Haenicke testifies before Congressional subcommittee

Federal financial aid programs contained in the Higher Education Act are working, but a few revisions could improve their ability to make a college education accessible to more students.

President Haenicke delivered that message during a hearing on the upcoming reauthorization of the Higher Education Act conducted by Rep. James P.Untitled, R-Mich., and Tim Roemer, D-Ind., April 3 at the University of Notre Dame.

The two congressman are members of the Subcommittee on Postsecondary Education, Training and Life-Long Learning of the House Committee on Education and the Workforce. Haenicke was one of six invited witnesses — the other five are officials — and the only one from a public university in Michigan — invited to participate in the session.

He was accompanied on the trip by Keith A. Pretty, vice president for external affairs, continuous education and extension; and Susan O’Flaherty, student financial aid and scholarships.

Upon arriving, Upton, members of the committee will be conducting hearings across the country during the next several months to find out what parts of the Higher Education Act work and which do not work. The act has provided the support for many families and students to overcome financial barriers, he said.

During the 1997 fiscal year, he pointed out that the combination of federal loan and grant aid provided under the act will exceed $35 billion. “Knowing the benefits of a degree, we need to work hard to ensure that higher education is accessible and affordable so that families and students are not limited in their opportunities,” Upton said.

Haenicke noted that 70 percent of WMU students receive some form of financial aid and scholarships. Of the students who apply for financial aid at WMU, about 60 percent come from families with incomes under $50,000.

Nearly 35 percent come from families that earn less than $25,000. “Given our population, the current financial aid programs play a large role in the lives of our students,” he told the congressman.

One improvement Haenicke suggested was that the government fund the payment of interest on student loans while students are in school.

University enters 10-year agreement with Hope College

WMU and Hope College have entered into a joint agreement for WMU to offer graduate programs in business and engineering in Holland, beginning this spring. The offerings include WMU’s newly redesigned MBA program and three master’s degree programs in engineering.

The presidents of the two institutions announced the 10-year agreement April 4 in a ceremony at Hope College. They cut a ribbon in a specially equipped classroom that will permit the delivery of courses by live interactive television as well as in-person instructors.

“He is a unique and powerful partnership between a private college and a public university to meet the growing educational needs of the citizens of this part of West Michigan,” said President Haenicke. “Our purpose is to make it easier for people to achieve their educational goals as they juggle the other challenges they have in life.”

“We are delighted to be a part of this bold initiative,” said John H. Jacobson, president of Hope College. “The benefits to both Hope College and WMU are significant and substantial, as they are the benefits to the people we both seek to serve. This project has success written all over it!”

The agreement will enable students in Holland to see and hear instructors at Hope College in Michigan, simultaneously cut the ribbon in a classroom in Hope, and also will strengthen WMU’s Muskegon-based professional programs in business and engineering with its other five regional centers, to Traverse City, Kalamazoo and in Holland.

“Testament to the people we both seek to serve. This agreement has success written all over it!”

He was instrumental in bringing the two schools together. “It is a genuine thrill to see Hope College and Western Michigan University join forces in this major new effort to bring educational opportunity to the people of West Michigan,” Haworth continued. “I congratulate both Dr. Haenicke and Dr. Jacobson for their vision, their enterprise and their commitment.”

“This initiative connects Holland to WMU’s growing network of television classrooms while it extends the availability of our graduate professional programs to the Holland area,” said James A. Visser, WMU dean of continuing education.

Did you know?

• The Journal of Sociology and Social Welfare, one of the leading national professional publications in the field of social work, has been published by faculty members at WMU since 1967. The quarterly publication is circulated around the world and its international special issues have attracted the attention of such organizations as the World Health Organization.

• The Department of Occupational Therapy dates back 75 years when WMU faculty members who were pioneers in the field established the first program in Michigan and one of the first five in the nation. An anniversary celebration is set for Oct. 24-25 on campus.

• The Department of Speech Pathology and Audiology was established in 1936 as one of the nation’s earliest clinics for the study of speech disorders. In 1966, its graduate program became the first in Michigan and one of the first six in the nation to gain accreditation.
Maier to appear on A&E network programs

Twopecoming documentaries on the Arts & Entertainment network’s “Mysteries of the Bible” series will feature the expertise of a WMU historian. Paul L. Maier, a widely recognized expert on the origins of Christianity, is among a number of national scholars included in “Mysteries of the Bible: Paul the Apostle and “Mysteries of the Bible: Mary of Nazareth.

The program on St. Paul will be broadcast three times: at 11 p.m. Monday, April 13; 3 a.m. Monday, April 14; and 7 p.m. Sunday, April 19. The Mary of Nazareth documentary will air Thursday, May 1, at times to be announced.

"Paul the Apostle" will explore the life of St. Paul, considered one of the most important figures in the history of Christianity. The program will attempt to answer questions such as what happened to Paul on the road to Damascus, where he was for 13 years following his stunning conversion to Christianity and why the Bible is silent about his final years.

“Mary of Nazareth” will attempt to unravel the mystery behind the mother of Jesus who has come to symbolize the feminine face of God. It will explore such questions as the true nature of Mary’s Immaculate Conception, the role she played in the church after the death of Jesus and where she spent her final days.

The documentaries will mark Maier’s third and second appearances on the A&E Network in the last six months. This past December, Maier was one of the experts featured in a broadcast of the award-winning “Mysteries of the Bible: Jesus Christ.” Maier originally made contact with Maier through the University’s Office of Marketing, Public Relations and Communications and a service called ProNet, an international network of public relations officers who field media requests for experts on a variety of topics.

"Testermony (Continued from page one)"

Testimony (Continued from page one)

Sunnysight sponsors choose WMU solar car to help set the pace for this summer’s race

Sunnysight 95, WMU’s entry in the 1995 transcontinental solar car race, will be hitting the road again this month to pave the way for solar racers entered in Sunnysight 97.

Sunnysight sponsors General Motors, EDS and the U.S. Department of Energy have asked the WMU Sunnysight team to send its new solar car consisting of knowledgeable students on April 14-18 visit to towns along one-half of the 1,200-mile race route.

The team will show the Sunnysight to local media, government officials and school children along the way to promote enthusiasm for this year’s race.

Sunnysight 97 will mark the fourth time that WMU will participate in the collegiate solar car competition. Sunnysight teams in the earlier races had two top 10 finishes.

Western News schedule set

The April 17 Western News will be the last issue for the winter semester. The first issue of the spring semester will be published Thursday, May 8. The deadline for each issue is as noon on the Tuesday preceding the publication date.

One issue is at noon on the Tuesday preceding the publication date.

"Testimony (Continued from page one)"

"We could receive one allocation that covers all three programs instead of one allocation for each program. That could make better decisions based on our student population needs as to how much money to allocate to each of our programs," he said. "This will help us better serve our students and the University’s participation in the Federal Direct Student Loan Program. In the past, WMU was selected as one of the first schools in the country to participate in the program, under which the University has had the advantage of directly providing financial aid and scholarships to students who have been admitted and qualified for federal financial aid. The University is able to provide financial aid and awards three to four weeks into the semester, while other institutions have to wait until the start of classes.

"This will be one less hassle for the students who have to apply for aid," O’Flaherty said. "It should also be a great savings for the University in terms of the people and costs involved in issuing short-term loans."

O’Flaherty says her staff will now have the time it needs to help students who don’t have the means to pay and may need some extra attention and follow-up.

These major changes in the registration, billing and financial aid offices were accompanied by several smaller changes in the works that are designed to better serve students. They include such improvements as a World Wide Web page where students can change their addresses as well as other important information and access several of the online services that so many students can access on their computers. These include Internet access, online registration, online financial aid checking, online payments on any library or parking fines that would prohibit their ability to register.
325 students, six faculty join honor society

A total of 325 juniors, seniors and graduate students will be inducted into WMU's chapter of Phi Kappa Phi honor society during a ceremony at 2 p.m. April 14, in the East Ballroom of the Bernhard Center.

In addition, six faculty members have been selected for this year's induction. They are: Susan Carneglia-MacDonald, sociology; Richard A. Gerhud, communication; Leonard M. Gross, educational leadership; Joseph R. Morris, in- ternship coordinator; James C. Petersen, associate dean of arts and sciences.

Ronald C. Kramer, sociology; current WMU Phi Kappa Phi president, will con- clude the induction ceremony. He will be assisted by Bernadine M. Lacey, nursing, president-elect of the chapter.

The keynote speaker for the event will be Elise B. Jorgens, dean of arts and sciences. She will present an address titled "Drown- ing in the New: Some Old Thoughts on New Leadership."

Phi Kappa Phi is the oldest and largest national honor society that recognizes and promotes superior scholarship in all academic disciplines in higher education. Established in 1906, it elects students based on the upper 5 percent of those who have reached the final period of their junior year, the upper 10 percent of seniors and outstanding graduate students, alumni and faculty.

Ethics panel to focus on

The role of standardized testing in school reform efforts will be the focus of a panel discussion at 2 p.m. April 14, in the Westy Educational Assembly Room. The session, open to faculty, staff and students, is part of the "Beyond the Dream" roundtable series sponsored by the Institute for the Study of Race and Ethnic Relations.

It will be led by Thomas E. Ford, sociology.

There will be no roundtable discussion for May through August. These sessions have been scheduled for this fall: "Affirmative Action," Sept. 18; "Backlash," Oct. 16; and "What Is White?," Nov. 20.

All are on the third Thursday and will begin at noon in the Westy Foundation.

Gold Company performing on stage at Disney World

Mickey Mouse's big ears are in for a treat on April 14, when the Gold Company, an award-winning vocal jazz ensemble, travels to Walt Disney World in Orlando, Fla., for the second time this year.

Gold Company was selected as the "feu- tured group" for the event and will be performing at the Disney's Coney Island, Saturday, April 11-12, at the Galaxy Pal- ace Theatre in Tomorrowland.

The event is being sponsored by the Lewises around the country, such as the University of Southern California, Virginia Polytechnic Institu- te and the University of Michigan. The University of Southern California, Virginia Polytechnic Institu- itate of Michigan and the University of Utah were invited, based on their reputations in the music field. Gold Company was the only group selected to be featured.

During the event, the groups will per- form with well-known guest artists and musicians. Gold Company will be perform- ing with Darmon Meader, leader of the New York Voices, who recently was on campus to give a concert.

Human resources

"Employee Relations Primer for Em- ployees" will be presented at 10 a.m. on April 15, in the Bernhard Center.

The one-hour program, offered by Human Resources brown bag informational meetings, will be presented from 12:10 to 12:20 p.m. each Thursday, April 14, in 157 Bernhard Center.

Leading the session will be Janice E. Broeker, human resources manager. Other human resources.

A new employee's first days on the job can set the tone for his or her entire work experience. This one-hour session, managers and supervisors will learn the value of getting every new em- ployee up to speed immediately on vital workplace issues, as well as the impor- tance of providing new employees with a clear understanding of what is expected in the workplace.

If you have recently hired or are antic- ipating hiring, you should attend this ses- sion to ensure you are fully prepared to cover important workplace issues with your new employees. Call 7-3620 to register.

On campus

The discussion is expected to revolve around how test results can provide a public and professional accountability. It will cover how test results can provide a public and professional accountability. It will cover how test results can provide a public and professional accountability. It will cover how test results can provide a public and professional accountability. It will cover how test results can provide a public and professional accountability.

The free program, titled "Uses of Standard- ized Testing in the Context of School Reform," will be presented from 2-3:30 p.m. Thursday, April 17, in the Westy Educational Assembly Room.

The role of standardized testing in school reform efforts will be the focus of a panel discussion at 2 p.m. April 14, in the East Ballroom of the Bernhard Center. It is being sponsored by the Center for the Study of Ethics in Soci- ety.

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Holland (Continued from page one) and students who are located elsewhere in similarly equipped classrooms, and to be seen and heard by them.

"This technology, called compressed video interactive television, permits students in Holland to be fully present and to participate in class discussions as class discussion at times of the day that students can participate in such activities as class discussion at times of the day that are convenient for them."

"This is the power of distance learning," Visser added. "The traditional limitations of location are beginning to become less and less important as the effective delivery of education. This agreement between Hope College and WMU is part of that trend. It allows students to participate in classes in other locations while studying. Waldo Hall, at Hope College, acts as a classroom for Hope College students while they are taking classes in Holland."

WMU will use the new TV classroom at night and on weekends for programs at the graduate level. Hope College will use it during the day for undergraduate programming in nursing and instructional training in communications. The college also will provide WMU with the use of other classrooms for on-site graduate instruction."

"These classes include WMU's newly redesigned master of business administration degree program as well as courses leading to master's degrees in industrial engineering, electrical engineering and management engineering."

"This spring and summer, WMU will offer graduate courses at Hope College in educational technology and marketing management. This fall, the line-up includes courses in buyer behavior, business communications, manufacturing facilities planning and design, and advanced digital signal processing.

WMU also is offering its master of science degree in engineering management online, and the master's degree program in Telecommunications is beginning.

"Some courses also will use the Internet, which includes e-mail, the World Wide Web and electronic bulletin boards," Visser said. "Use of the Internet diminishes the impact of time on learning, which means that emerging new realities and emerging new realities and activities as class discussions at times of the day most convenient to them."