, blind rehabilitation; Alvin S. Rosenthal, physics; Iskender Sahin, mechanical and aeronautical engineering; and Dennis J. VandenBrink, mechanical and aeronautical engineering.

10 years—Miriam Bat-Ami, English; Ronald S. Bell, public safety; Sara L. Carlson, Sindecuse Health Center; Suzanne Davis, teaching, learning and leadership; Clifton E. Ealy, mathematics and statistics; Karim Essani, biological sciences; Richard A. Gershon, communication; Ajay K. Gupta, computer science; Suzanne Hedstrom, counselor education and counseling psychology; Gunilla Holm, educational studies; Thomas R. Holmes, community health services; William F. Jackson, biological sciences; Laura C. Johnson, business services; Lynn N. Johnson, teaching, learning and leadership; Rand H. Johnson, foreign languages and literatures; Joan E. Johnson, information technology; Paul A. Johnston Jr., English; Emanuel Y. Kamber, physics; Albert LaVergne, art; Sherry L. Lepird, dance; Annalee Miller,

(Continued on page four)

Edison Project evaluation *(Continued from page one)*

intent of the NEA study is to provide an analysis of available statistics by an impartial third party.

"Our contract states that no matter what our findings are," Miron notes, "we will have the right to publish and disseminate the results of our study after we have given both the NEA and the Edison Project an opportunity to comment on those results. Even though the study is funded by the NEA, that move insures our independence."

To complete the study, Miron and his colleagues will review and assess existing evaluations of the Edison Project and examine the measures used in those evaluations. They will examine the nature and quality of standardized test results available, looking at Edison student achievement over time as well as their performance on tests in comparison with state and national norms and with control schools and schools in the local school districts. They also will develop an in-

depth analysis of each of the 12 schools before arriving at an overall study conclusion.

"We will be very thorough in our work because we know our study will be carefully scrutinized," Miron says. "This is basically a secondary evaluation of existing data, but we intend for it to be done in a statistically rigorous way that will stand up to the expected scrutiny."

Among data that will be examined will be evaluation material gathered and published by Edison officials, data from host school districts, state data such as the results of required standardized tests and materials gathered by other evaluation teams.

Schools that will be examined in the study include two in Wichita, Kan.; two in Boston, Mass.; one in Worcester, Mass.; two in Mount Clemens, Mich.; one in Lansing, Mich.; two in Sherman, Texas; one in Dade County, Fla.; and one in Colorado Springs, Colo.

The Evaluation Center enjoys an international reputation in the fields of school, program and personnel evaluation. Miron has previously been involved in evaluating Michigan's 100-plus charter schools as well as charter schools in both Connecticut and Pennsylvania.

Service

(Continued from page three)

College of Education; Joshua Naranjo, mathematics and statistics; John O. Norman, history; Russell P. Northey, power plant; Janet I. Pisaneschi, College of Health and Human Services; Andrew A. Rivers, Office of the President; Pamela J. Robertson, Registrar's Office; Silvia Roederer, music; John B. Running-Johnson, art; Scott W. Thornburg, music; Phillip VanderWeg, art; Jung-Chao Wang, mathematics and statistics; and Victor C. Xiong, history.

Five years—Eskander Alvi, economics; Judith M. Arnold, University libraries; Stephen Bartholomew, physician assistant; Steven B. Bertman, chemistry; Clement Burns, physics; Elisabeth Carnell, electrical and computer engineering; Cheryl Delk, Career English Language Center for International Students; E. Bryce Dickey, family and consumer sciences; Jena Gaines, history; Luis R. Gamez, English; Sharon L. Garber, dance; Pat Gill, English; Norman W. Hawker, finance and commercial law; Gunther M. Hega, political science; Diane M. Henagin, teaching, learning and leadership; Elizabeth A. Hoger, business information systems; Kevin Knutson, residence life; Christopher M. Korth, finance and commercial law; Joyce M. Kubiski, art; Irma M. Lopez, foreign languages and literatures; Tracey Mabrey, social work; Niloufer Mackey, mathematics and statistics; Ann Miles, anthropology; Gaylann S. Morse, paper and printing science and engineering; Koorosh Naghshineh, mechanical and aeronautical engineering; Ruth E. Noblett, business information systems; Kenneth C. O'Shaughnessy, management; Beth E. Ritsema, mathematics and statistics; Anil Sawhney, construction engineering, materials engineering and industrial design; Samer Shammass, WMU Bookstore; Denise M. Stump, international student services; Paul E. Szarmach, Medieval Institute; Laura R. VanZoest, mathematics and statistics; Susan K. Widdis, College of Health & Human Services; and Qiji Zhu, mathematics and statistics.

Calendar

The master calendar maintained by the Office of University Relations 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>.

Thursday, Aug. 12

Master planning session for the public, 2020 Fetzer Center, 7 p.m.

Friday, Aug. 13

*Kalamazoo Film Society showing (through Aug. 15), Tony Bui's "Three Seasons," Campus Cinema, Oakland Recital Hall: Aug. 13 and 14, 7 and 9:30 p.m.; Aug. 15, 2:30 and 5 p.m.

Saturday, Aug. 14

Solo 2 Autocross event, sponsored by Bronco MotorSports and the Sports Car Club of America, Rood Hall parking lot, 8 a.m.-3 p.m.; \$20 fee for drivers; spectators, free.

Tuesday, Aug. 24

*Time management workshop, Franklin Covey's "What Matters Most," session for WMU administrative/professional staff members, Fetzer Center, 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.; call 7-3232 to register.

Wednesday, Aug. 25

Annual Nontraditional and Graduate Student Services Fair, Fetzer Center, 3:30-6:30 p.m.

Bronco Days: An Introduction to the Western Way, for incoming students (through Friday, Aug. 27).

Thursday, Aug. 26

*Time management workshop, Franklin Covey's "What Matters Most," session for WMU clerical technical staff, Fetzer Center, 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.; call 7-3232 to register.

Monday, Aug. 30

Art exhibition (through Sept. 3) "MFA Candidates Group Show," Rotunda and South Galleries, East Hall, weekdays, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; reception, Friday, Sept. 3, 5-7 p.m. Volunteer Opportunities Fair, grass area in front of Waldo Library across from Wood Hall, 2-6 p.m.

19th annual Bronco Bash, Fountain Plaza, 3-10 p.m.

Fall semester classes begin, 4 p.m.

*Admission charged