Acquisition finalized

Transferred KPH property targeted for College of Health and Human Services consolidation

The University plans to consolidate its College of Health and Human Services at a projected cost of $45 million on the Kalamazoo Psychiatric Hospital property recently transferred to WMU from the state.

President Elson S. Floyd made that announcement Wednesday, Oct. 28, as he reported the completion of the transfer of the KPH property to WMU. The long-awaited transfer of this property and a smaller piece of property north of downtown Kalamazoo to WMU was concluded earlier that week.

The projected $45 million cost for construction of a new building and the renovation of the Earl Wilbur Building, which houses the WMU School of Nursing, is the first unfunded priority in WMU's capital outlay request to the state for 1999-2000.

It and other priority requests were approved by the Board of Trustees Friday, Oct. 30, in Detroit. Public colleges and universities make requests to the state for major building projects each year. (See "The President's Comments" on page two.)

"We are committed to excellence in the health sciences and to continuing our very substantial investment in Kalamazoo County," Floyd said. "In the past 10 years, WMU has invested $100 million in the renovation and construction of many facilities, most of them here in Kalamazoo County.

"The health sciences are a major area of growth and emphasis for the University," Floyd continued. "The consolidation of our College of Health and Human Services on Oakland Drive is a very appropriate because of the property's historic use and its easy public access for what is emerging as a major health corridor for our community and region.

The project will bring together the college's seven major academic units that are currently scattered in 13 locations across the campus. The resulting corridor will include WMU's Unified Clinics, which are located in the University Medical and Health Sciences Center. The center also houses the Michigan State University Kalamazoo Center for Medical Studies.

The transfer includes the 106.7-acre hospital property and 10 acres on Blakeslee Street known as the Northwest Unit. The property also directly sits on and Howard Street, now known as WMU's South Campus.

President Floyd displays a map of the KPH property, includes about 20 buildings.

"We are grateful to Gov. John Engler and to the State Legislature for making this happen," Floyd commented. "Their support of WMU and its aspirations is crucial in our ability to move forward as a premier student-centered research university.

"We owe special thanks to James Hoveman, Jr., director of the Department of Community Health, and Robert Mosher, manager of special services in the real estate division of the Department of Management and Budget, for their outstanding cooperation," said Keith A. Pretty, vice president for external affairs and general counsel.

Founded in 1976, the College of Health and Human Services never has had a home of its own, Floyd said. The first phase of the project would renovate the Earl Wilbur Building to house nursing and some of the other departments in the college at a projected cost of $5 million.

The second phase would be construction of a 160,000-square-foot building to house all other departments of the college as well as its administrative offices. The projected cost is $40 million.

Acceptance of the property was delayed until now so that environmental tests could be conducted on two underground storage tanks. One 550-gallon tank for diesel fuel was located near the Wilbur building and the other, a 1,000-gallon tank for gasoline, was near the motor pool building.

The tanks were removed in June and no contamination was found below either tank, said Patricia M. Holton, manager of environmental health and safety at WMU. State law requires soil testing and inspection whenever such tanks are removed.

The Department of Community Health will lease back 53 acres in the center of the property on Oakland Drive for use by the Kalamazoo Psychiatric Hospital for $1 per year.

WMU archaeologists pinpoint Niles site of 300-year-old, French-founded Fort St. Joseph

Its location has been a mystery for more than a century, but a team of archaelogists from WMU announced Nov. 5 that they have discovered remains of what they believe is a colonial occupation associated with the 300-year-old site of Fort St. Joseph in Niles, Mich.

The team, sponsored by a $10,000 grant from Support the Fort, a non-profit organization promoting and preserving the history of the fort, found a number of artifacts through excavation that clearly represent deposits associated with the site of the fort. Known as the Four Flags Fort, because it had flown under four different nations' flags in its history, the fort was established by the French and existed from 1691-1781.

"We found artifacts that indicate colonial occupation dating back to the eighteenth century," said Michael Nassyame, anthropology and leader of the team. "From these artifacts and where we found them, we can tell that parts of the site appear to be intact.

The items found include gun flints, eighteenth century pottery, trade beads and architectural stones that could indicate foundations or fireplaces. The finding of the fort is significant because it had flown under four flags for 197 years and was crucial to French control of trading in the southern Lake Michigan region.

The artifacts found at the site also will allow anthropologists and archaeologists to examine the interactions between the colonists and native peoples. According to Nassyame, a number of native Americans, mostly Potawatomi, lived in the area and their lives were changed dramatically by the arrival of the colonists and traders.

"What is interesting is how these two groups affected each other," he said. The colonists and traders were dependent on the native peoples, and as a result, they transformed each other. The native peoples were hunters and gatherers and part-time farmers who captured fur-bearing animals for their own use. But the fur trade in Europe at the time was substantial and

Did you know?

- Small and selective by design, the College of Health and Human Services has fewer than 1,800 students, making up just 7 percent of the WMU student body.
- The college's commitment to clinical education requires close faculty interaction. The average student to faculty ratio is 12 to 1.
- Despite its small size, the College of Health and Human Services is a major player in research and training funding, bringing in more than $3 million each year. That's more per capita than any of the other five academic colleges at the University.

Next News is last for fall

Because of the Thanksgiving holiday, the next issue of Western News will not be published until Dec. 3. That issue will be the last one published during the fall semester. The deadline for the Dec. 3 issue is 5 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 25.

Aviation school lauded

The School of Aviation Sciences has been honored with the Michigan Aeronautics Commission Award of Excellence for 1998.

The annual award, presented at the commission's Nov. 4 meeting, recognizes an organization and an individual whose contributions have led to significant improvements to Michigan's aviation and aerospace education.

"WMU's School of Aviation Sciences is a world-class institution of higher education," said MAC Director Grant Fong in making the award. "Its reputation for quality, innovation and leadership in aviation education is highly regarded worldwide.

The commission lauded the school for recent initiatives such as its establishment of the International Pilot Training Centre, its community outreach programming to open aviation to women and minorities and its commitment to train the next generation of airline crews in the use of the latest technology.

Accepting the MAC award were Joseph H. Dunlap, director of the school, and Ronald Sackett, coordinator of flight instruction, who is retiring in December, received a special citation from the MAC for his 32 years of service as an educator, flight instructor, pilot examiner and aviation safety counselor in Michigan.

UNCOVERING THE PAST —

Michael Nassame, anthropology, far right, details his team's findings during a Nov. 5 news conference in Niles. Among the artifacts he showed to reporters from across the area were those at right. They included a trigger lock, knife blades, portions of a porringer and a kettle and several personal items as a thimble, buttons and a belt buckle. (Photos by Neil Rankin)
University staffer says United Way 'loan' led to unexpected returns

For one WMU staff member, the Greater Kalamazoo United Way fall campaign has been an opportunity to see her community in a new light — a light she didn’t realize were there.

Dawn J. VanderPloeg, auxiliary enterprise, of Kalamazoo, Mich., says she had no idea of the extent that United Way would do. They visited and worked with the staffs of such organizations as Ministry with Meals on Wheels, which delivers meals to senior citizens.

"They began their tour of duty by learning firsthand what it means to be a loaned executive," VanderPloeg says. "They do a big part of it, but they also attract professional interest to their projects.

VanderPloeg says she'll come away from the experience ready to serve United Way in the future. She also marvels at the impact WMU has had on this year's campaign. One of her discoveries as a loaned executive was that five of the 12 people involved in the campaign's alumni program.

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Enhancing teaching is new director's focus

WMU already has good teachers. So why does it need a new center to enhance teaching and learning? It’s pretty simple, according to Peter M. Saunders, the newly named director of the Center for Teaching and Learning. "WMU has a very strong core of teaching faculty, and that's a good foundation on which to build a competitive advantage," Saunders says. The Center for Teaching and Learning can help promote this." Saunders also says, "I hope to bring this learning community together, both electronically and in terms of thinking and sharing of resources. But the main point is to help students learn, help them to develop and give us a competitive advantage."

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 and eligible employees should submit a job opportunity transfer application during the posting period, and may contact employment services staff member for assistance in securing these positions.

Human resources

Open Enrollment for health-medical insurance begins Monday, Nov. 30, and continues through Friday, Dec. 11.

During open enrollment, benefits-eligible faculty, staff and retirees may add eligible dependents to their coverage and/or change health-medical plans. The University offers the University Plan administered by Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan and two HMOs-Physician's Health Plan and Blue Care Network. A new pilot plan, offered through University Plan administrator Michigan Health Purchasing Alliance, will also be available for faculty and staff. Retirees are eligible for the SMHPA Faculty and staff will receive a mailing prior to Nov. 30, brievably outlining SMHPA coverage options. In-depth informational meetings about the pilot SMHPA plan will take place on Dec. 2, 3, 8 and 10. Meeting times and locations will be announced in the SMHPA mailing. Employees who select a SMHPA plan will have no payroll deduction for dependent coverage, and a cash incentive will be offered to employees with single coverage. For more information, employees should plan to attend one of the meetings.

The November mailing will contain the 1999-2000 plan options. During open enrollment, employees will receive information about added coverage under the University Plan. Changes made during open enrollment will be effective Jan. 11, 1999 and any accompanying payroll changes will be effective Feb. 2, 1999.

Obituaries

Gangaram K. Kripali, professor emeritus of economics, died Nov. 3. He was 67.

Dr. Kripali came to Western Michigan University in 1960 and retired in 1990 after 22 years of service. Among his areas of research were agricultural progress in India, population and migration, and India's agricultural development. Prior to coming to Western, Kripali worked at the University of Chicago, North Carolina State University and as assistant economic advisor for the Ministry of Food and Agriculture of the government of India. He earned his master's and doctoral degrees from North Carolina State University and also held a master's degree from the University of Bombay.

Lynne C. McCauley, director of WMU's Center for Academic Support Programs, died Nov. 6. She was 56.

McCauley joined the University as assistant professor of sociology in 1978. In 1981, she was named coordinator of the Writing Lab and director of the Intellectual Skills Development Program. She was appointed director of University Curriculum in 1985. Those programs and others are part of the center she directed. As director of the intellectual skills program, McCauley was involved in developing, maintaining and evaluating student achievement in reading, writing and mathematics. As University Curriculum director, she oversaw budget and managed the office, served as pre-advising and referral program coordinator and served students in the Business College.

McCauley earned her bachelor's degree from Immaculata College in 1961 and her doctoral degree from New York University in 1977. Memorials may be made to a scholarship fund McCauley's family has established in her memory through the WMU Foundation.
MeetIngin, Faculty Senate’s Admissions, Financial Aid and Student Affairs Council

Thursday, November 12
*Exhibition, Department of Art Faculty Show, Dalton Center Multi-Rooms, 3:30 p.m.*
*Exhibition, graphic design by New York artist Stefan Sagmeister, Gallery II, Sengen Hall, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.*
*Meeting, Department of Psychology, "Molecules in Very, Very Strong Light: Ionization," University Computing Center, noon-1 p.m.*
*Meeting, Faculty Senate’s Admissions, Financial Aid and Student Affairs Council, Conference Room B, Seibert Administration Building, 3:30 p.m.*
*Meeting, Department of Biology, "Establishing an Asian Presence: The Haworth Experience," John Amell, vice president of Asia-Pacific Operation, Haworth Inc., 11/22 Schneider Hall, 4 p.m.*
*Department of Physics and Astronomy, "Physics of Molecules in Very, Very Strong Light: Ionization, Dissociation and Spatial Alignment in the Non-Pertrusive Regime," Deepak Mathur, Tata Institute of Fundamental Research, Mumbai, India, 11/22 Room 10, 4 p.m.*
*Department of Mathematics and Statistics colloquium, "Truncated Moment Problems and Quadrature Rules," Larry Flagg, State University of New York at New Paltz, 11/22 Rooms 10 and 11, 1:00 and 2:00, 4 p.m.*

*Concert, General Company Sneak Preview, Dalton Center Recital Hall, 8 p.m.*
*through Nov. 21* University Theatre production, "Southern Girls," Shaw Theatre: Nov. 12-14 and Nov. 19-21, 8 p.m. Reading by Chinese fiction writers Beth Nugent and Stacey Levine, 3512 Knauss Hall, 10:30 p.m.

Friday, November 13
*Institute of Government and Politics lecture, "The Dynamics of Political Control of the Bureaucracy," B. Dan Wood, professor of political science at the George Bush School of Government and Public Service at Texas A&M University, 3301 Friedmann Hall, 1 p.m.*
*Department of Biological Sciences Seminar, "Control of Gene Expression by DNA Methylation," Marjan van der Woude, University of Philadelphia, 1718 Wood Hall, 3:30 p.m.*
*Women’s Volleyball, WMU vs. Central Michigan University, University Arena, 7 p.m.*
*Women’s (thru Nov. 15) Kalamazoo Film Society showing, "The Thief," Campus Cinema, Oakland Recital Hall, Nov. 13 and 14, and 9:30 p.m.; Nov. 15, 2:30 p.m.*
*Concert, Kalamazoo Symphony Orchestra with guest conductor Raymond Harvey conducting," Frankie Four Feet," Kalamazoo Auditorium, 8 p.m.*

Saturday, November 14
*Football, WMU vs. Bowling Green State University (Hall of Fame Game), Waldo Stadium, 2 p.m.*
*Women’s Volleyball, WMU vs Ball State University, University Arena, 8 p.m.*
*Concert, Brunch Surfing Band, "Sound of Western," Miller Auditorium, 3 p.m.*
*Guest Jazz Artist performance, "Danilo Perez Trio," Dalton Center Recital Hall, 8 p.m.*

Monday, November 16
*Exhibition, BFA Degree Show, Department of Art, thru November 21, 3:30 p.m.*
*Meeting, Department of Physics and Astronomy, "Physics of Molecules in Very, Very Strong Light: Ionization, Dissociation and Spatial Alignment in the Non-Pertrusive Regime," Deepak Mathur, Tata Institute of Fundamental Research, Mumbai, India, 11/22 Room 10, 4 p.m.*
*Guest artist recital, Frank Sidorfsky, bassett horn, Dalton Center Recital Hall, 8 p.m.*

Tuesday, November 17
*Department of Physics and Astronomy, "Physics of Molecules in Very, Very Strong Light: Ionization, Dissociation and Spatial Alignment in the Non-Pertrusive Regime," Deepak Mathur, Tata Institute of Fundamental Research, Mumbai, India, 11/22 Room 10, 4 p.m.*
*Department of Mathematics and Statistics colloquium, "Truncated Moment Problems and Quadrature Rules," Larry Flagg, State University of New York at New Paltz, 11/22 Rooms 10 and 11, 1:00 and 2:00, 4 p.m.*

Wednesday, November 18
*Convocation Service, Western Brass Quintet, Dalton Center Recital Hall, 1 p.m.*
*Campus Activities Board presents comedian Damon Wayans, Miller Auditorium, 8 p.m.*
*Grantseeking and Proposal Writing Workshop, "Budget Development," 159 Bernhard Hall, 10:30 a.m.-5 p.m.; reception Friday, Nov. 20., 6-8 p.m.*

Thursday, November 19
*Meeting, Faculty Senate’s Graduate Studies Council, Faculty Lounge, Bernhard Center, 3 p.m.*
*Meeting, Faculty Senate’s Regional Education Council, Conference Room B, Seibert Administration Building, 3 p.m.*
*Meeting, Department of Electrical Engineering, "Computer and Engineering seminar, speaker from (Earth)Tech, 3002 Kohrman Hall, 4 p.m.*
*Convocation Service, Western Brass Quintet, Dalton Center Recital Hall, 1 p.m.*
*Performance, Kansas City, MO, 11/22 Rooms 10 and 11, 1:00 and 2:00, 4 p.m.*
*Guest Jazz Artist performance, Jesse Green and Kenny Werner, piano, Dalton Center Recital Hall, 8 p.m.*

Retirement reception for Ron Sackett, aviation sciences, Fetzer Center, 5-8 p.m.*
*through Nov. 22* Women’s Film Society showing, "Just Us," 1997 film by Norwegian director Pal Sletaune, Campus Cinema, Oakland Recital Hall, Nov. 20, 21, 27, and 9:30 p.m.; Nov. 22, 2:30 p.m.*
*Student Recital, Graduate Brass Quintet, Dalton Center Recital Hall, 8 p.m.*

Saturday, November 21
*Women’s Basketball, WMU vs. Central Michigan University, University Arena, 3 p.m.*
*Hockey, WMU vs. Michigan State University, Lawson Ice Arena, 7 p.m.*
*Student Recital, Graduate Brass Quintet, Dalton Center Recital Hall, 8 p.m.*
*Student Recital, Sarah Hedlund, violin, Dalton Center Lecture Hall, 5 p.m.*
*University Chorale performance, Joseph Janoch, Conductor, Dalton Center Recital Hall, 8 p.m.*

Sunday, November 22
*Student Recital, Christopher Smith, trumpet, Dalton Center Recital Hall, 1 p.m.*
*Hockey, WMU vs. Northern Michigan University, Lawson Ice Arena, 7 p.m.*
*Student Recital, Rebecca Couturier, soprano, Dalton Center Recital Hall, 3 p.m.*
*Student Recital, Carrie Sikkenga, mezzo-soprano, Dalton Center Recital Hall, 5 p.m.*
*Student Recital, Ryan Billington, vocal jazz, Dalton Center Recital Hall, 8 p.m.*

Monday, November 23
*Concert, Doris Schoenni Show, Dalton Center Recital Hall 8 p.m.*
*Student Recital, Chris Sargent, piano/jazz, Dalton Center Lecture Hall, 9 p.m.*

Tuesday, November 24
*Basketball, WMU vs. University of Wisconsin at Milwaukee, University Arena, 7 p.m.*

Wednesday, November 25
*Women’s Basketball, WMU vs. University of Detroit, University Arena, 7 p.m.*

Thursday, November 26
*Women’s Basketball, WMU vs. University of Detroit, University Arena, 7 p.m.*

Friday, November 27
*Hockey, WMU vs. Northern Michigan University, Lawson Ice Arena, 7 p.m.*

Saturday, November 28
*Hockey, WMU vs. Miami University, Lawson Ice Arena, 7 p.m.*

Sunday, November 29
*Exhibition, MFA Degree Show, painting by Kristin Casaletto, Rotunda and South Galleries, weekdays 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; reception Friday, Dec. 4, 5-7 p.m.*

Tuesday, December 3

Thursday, December 3
*Reception honoring Ron Sackett, who has resigned as chairperson of social work, the Ollands, 4-6 p.m.*
*Global Business Lecture, "China Entry Strategies — Successes and Disappointments," Fernando Leal, senior vice president and president Market Region Latin America for Pharmacia & Upjohn, 11/22 Schneider Hall, 4 p.m.*
*Meeting, Faculty Senate, Fetzer Center, 5 p.m.*
*(through Dec. 6) University Theatre production, "Tis the Season... A Musical Holiday Revue," Multiform Theatre: Dec.-3-5, 8 p.m.; Dec. 6, 2 p.m.*

*Admission charged*