Look out below 'Groundbreaking' technology barely scratches the surface

Geophysicists recently made history when they discovered a new type of dinosaur fossil in the United Kingdom.

During the excavation, a team of experts used advanced imaging technology to scan the area, revealing details about the dinosaur's anatomy that were previously unknown.

This discovery has sparked new interest in the field of geophysics, as researchers continue to explore the potential of using this technology in other areas, such as archaeology and engineering.

Local students to join in national broadcast

Kalamazoo area college students will be part of a national summit on the topic of "The Way Things Can Be." The summit will be held at the University of Michigan's Center for Educational Media.

The program will air live on Kalamazoo Community Access Channel 33 and on EduCABLE Channel 36.

The national panel will be moderated by Ronald Takaki, professor of Ethnic and Race Relations.

Panelists will include: Ronald Takaki, professor of Ethnic and Race Relations; Beverly A. Moore, director of the University of Michigan's Center for Educational Media; and Beverly A. Moore, director of the University of Michigan's Center for Educational Media.

The program is designed to explore the role of education in promoting diversity and social justice.

Did you know?

- A total of 1,742 students or 6.8 percent of this fall's enrollment of 25,699 is made up of international students. They hail from 90 different countries.
- The top five countries sending students to WMU are: Malaysia, China, United Kingdom, Saudi Arabia, and German.
- The top five states sending students to WMU are: California, Texas, Ohio, New York, and Michigan.
- The top five majors for international students are: Business, Engineering, Computer Science, Psychology, and Hospitality Administration.
Book explores culture and traditions of Asia and Africa

African and Asian culture and traditions are explored in a new book by a faculty member who has been one of the local pioneers in teaching American students about the non-Western world.

"Asia and Africa: Traditions" is the title of the book by Vishva B.L. (Visho) Sharma, director of the non-Western world program at Western Michigan University. The book was published in September by Shiva/Peacock Publishing House of Kalazoom. Intended as a college text, the book is being used on the WMU campus and is being offered to major publishing houses so that it will be available internationally in the future.

Sharma, who has been working on the book for a number of years, says a serious shortage of books for the non-Western world exists. In his course, he has led students to be the first to read the new book's volume's recent completion and location for the start of the fall semester.

In 1965, WMU became one of the first universities in the nation to require the study of non-Western cultures as part of its general education program. For 30 years, two classics were used as texts for that program and for similar programs which have sprung up around the nation. Both books are now out of print and outdated, and the book on Asia was rapidly becoming unavailable.

"In one sense, I've been working on this book for 25 years," Sharma says. "Our students, who have coordinated WMU's non-Western world program since 1968. But in another sense, there was a frantic sprint this spring and summer when, after scouring the nation's bookstores, we realized that there were no longer enough of the Welty books available for our students."

Sharma says that the Welty and Maquet books are considered classics, but both are out of print and outdated. "I was able to explore the area covered by Africa and all of Asia, including the Middle East. There really is no other book like it," Sharma says. "Sharma's book divides the region into five separate areas and covers, geographically and cultural development. The five are: East Asia, China, Japan, Korea; South Asia; South Asia, which includes such nations as India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, and Nepal; West Asia and North Africa, which includes the area known in the West as the Middle East; and sub-Saharan Africa, which includes much of the land mass of the African continent."

Sharma says that although he tried to maintain some consistency with Maquet's and Welty's treatment of the areas, he sees the new text as a complete break with their classical approach. His own work focuses heavily on what changes in society. "I try to explore the hypothesis that as technology changes, so does our ecological adaptation to our surroundings," Sharma says. "Technology changes society and society's values. It changes the way we relate to one another." Such change proved a major difficulty for Sharma in compiling his text. He notes that change in the non-Western world is occurring at a pace Americans have trouble understanding.

"In this country when we go to the polls, the results of the election won't mark the beginning of a new reality," Sharma says. "The difference between Jimmy Carter's America, Ronald Reagan's America or Bill Clinton's America is the difference between 10 and 11. In Africa and Asia, the situation is much more fluid. Change is occurring in a dramatic reality, the non-Western world is a fluid reality." As an example, Sharma points to the turbulence in the Middle East, which he says is "changing in a dramatic and alarming fashion." In Iran and in Turkey, Sharma notes that the world has shown two good examples of how centu-

Kuttner named to skills center post

George Kuttner has been named as the Academic Skills Center's coordinator. Kuttner will be responsible for coordinating the Writing Center, which offers one-on-one tutoring in all forms of writing for WMU students. The center also provides instructional software for college writers to use in the Writing Center's reference library, instructional hand-outs and-in-class workshops. He will design and implement tutoring strategies to help expand the Writing Center's resources.

Kuttner brings to the job a particular interest in creative writing and will work to increase student and faculty awareness of and involvement with the Writing Center and with all the components of the Academic Skills Center. He will assist Cindy Overly, director of the Writing Center, who offers help with the other components of the center, which include the Supplemental Instruction, Support and Content Tutoring programs.

A graduate of San Francisco State University with a bachelor of arts degree in creative writing, Kuttner plans to complete his master of fine arts degree in creative writing at WMU this fall. While a graduate student, he has worked as a teaching assistant, leading composition and creative writing courses in the Department of English. He also served as managing editor of Third Coast, WMU's new literary magazine.
Contracts for science project to go by end of fall

Construction contracts are expected to be awarded this fall for the end of the fall semester on the project to renovate and expand science facilities at the University. The project involves the retrofit of Wood Hall and the construction of a new Science Research Pavilion. The project was modified after initial bids came in $5.5 million over the project's $43.5 million budget, according to distant Dakin. "The change will not be noticed by anyone walking under the atrium or in any activity in the atrium itself," Dakin said.

Construction would begin in January with occupation of the new Wood Hall during the winter 1999 semester, he said. The Science Research Pavilion is expected to be completed during the winter 1999 semester.

Receptions to mark retirements of three

Two retirement receptions are planned for a central staircase in the atrium. This is a critical part of the operation, McFaul says. "We want to be able to accommodate their needs," McFaul says. "Because of the times, it's important to maintain the quality training by some other way." McFaul sees a real need for this type of training. "It's a real need for both the credit programs and non-credit conferences and institutes each semester. The unit, formerly called the Center for Continuing Education, offers a variety of programs and schools at WMU, ranging from teachers to substance abuse counselors, clients ranging from teachers to substance abuse counselors, and professional development trainees. "This allows WMU to secure stronger contracts with the cafeteria's deli delivery service, which provides an additional source of income for the cafeteria. They work as servers, busers and cashiers in the public cafeteria. She also helps make coffee and food service all over the place. When not at work, Ohler enjoys working with clay and paints as well as spending time with her family. She and her husband are restoring a 1960 wooden boat. They also devote a considerable amount of time to following the activities of their two sons, ages 9 and 11.

On campus

WHERE THE HEART IS

Doris N. Ohler, director of the University dining services, has been at WMU for 16 years. But when it came time to make a decision about where to raise a family, she and her husband decided to go where they were happiest and growing up in Michiana. Ohler earned her bachelor's degree from WMU in 1979 in merchandising and interior design. Over the course of the next several years, she worked in interior design and food services all over the country. When she ended up back in the Kalamazoo area, she says she naturally looked to her alma mater.

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Six win quarterly service excellence awards

Six outstanding persons have been selected to receive Staff Service Excellence Awards for the quarter that covers July, August and September. The winners were nominated by their peers to honor excellence and performance above and beyond job requirements. They are: Diane M. Arizona, admissions; Robert R. Champion, physical plant-landscape services; Vicki L. Cox, physical plant-operational services; David H. Eversole, biological sciences; Dean K. Honsberger, University budgets; and Linda S. Stephenson, biological sciences.

Champion is from the American Federal Government State, County and Municipal Employees ranks and Cox is from the clerical/technical employee group, Arizona, Eversole, and Stephenson are from the professional/technical/administrative employee group. They are among 16 employees nominated by their peers. Each will receive a Staff Service Excellence certificate and a $50 gift certificate to the designated University facility of their choice. A total of 83 staff members received awards since the program began in 1994.

Jobs

The following list of vacancies is currently being posted through the Job Opportunities by Employment Placement (JOEP) Program and through the Department of Human Resources. Interested 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 these positions, opportunities are open in selected fields. A letter of application should be submitted to the appropriate dean or chairperson.
- (R) Environmental Control Person (First Shift), M-5, Physical Plant-Maintenance Services, 96/97-147, 11/5-11/11/96.
- (R) Grounds Laborer I (First Shift), 6 a.m.-2:30 p.m., M-2, Physical Plant-Maintenance Services, 96/97-158, 11/5-11/11/96.
- (R) Utility Food Worker 2 (Positions), F-1, Dining Services, 96/97-160, 11/5-11/11/96.
- (N) Systems Coordinator (Term Ends 1 Year; Renewable; Hourly), X-02, Physical Plant-Maintenance Services, 96/97-161, 11/5-11/11/96.
- (R) Utility Food Worker 2 (Positions), F-1, Dining Services, 96/97-160, 11/5-11/11/96.
- (N) New
- (R) Replacement
- WMU is an EO/AE employer.
Geophysics

had spotted some time before in a geophysical survey of the area. Taking a more detailed look at the problem in question by making a series of passes with a ground penetrating radar unit, they discovered a roughly unknown plume of fuel containing 15 feet of surface and near the watertable. Drilling and sample collection of the plume turned up specimens that Sauck says are among the worst found at the base. The discovery resulted in Air Force contractors conducting a search that sparked new negotiations between the Air Force and the civilian base authority.

In some cases, geophysics is used in archaeology or forensic purposes, its value lies in the fact that it can illuminate without destroying the evidence. Once an item is located, those conducting a search can decide the safest way to go about recovering it. Despite its wide applicability, Sauck and Atewakana say there is a general lack of understanding of geophysics among many of the industries that might most benefit from it. Among the general public, the technology is often either misunderstood or not even thought to have been used for such poplarly appealing efforts as the hunt for dinosaur bones.

The equipment, different geophysical techniques and instrumentation originally was developed for use by the oil, mineral and groundwater industries and they have been re-tuned for near-surface use to provide higher resolution and deeper penetration of the earth's surface. The equipment and techniques are relatively easy to use, even by a novice. The challenge, Sauck and Atewakana say, lies in turning the tool's raw data into an interpretation of the data collected.

"Each site is geophysically different," Sauck says. "What you do at one site won't always work at a second site. Accuracy depends on using the right tool for the soil composition. Clay, for instance, limits the depth of penetration for some tools such as ground penetrating radar."

Atewakana says that successful application of the technology requires that the users have a thorough knowledge of geology, geochemistry and hydrology as well as geophysics. It's important, she says, that students understand both what is geologically typical and what is abnormal.

"If you're hunting for elephants," Sauck points out, "it's a good idea to know what they look like before you begin your exploration."

To ensure that their students get a wide range of experience in reading data about subsurface material, Sauck and Atewakana have been setting up a geophysical test site for the tools at WMU's Asylum Lake field laboratory.

They have been systematically burying objects there for their students to find. These include barrels and pipes buried at differing depths, orientations and groupings. Buried containers might be filled or not, filled with water or not, made of any variety of materials, such as steel or plastic.

Atewakana also hopes to develop a section with some archaeological targets, such as animal skeletal remains. In addition, the site may be used by manufacturing representatives interested in testing the sensitivity of new equipment.

Diversity

"Enhancing Teaching with Technology" program, "Web Resources for Teaching and Research in the Humanities and Fine Arts," Judith M. Arnold and David K. Isackson, both University libraries, Stewart Tower Conference Room, third floor, University Computing Center, noon-1 p.m. to register call 7-5430.

"Program, "Language Design with Perennials in Mind," Robert Welch, program director, language architecture/horticulture, Lansing Community College, Fetzer Center, 12:30-3:30 p.m. to register call 7-9645.

Student recital, Carolyn Koebel, percussion, Dalton Center Recital Hall, 7 p.m.

*Women's basketball exhibition, WMU vs. Slovakia, University Arena, 7 p.m.

*Film and video exhibition, "Mandel a in America," 10th floor, Sprau Tower, noon.

*Universities Film Council, "Living Beyond Racism," Kanley Chapel Social Room, noon-1 p.m.

*Exhibition, graphic design by Matt Skarritt, Joe Juhnke and Jill Rozmarek, BFA candidates, Rotunda and South Galleries, East Hall, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; closing reception, Friday, Nov. 15, 5-8 p.m.

*Program, "Parental Autonomy vs. Medical Authority: Baby K and Baby Messenger," Arthur Kohman, the University of Chicago School of Medicine, and William Weil, Michigan State University College of Human Medicine, at 4 p.m.

*Film and video exhibition, "Welcome to the Dollhouse," directed by Todd Solondz, 2750 Knauss Hall, Noon-8:30 p.m.; and Nov. 10, 2:30 p.m.

*Women's basketball exhibition, WMU vs. Hungary, University Arena, 7 p.m.

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