President Floyd sets his agenda with audiences around the state

An increased presence in Detroit and Grand Rapids, a major capital campaign and an emphasis on research that impacts the lives of Michigan citizens are among his goals for the University, President Elson S. Floyd told audiences around the state last week.

Calling the WMU leadership post “the best university presidency in the land,” Floyd began his tenure in office with a whirlwind set of activities designed to raise the University’s profile in a number of key areas. His mission was to introduce himself to various constituents and begin his goal of forging strong relationships at the local, state and national levels.

Floyd took office Aug. 1 as the University’s sixth president, succeeding Diether H. Haenicke. His first ten days on the job took him from a community charitable event on the banks of Milham Park’s pond to Gov. John Engler’s office in Lansing, with stops in Battle Creek and Grand Rapids along the way.

Speaking at an Aug. 3 news conference and during an interactive videoconference later that day, Floyd pledged to increase the University’s presence in Detroit and Grand Rapids and vowed to forge even closer ties with both state and federal legislators. But although the launch of his presidency may have appeared focused on an external audience, Floyd said his presidency will maintain a careful balance between external and internal concerns.

“The first challenge I have is to make sure that faculty here at Western understand that I understand academics,” he responded when asked to describe where he will focus his attention first. “There is a suspicion that I don’t understand the academic nature of the institution. I will try to dispel that myth very quickly.”

Floyd said he already has had productive meetings with all of the University deans and next week will begin meeting with the leadership of the Faculty Senate and the WMU chapter of the American Association of University Professors. He spent part of his first morning on the job meeting with emeriti faculty members who, he said, provided him with insight into the traditions of the institution.

Floyd called for increased research efforts to take WMU from Doctoral I to Research II status, calling a step up in the Carnegie Foundation’s classification system.

(Continued on page two)
Total gifts to the University edged past the $9 million mark to finish the 1997-98 fiscal year ending June 30 at $9,057,711, the Board of Trustees learned at its July 24 meeting.

Solid giving was reported by the WMU Foundation, while record giving was reported by the Paper Technology Foundation, which is in the middle of a $5.75 million capital campaign. The campaign began in July 1995 and will conclude in June 2000. So far, it has garnered $3.3 million in gifts and pledges.

The Paper Technology Foundation received $1,370,933 in cash and non-cash gifts for the fiscal year, surpassing the previous high of $288,190 by a remarkable 376 percent. In June alone, the organization reported receiving more than twice the amount received in the entire 1996-97 fiscal year.

The foundation was established in 1958. It supports and enhances the paper programs offered by the Department of Paper and Printing Science and Engineering. It also helps recruit and financially assist young men and women who wish to pursue careers in the pulp and paper industry.

The WMU Foundation, which receives gifts for a variety of University departments, programs and activities, received a total of $7,686,788 during the 1997-98 fiscal year. Of this amount, current cash gifts represented $741,566. Capital gifts represented $891,912 and non-cash gifts represented $6,053,300, deferred cash gifts represented $741,566.

"Giving to WMU remains strong," said Keith A. Pretty, vice president for external affairs and general counsel. "In 1997-98, we received exceptional support through the Paper Technology Foundation and solid support through the WMU Foundation."

Private gifts to the University, whether restricted or unrestricted, are a key factor in WMU's ability to maintain and advance excellence, Pretty said.

"These gifts touch the University across the board, enriching the sciences, the arts, scholarships, athletics and many other areas," he said. "They directly benefit our students and faculty members as well as contribute to enhancing our national and international reputation."

During the past 10 years, Pretty continued, the public has given more than $93 million in gifts to the University.

"This level of sustained support has made it possible for us to offer some of the best programs, facilities and services in the country," he said.

Pretty's report to the board also included June gift figures. Total gifts in the final month of the 1997-98 fiscal year amounted to $676,192 for the WMU Foundation and $487,685 for the Paper Technology Foundation.

Among the major donations to the WMU Foundation was $50,000 from the family and friends of the late Donald J. Seelye to establish the Donald "J" Seelye Endowed Scholarship Fund for Athletics.

At least two Seelye scholarships will be awarded each year. Based on financial need, they will go to incoming student-athletes who are enrolled full time. Family members contributing to the endowment fund are Seelye's wife, Jane, and the couple's sons, Michael and Patrick, all of Kalamazoo. Patrick received a bachelor of science degree from WMU in 1976.

**Floyd** (Continued from page one)

He said the research emphasis will energize the faculty and make it easier for WMU to recruit top faculty members in the future. He also said when boosting research efforts, the University will take special measures to identify crucial research areas that will impact the citizens of Michigan.

During the videoconference, which attracted 80 invited University alumni and friends in Kalamazoo, six Michigan cities and Chicago, Floyd touched on a number of higher education issues and laid out three areas of commitment about which he expects to speak repeatedly in coming months.

"We will be talking a lot about the investment the state has made in the University and how citizens benefit as a consequence of that," he said. "We'll also talk about a major capital campaign and make sure there are quality academic programs we can highlight at the University that show donors the result of their largesse. And we'll work hard at improving relationships."

Floyd called Grand Rapids the economic engine of West Michigan and said the University would be very aggressive in building its presence in that city. He said the University would have to invest additional resources in its regional center there and take care to ensure it offered the correct array of programs to meet the needs of Grand Rapids residents.

Detroit also will be a focal point for development, Floyd said. He predicted he will spend a good deal of time in that area and he will investigate the possibility of engaging in partnerships with other public universities there.

"Detroit is just too big a market for us not to have a much more dominant presence than has been established already," he said.

Town/gown relationships also were among those Floyd singled out for attention. He pointed to WMU's role as one of Kalamazoo's largest employers and reiterated the University's commitment to the area's continued growth, which he says will be enhanced by partnerships with the community in the areas of education and neighborhood redevelopment. WMU CARE — the Campus Area Restoration Effort, which was begun by Haenicke will remain one focus of those efforts.

Floyd said he and his family have been enthusiastically welcomed to the University and the community and he praised the atmosphere and ambiance he sensed at WMU on his first visit.

"This is the best University presidency in the land," Floyd told videoconference participants. "I'm immensely grateful that the trustees had the confidence in me to select me as the sixth president."
Two take posts as Career Services college coordinators

Two persons have been appointed to positions as coordinators in the Office of Career Services.

Linda L. Ickes will serve as coordinator for the College of Engineering and Applied Sciences. Lisa J. M. Walker will be coordinator for the College of Fine Arts and the College of Health and Human Services.

Ickes comes to WMU from Bronson Methodist Hospital in Kalamazoo, where she worked for 17 years. During her last four years at Bronson, she conducted organizational development and training programs for hospital management and staff. She also coordinated the hospital’s career development and mobility program and supervised its educational conference center.

Walker’s higher education experience includes work as a WMU international student services counseling assistant in 1995, a Kalamazoo College career counselor intern in 1994 and an Alma College career assistant from 1988 to 1991. She most recently worked for Big Brothers/BIG Sisters of Greater Kalamazoo as a case manager and youth guidance counselor.

Service

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

30 years — James W. Burns, education and professional development; John R. Cooley, English; C. Curtis-Smith, music; Fred A. Decker, intercollegiate athletics; John B. Dilworth, philosophy; Carl W. Doubleday, music; E. Rozanne Elder, history; Jerry H. Hamelink, mechanical and aeronautical engineering; Robert C. Hinkel, English; Bradley E. Huitema, psychology; Richard J. Keaveny, art; Michael E. McCarrville, chemistry; Mary E. Neu, art; Gale E. Newell, accountancy; Michael S. Pritchard, philosophy; Kenneth E. Reid, social work; Robert J. Ricci, music; George Robeck, communication; Herbert S. Scott, English; Uldis Smidchens, educational leadership; Ralph K. Steinhaus, chemistry; Larry E. Syndergaard, English; Darrell B. Thomas, family and consumer sciences; and Lawrence A. Williams, College of Engineering and Applied Sciences.

25 years — Ronald B. Chase, geology; Stuart J. Dybek, English; William B. Harrison III, geology; Christian R. Hirsh, mathematics and statistics; David K. Issacson, University libraries; Brent P. Kynaston, music; Jay D. Lindquist, marketing; Robert H. Luscombe, College of Fine Arts; Stefan S. Sarenius, University libraries; Daniel L. Stufflebeam, Evaluation Center; Bob E. White, industrial and manufacturing engineering; Molly W. Williams, College of Engineering and Applied Sciences; and Kenneth L. Williams, computer science.

20 years — Roberta Allen, business information systems; Gary E. Bigelow, foreign languages and literatures; Sue M. Hampton, physical plant-building custodial and support services; Robert L. Jones, finance and commercial law; Dionysios I. Kountanis, computer science; Ronald C. Kramer, sociology; Gary D. Lawson, speech pathology and audiology; Lynne C. McCauley, Center for Academic Support Programs; Joseph W. McKeen, mathematics and statistics; Corrine Nadrasik, Sindecuse Health Center; Adelaiga G. Nicholson, Sindecuse Health Center; Leisa L. Ozolins, aviation sciences; Edward J. Pawlak, social work; Zahir A. Quraeshi, marketing; Greg D. Roehrick, theatre; Christopher J. Schmidt, geology; Irene R. Woldring, Sindecuse Health Center; Stephen L. Zegrec, music; and Christine G. Zimmer, Sindecuse Health Center.

15 years — Susan Caringella-MacDonald, sociology; Cynthia R. Dunaway, public safety; Paul V. Engelmann, industrial and manufacturing engineering; Kristin C. Freeman, Haworth College of Business; Donna Kaminski, computer science; Gregory B. Lozeau, University computing services; Johnny L. Pherigo, music; Bradley A. Wong, music; and Lard L. Wylie, aviation sciences.

10 years — Christine M. Bahr, special (Continued on page four)

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 employment services staff members 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) Custodial Supervisor (First, Second or Third Shift), P-03, Building Custodial and Support Services, 98/99-067, 8/11-8/17/98.

(R) Research Technician I (Term Ends 6/30/99; Renewable; Hourly), P-01, Biological Sciences 98/99-068, 8/11-8/17/98.

(R) Student Advisor II, P-04, College of Arts and Sciences, 98/99-069, 8/11-8/17/98.

(R) Planning Specialist, P-02, Campus Planning, 98/99-070, 8/11-8/17/98.

(R) Coordinator, Fitness Program, P-02, University Recreation, 98/99-071, 8/11-8/17/98.

Please call the Applicant Information Service at 7-3669 for up-to-date information on the Job Opportunity Program and vacancies available to external applicants.

(R) Replacement

WMU is an EO/AA employer
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 WMU News and then look for Calendar of Events. You can also link directly to the calendar at <www.wmich.edu/wmu/news/events>.

Friday, August 14
*(thru Sunday, Aug. 16) Kalamazoo Film Society showing, "The Butcher Boy," directed by Neil Jordan, Campus Cinema, Oakland Recital Hall: Aug. 14 and 15, 7 and 9:30 p.m.; Aug. 16, 2:30 p.m.

Thursday, August 20

Saturday, August 22
*(and Aug. 23) Bronco Soccer Clinic, WMU Soccer Complex, 9 a.m.-noon; to register call 7-0350.

Wednesday, August 26,
Nontraditional and Graduate Student Services Fair, 3:30-6:30 p.m., North Ballroom, Bernhard Center.

Monday, August 31
(thru Sept. 4) Exhibition and Photographs from South Manitou Island," South Gallery, East Hall, weekdays, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; reception, Friday, Sept. 4, 5-7 p.m.
(thru Sept. 11) Exhibition, photojournalism by Martin Burch and Rich Wozniak, Rotunda Gallery, East Hall, weekdays, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; reception, Friday, Sept. 11, 5-7 p.m.
(thru Sept. 27) Exhibition, "Images of India: People of Cuttack," photographs by Kalamazoo artist Bijoy Bhuyan, weekdays, Sangren Hall.
Bronco Bash, Fountain Plaza and Parking Structure II, 3-10:30 p.m.

Fall semester classes begin at 4 p.m.

Thursday, September 3
*Football, WMU vs. Northern Illinois University (CommUniverCity Night), Waldo Stadium, 7:30 p.m.

*Admission charged

Service (Continued from page three)

education; Christine Browning, mathematics and statistics; James M. Butterfield, political science; Gloria P. Culp, registrar's office; Michael J. Dekau, telecommunications; Lauretta R. Eisenbach, education and professional development; Delores R. Gauthier, music; Tarun Gupta, industrial and manufacturing engineering; Kristin B. Gustafson, physical plant-building maintenance services; David A. Guth, blind rehabilitation; Tricia Hennessy, art; Abdulazim Houshyar, industrial and manufacturing engineering; Gloria Johnson, physical plant-building custodial and support services; Sheldon Langsam, accountancy; Marsha A. Mahan, nursing; Betty A Markillie, music; Rosemary Nichols, continuing education; Dasha C. Nisula, for-}

Graduate, nontraditional student event scheduled

Graduate and nontraditional students will have a chance to get acquainted with the University and take care of needed business at a Wednesday, Aug. 26, gathering on campus.

The annual Nontraditional and Graduate Student Services Fair is set for 3:30 to 6:30 p.m. in the North Ballroom of the Bernhard Center. As many as 400 students, aged 25 and up, are expected to attend and take advantage of the opportunity to take care of such business as securing a student identification card or purchasing a parking sticker.

More than 40 University offices and departments will be on hand to meet with students and review the services and resources that are available to assist them. On-site child care will be provided and refreshments will be served.

A series of door prizes will be awarded during the event. They include a $150 voucher for course work through the Division of Continuing Education and three credit hours of graduate tuition. For more information about the event, persons should contact the Graduate College at 7-3570.

Next News published Sept. 3

This is the last issue of the Western News for the summer session. Publication will resume with the Sept. 3 edition. The deadline for that issue is 5 p.m. Friday, Aug. 28.