Happy Holidays!

To all members of the Western Michigan University community, we extend our warmest wishes for a joyful holiday season. May your future be filled with Light, Hope, Happiness and Good Health.

Carmento and Elson G. Floyd

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University ponders engineering proposals from two cities

WMU’s College of Engineering and Applied Sciences moved a step closer this week to knowing exactly where its future lies. Government and economic development leaders in Battle Creek and Kalamazoo have made their proposals, and now WMU must decide which community is the best prospect for a long and productive relationship. With a choice of five locations in two different cities and a variety of financial incentives to peruse, University officials have begun the task of selecting the college’s new home.

Officials from Kalamazoo and Battle Creek responded to the University’s request for proposals by submitting their formal written plans Nov. 30. Groups of officials from each city then made formal presentations Dec. 2 in their efforts to win the proposed new college facility, a paper and printing science research facility and a research park that is expected to attract dozens of private spin-off businesses.

President Floyd has said his goal is to make a recommendation to the Board of Trustees at its Dec. 11 meeting in Grand Rapids. He also has pledged to ensure that the community and public at large will be able to participate in the process that leads to a final decision.

The Kalamazoo proposal, widely publicized immediately after its submission, cites the project as “a new beginning for Western Michigan University and the community,” and says “the city envisions a new era that helps the community and the University together realize their full potential.”

The proposal offers the University a $20 million financial package that includes $15 million in commitments from private sources and a $3.12 million commitment from the city. The funds would finance building on the Lee Baker Farm and establishment of a $1.5 million endowment to turn the University’s nearby Asylum Lake property into a permanent protected nature preserve.

The Kalamazoo plan calls for construction of four buildings to house the College of Engineering and Applied Sciences on the western 68 acres of the 265-acre Lee Baker Farm property, running along U.S. 131. Construction would be financed with $37.5 million already approved by the state and by $12.5 million in matching funds which are part of the $1.5 million in private funds identified by the city.

The farm, which already is owned by the University, is located southwest of the main campus. The plan also calls for part of the property to be dedicated for private research development. A 60-acre buffer would separate the college and research section from residential areas. Zoning on the land would have to be changed to permit the private development portion of the effort.

The proposal further calls for construction of a new paper and printing science center on a parcel of University-owned land on Stadium Drive, adjacent to the Power Plant. The City of Kalamazoo would finance construction of that facility through the sale of municipal bonds. The University would use revenues generated by the plant to pay off the bond debt.

The Battle Creek proposal cites that city’s record in putting together the highly successful initiative that resulted in the move of WMU’s School of Aviation Sciences from Kalamazoo to larger, state-of-the-art facilities at W.K. Kellogg Airport in 1997.

“We challenge anyone to demonstrate such a strong and consistent pattern of support for the university and university programs,” says James F. Hettinger, president and chief executive officer of Battle Creek.

Did you know?

- Kohrman Hall, the current home of the College of Engineering and Applied Sciences, was completed in 1965. It was called the Engineering Technology Building until 1979 when the Board of Trustees named it for George Kohrman, the first dean of the College of Applied Sciences.
- This fall, the College of Engineering and Applied Sciences enjoyed a 48.6 percent increase in beginning freshman enrollment. Combined freshman and new transfer student enrollment for the School of Aviation Sciences increased 65 percent this fall.

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School of Aviation gets $1.65 million boost for jet simulator

Students in WMU’s School of Aviation Sciences will get some additional wind beneath their wings thanks to new funding approved last week by Battle Creek officials. The Battle Creek Tax Increment Finance Authority approved a proposal Nov. 24 that will bring the school $1.65 million to complete the funding for a jet simulator that will put WMU among a select few schools in the nation equipped to prepare flight students to fly airliners such as the Boeing 737.

The simulator being purchased, a 737-400 model from FRASCA International Inc. of Illinois, will be used for a jet orientation course that will serve as a capstone course for students in the school’s undergraduate flight curriculum. The school also is bidding for contracts to offer the jet orientation course to students in its International Pilot Training Centre, which currently is training pilots for British Airways, Aer Lingus and Emirates Airlines.

Offering the jet orientation course means the school will now have the technology to take students with no flight experience up to the point of requiring only aircraft type conversion to serve as a co-pilot of a large jet airliner — making them ready for immediate employment by commercial airlines.

According to David H. Thomas, interim director of the School of Aviation Sciences, the simulator should be installed and ready for use at the school’s Battle Creek facilities in January 2000. The 400-series simulator is designed to replicate the 737-400 aircraft, which he says, is currently the industry standard. The equipment.

(Continued on page four)
September awards push year-to-date grants past $8.5 million mark

Nearly $3.9 million in grants awarded to the University during the month of September has brought the year’s grant total soaring past the $8.5 million mark, according to a report presented by the Board of Trustees at its Oct. 30 meeting in Detroit.

The September grant figure of $3.86 million pushes the year-to-date total of grants received to $8,589,292. The awards from the National Science Foundation accounted for more than $2.6 million of the September total. Both the University and its students are at an all-time high in development as the University looks to revamp high school mathematics instruction that are under way in the Department of Mathematics and Statistics, according to Mathematics and Statistics Professor Trent P. Kynaston.

A $2,534,714 NSF award to Christian R. Hirsch, mathematics and statistics, will be used to conduct a comprehensive evaluation of a three-year core high school mathematics course for all students. The Core-Plus Mathematics Project, with a curriculum now in place nationwide, has been in development under Hirsch’s direction since 1992.

Four other grants received during September included $535,323 from Emirates Airlines, the international carrier of the United Arab Emirates. The award is to provide 13 months of pre-intro training for Emirates cadets. This training takes cadets from beginning flight instruction to qualification as co-pilots in the firm’s commercial passenger planes. Eight Emirates cadets were in August to begin a three-months of training at the School of Aviation Sciences.

Thirty-five faculty and staff members who have completed 25 years of continuous service at the University were eligible for induction into WMU’s 25 Year Club at the annual banquet Dec. 1 at the Bernhard Center. The 25 Year Club also inducted Anthony E. (Tony) Griffin posthumously.

The club, which now includes 1,334 members, includes 327 retired members, was founded in 1982 with 98 charter members.

The event took place at the conclusion of a month that was dedicated to the excellence of the college of Fine Arts; Gail L. MacNellis, College of Fine Arts; Maria H. D. Souza, Kalamazoo College; and Cheryl V. Sulosen, University libraries; David B. Schneider, physical plant maintenance services; Leonard E. Snackgang, physical plant custodial and support services; Daniel L. Stufflebeam, the Evaluation Center and education; Rodney Wade, physical plant building custodial and support services;

Bob E. White, industrial and manufacturing engineering, and Kenneth E. Williams, computer science; Molly W. Williams, associate dean in the College of Engineering and Appalachian Studies; Robin A. Willams, University libraries; and W. Wilson Woods, Office of International Affairs.

Two faculty and staff members received awards during September included $535,323 from Emirates Airlines, the international carrier of the United Arab Emirates. The award is to provide 13 months of pre-intro training for Emirates cadets. This training takes cadets from beginning flight instruction to qualification as co-pilots in the firm’s commercial passenger planes. Eight Emirates cadets were in August to begin a three-months of training at the School of Aviation Sciences.

University to award nearly 1,800 degrees in December

The University will award nearly 1,800 degrees as President Floyd presides over his first commencement ceremony Wednesday, Dec. 12, in Miller Auditorium.

There will be three ceremonies: one at 9 a.m. for graduates of the College of Arts and the College of Health and Human Services; one at 11:30 a.m. for graduates of the Haworth College of Business and the College of Engineering and Applied Sciences; and one at 2 p.m. for the College of Arts and Sciences and the Division of Continuing Education’s General University Studies.

A total of 1,330 bachelor’s, 427 master’s and specialist’s, and 15 doctoral degrees were awarded at the 2 p.m. ceremony. Jack Moss, longtime sports editor for the Kalamazoo Gazette, will receive an honor- ary doctor of public service degree.

Music for the ceremonies will be performed by the Western Brass Ensemble. A program recording will be sung by WMU’s Chapter of Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia. The graduates will be welcomed as new alumni of the University by Robert Miller, president past president of the WMU Alumni Association.

Tickets are required for the ceremonies. Each graduating participant is eligible to receive up to four guest tickets, which will be given at the time they pick up their regalia.

Guests without tickets may view the ceremonies on a large-screen television in Room 3512 of Knauss Hall. Each cer- emony will air live on Channel 7 of WMU TV, the University’s cable television system, and on Channel 32 of Kalamazoo Community Access television.

Board hears report of September gifts to University and Paper Technology Foundation

More than $200,000 in cash and non-cash gifts was received in September by the WMU Foundation, according to a report presented by the Board of Trustees at its Oct. 30 meeting.

The WMU Foundation, which was established in 1958, is in the middle of a $10 million capital campaign. The endow- ment the board accepted the $2,363,041 for 1996-99 fiscal year began July 1.

Among the major gifts received was $100,000 from George F. Ball to the Mike Gary Athletic Fund. The donation is re- stricted use for support the hockey pep rally for members of Western Band, Choir, and general counsel for American Suzuki Mo- tor Corp. in Brea, Calif. He played on the hockey team and received a bachelor de- gree of science degree from WMU in 1966.

BOT approves two staff appointments

Two staff appointments were approved by the Board of Trustees at its Oct. 30 meeting in Detroit.

During the meet- ing, the board approved the previous- ly announced appointment of Jef- frey Brennan as assistant vice presi- dent for legislative affairs, effective Dec. 7, and the appoint- ment of Col- len Lewis as direc- tor of internal audit, effective Oct. 26. She replaces Ver- sica Riley, whose resigna- tion the board also approved.

Breeman

Lewis

Sackett

Wykle

Board of Trustees approves employee retirement, resignation plans

The retirement of one dean and the return to the faculty of another were approved Oct. 30 by the Board of Trustees.

The retirement of Robert H. Luscrame, associate professor and dean of the College of Fine Arts, was approved by the board during its regular meeting. His retirement with emeritus status is effective June 30, 1999. During his time at WMU, Luscrame has served 26 years at the University.

The return to the faculty of Leonard L. Usomine, professor and co-chair of the College of Fine Arts and Applied Sciences since 1969, also was approved, effective July 1, 2000. In addition to his retirement, Usomine also was approved for Luscrame from July 1, 1999 through June 30, 2000.

At its regularly meeting, the board also accepted the resignation of the heads of three academic units. Those resigning are Joseph W. Dailey, director of the School of Aviation Sciences since 1992, effective Dec. 31, 1999; Bernardine M. Lichtensteiger, professor and director of the School of Nursing since 1994, effective June 30, 1999; and Philip R. Popple, professor and director of the School of Business and Industry since 1993, effective Dec. 31, 1999.

Deckard

Luscrame

Sackett

Wykle
WMU authors win prestigious literary prizes

Two of the University’s creative writing faculty members, Dybek and Nance Eimers, received exceptional awards at the fall 1998 Lannan Literary Awards this year. Eimers added prestigious literary awards to their already impressive lists of accolades.

Adding another laurel to the list of accomplishments, Dybek was named a finalist for a 1998 Lannan Literary Award for Fiction Composition. Ten writers who will receive a $75,000 cash award is one of 10 writers who will receive a $75,000 cash award.

Presented by the Lannan Foundation, the literary awards celebrate excellence in fiction, poetry and nonfiction writing. Now marking its 10th year, the awards program recognizes both established and emerging writers who have made significant contributions to English-language literature. Candidates for the annual awards are selected by a network of writers, literary scholars, publishers and editors of literary magazines.

Dybek is an American and literary critic, professor of English and is one of 10 writers who will receive a $75,000 cash award.

The University’s legislative agenda and its Web watch, for Dec. 7

The followingvacancy is currently being advertised in the Job Opportunity Program by employment services in the Department of Human Resources. Interested employees who do not have a home address on file should submit a job opportunity transfer application during the posting period, and may contact employment services personnel for assistance.

Applications should be submitted to the appropriate department.

Created 14 years ago, the Whiting Writers’ Awards program has distributed more than $4 million to emerging writers of excellence in fiction, poetry and nonfiction writing. All nominations are made anonymously. Past recipients of the award include Joyce Carol Oates, Richard Powers, and Alice McDermott. Eimers is the second WMU faculty member to receive a Whiting Writers’ Award.

Eimers' work has appeared in numerous literary magazines including Tin House, Boulevard, Paris Review, and Crazyhorse. Among her earlier awards are two fellowships from the National Endowment for the Arts, a 1997 Lannan Literary Award from the Whiting Writers’ Awards program, and a 1998 fellow from the American Academy of Arts and Letters, a Guggenheim Fellowship and a Whiting Writers Award. She has also received four O. Henry Prizes, including an O. Henry first prize for her story, "Hot lee."

"This is one of those programs that shows a very nice blend of academia and industry coming together," says Ferguson. "Our foundation members show a great spirit of helping out young people and bringing them into the industry." Ferguson has had a long career in fund-raising, having worked for various universities and organizations in California, Pennsylvania, Indiana and Washington, D.C., before coming back to his native Michigan. He’s also into development of another kind — business. As the owner and operator of several properties and small businesses in West Michigan, Ferguson found that there were many parallels between operating a business and raising money.

"We look for mentors who have a long-term vision to help our students get started. All of our members have strong relationships with the University and are actively involved in helping the student body. They are deeply committed to our mission of education," Ferguson said. "We started this foundation to raise money and build a network of writers, literary scholars, publishers and editors of literary magazines.

Dybek, a native Michigan, is also into development of another kind — business. As the owner and operator of several properties and small businesses in West Michigan, he has been active in international accountants. Dybek has been active in international accountants and has served the section's national board for the past fifteen years. He has written extensively on international accountants, and his research has been published in leading accounting journals. He is the editor of the Journal of International Accounting, Auditing & Taxation.

Web watch

The University’s legislative agenda and a message from President Ford about our legislative priorities are on the Web. Go to the "About WMU" page at the URL below and click on "Legislative Agenda" under General Information. www.wmich.edu/wmu

The Legislative Advocacy Network is composed of alumni, faculty, students, parents, and friends of WMU who support the University’s goals in funding from the state. To find out more, go to the legislative agenda page (see above) or go to the Alumni Association home page below and click on "Advocacy." www.wmich.edu/alumni

The Department of Comparative Religious Studies Web site has a completely new look. The site includes information on undergraduate and graduate programs, department faculty, and news and links for comparative religious studies.

Exchange

For SALE—Lopi wood-burning fireplace insert in great condition. Heateator has glass doors. $225 or best offer. Call 345-0215 and leave message.


On campus

The ART OF THE DEAL—John Ferguson loves to close a deal. As executive director of WMU’s Paper Technology Foundation, Ferguson is at the heart of many deals, including the recent $25 million donation of equipment from Fort James Corp. He works closely with the foundation’s board of directors and members and with the chairperson of the Department of Paper Science Engineering to develop strategies to solicit contributions for the foundation. These contributions support scholarships for the department’s students.

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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 at the World Wide Web site, www.wmich.edu/events. You can also link directly to the calendar at www.wmich.edu/wmu/news/events.

Thursday, December 3
(thru Dec. 4) 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. Meeting, Faculty Senate's Graduate Studies Council, Faculty Lounge, Bernhard Center, 3 p.m. Meeting, Faculty Senate's Regional Education Council, Conference Room A, Seibert Administration Building, 3 p.m. Meeting, Faculty Senate's Research Policies Council, 3150 Schneider Hall, 3 p.m. Global Business Lecture, “China Entry Strategies — Successes and Disappointments,” Fernando Leal, senior vice president and president Market Region Latin America for Pharmaceuticals & Upjohn, 1120 Schneider Hall, 4 p.m. Meeting, Faculty Senate, Fetzer Center, 5 p.m. *(thru Dec. 6) University Theatre production, ‘‘Tis the Season...A Musical Holiday Revue,’’ Multifilm Theatre: Dec. 3-5, 8 p.m.; Dec. 6, 7 p.m.

Friday, December 4
Department of Biological Sciences lecture, “Flight and Food-Finding Behavior in a Week-Flying Wasp/Leaf of the Rutaceae.” University of Michigan State University Department of Entomology, 1718 Wood Hall, 3:30 p.m. Lecture to joint meeting of Phi Mu Epsilon and the Kalamazoo chapter of the Mathematical Association of America, A 1.25-acre site is located near Hart’s Lake, which was once part of the fort’s military training area. The fourth site consists of two fixed interest rates; create a scholarship to be made at “incentive changes.”

Saturday, December 5
*(thru Nov. 22) Western Film Society showing, “Maris and Jeannette,” 1997 French film by Robert Guediguian, Campus Cinema, Oakland Recital Hall, Dec. 4 and 5 and 9:30 and 10:30 p.m.; Dec. 6, 2:30 p.m.

Sunday, December 6
“Christmas Kaleidoscope,” annual holiday concert by the WMU bands and select faculty/student ensembles, Miller Auditorium, 3 p.m.

Monday, December 7
*(thru Dec. 11) Exhibition, paintings by Chad Vlyons, Rotunda Gallery, weekdays, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

Tuesday, December 8
Meeting, BOT to meet in Grand Ballroom, South Galleries, weekdays 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Dec. 6, 2:30 p.m. Committee, 8:30 a.m.; and Academic and Student Affairs Committee, 9:15 a.m.

Wednesday, December 9
*Men’s Basketball, WMU vs. Marshall, University Arena, 2 p.m. *Women’s Basketball, WMU vs. Bradley, University Arena, 2 p.m. *Performance, “A Christmas Carol,” Miller Auditorium, 2 p.m. *Men’s Basketball, WMU vs. Buffalo, University Arena, 5:30 p.m. *Fall conference on higher education available on video

Thursday, December 10
*Men’s Basketball, WMU vs. Ohio, University Arena, 2 p.m. *Women’s Basketball, WMU vs. Kent, University Arena, 7 p.m. *Women’s Basketball, WMU vs. Buffalo, University Arena, 5:30 p.m. *Men’s Basketball, WMU vs. Oakland, University Arena, 7 p.m. *Women’s Basketball, WMU vs. Ohio, University Arena, 2 p.m. *Men’s Basketball, WMU vs. Marshall, University Arena, 2 p.m. *Meeting, Faculty Senate, Fetzer Center, 5 p.m.

Friday, December 11
Evaluation Center Sack Lunch Seminar, “Reflections on Systemic Change in a Public School System,” Gay Wegeneke, the Evaluation Center, 401 B Elsworth, noon-1 p.m. (and Thursday, December 10) Informational meetings on the th the SMHPA pilot health plan for employees, 157-158 Bernhard Center, 9 a.m. and 2 p.m. Retirement reception honoring Jack Culp and John Hoppel, physical plant, President’s Dining Room, Bernhard Center, 2-4 p.m. Annual holiday reception sponsored by President Floyd and the Board of Trustees, South Ballroom, Bernhard Center, 2:30-4:30 p.m. Program, “Creating Tomorrow’s Learner-Centered Environments — Today!” is available on videotape through the Division of Media Services. The PBS live interactive conference was downlinked on campus this fall and shown on EduCast. It is designed for higher education leaders who are planning the facilities, infrastructures, programs and relationships to be used by future learners. The program was produced by the Society for College and University Planning.

Saturday, December 12
Commencement, Miller Auditorium, 9 a.m., 11:30 a.m. and 2 p.m. *Men’s Basketball, WMU vs. Oakland, University Arena, 2 p.m. *Women’s Basketball, WMU vs. Marshall, University Arena, 2 p.m. *Performance, “A Christmas Carol,” Miller Auditorium, 2 p.m.

Sunday, December 13
*Women’s Basketball, WMU vs. Toledo, University Arena, 2 p.m.

Monday, December 14
*Hockey, WMU vs. University of Massachusetts-Amherst, Lawson Ice Arena, 7 p.m. *Women’s Basketball, WMU vs. Kent, University Arena, 7 p.m.

Tuesday, December 15
*Hockey, WMU vs. University of Massachusetts-Amherst, Lawson Ice Arena, 7 p.m. *Men’s Basketball, WMU vs. Kent, University Arena, 7 p.m.

Wednesday, December 16
*Men’s Basketball, WMU vs. Ohio, University Arena, 8 p.m. *Women’s Basketball, WMU vs. Buffalo, University Arena, 5:30 p.m. Winter semester classes begin at 4 p.m.

Thursday, December 17
Meeting, Faculty Senate, Fetzer Center, 5 p.m.

Friday, December 18
BÔT to meet in Grand Rapids in December
The Board of Trustees will conduct its next regular meeting Friday, Dec. 11, at the office of Varum, Schmidt & Howlett in Bridgewater Place, 333 Bridge St., N.W. in Grand Rapids. The meeting is expected to begin at 10 a.m. in the Greco Room. Agenda items include gift and grant reception and presentation of special awards as well as a recommendation to adopt a charter school policy. The board also will consider contract renewal for Little Caesar’s Pizza in the Bronco Mall.

In addition to the regular board meeting, committee meetings have been scheduled, also in the Greco Room. The meetings and times are: Budget and Finance Committee, 8:30 a.m.; Faculty Senate Committee on Academic and Student Affairs Committee, 9:15 a.m.

November 8, 1998 Western News