Faculty to be recognized for outstanding teaching skills

Three faculty members will be recognized for their superior classroom skills with 1992 Alumni Teaching Excellence Awards. Presented by the WMU Alumni Association, the awards will go to: Susan Caringella-MacDonald, sociology; Richard G. Cooper, chairperson of occupational therapy; and Lyda J. Stillwell, the arts.

They will be honored at the 13th Annual Academic Convocation at 3 p.m. Monday, Nov. 2, in the Dalton Center Recital Hall. In addition to a plaque, winners will receive a $1,500 cash award and $1,000 will be added to their base salaries.

Since the Alumni Teaching Excellence Awards were established in 1966, more than 100 faculty members have been recognized with them for superior teaching skills and professional expertise. Recipients are selected by an Alumni Association committee from nominations by alumni, students and departmental colleagues.

Caringella-MacDonald joined the WMU faculty in 1984, teaching in the Department of Sociology’s Criminal Justice Program. She has led Introductory and advanced courses in criminology, as well as classes in statistics and in correctional process and technique.

She has led introductory and advanced courses in criminology. She has coordinated student field experiences, served as a faculty mentor for student research projects, being the faculty adviser to the Criminal Justice Student Association and chaired a number of master’s and doctoral committees.

Cooper, chairperson of occupational therapy, earned her bachelor’s degree in occupational therapy, and worked as a high school biology instructor after earning her bachelor’s and master’s degrees, all with honors, from WMU.

Cooper started his career in teaching in a high school biology class after earning a bachelor’s and master’s degrees from WMU.

Search committee seeks input on graduate dean

An open forum for members of the University community to provide input on the search for the dean of the Graduate College is scheduled for 1 to 3 p.m. Friday, Nov. 6, at the Alumni Center's Alumni Room.

The Graduate Dean Search Committee is seeking views about the structure of the Graduate College and the role of the dean. Persons unable to attend the forum may send their comments in writing to any member of the committee.

The committee is being chaired by Dean Douglas P. Ferraro, arts and sciences. Other members are: Judit Ari-Ginzburg, mechanical and aeronautical engineering; Paula J. Boodt, Graduate College; Edward B. Brick, biological sciences, who is chairperson of the Faculty Senate; Susan Caringella-MacDonald, sociology; Elwood B. Brorlie, biological sciences, who is chairperson of the Faculty Senate; Charles C. Ferraro, head of the Department of Criminal Justice; William S. Barrett has charged the committee to conduct a national search for a dean to be appointed July 1, 1993.

The committee is being chaired by Provost Nancy S. Barrett. We are confident that each job currently available be filled by a person of true merit and qualifications. Western Michigan University, August 1992, page 375.
Loaned executive

Michael J. Walters, research and sponsored programs, is WMU's loaned executive to the Greater Kalamazoo United Way campaign this fall. He says the experience has been personally rewarding and has given him a better understanding of the agencies supported by the United Way.

Following their training, the loaned executives took to the streets to work with local businesspeople, religious leaders, and to solicit money for the campaign.

Walters visits area companies to determine the companies' roles for their United Way campaigns. He schedules meetings with company employees and campaign leaders, offering ideas and distributing United Way materials and films about people who are helped by United Way. He also makes "cold calls" to chief executive officers to ask if their companies are willing to organize campaigns.

"We're delighted go-getters," Walters says.

Nearly $60,000 collected

As of Oct. 20, around $59,548 had been collected in the campus United Way drive. That's 40.4 percent of this year's goal of $147,400. The drive runs through Oct. 31.

In order to adequately prepare students for the future, the University community needs to recognize the growing importance of an international educational experience at the undergraduate level, said Christina S. Somerville, director of the Office of International Affairs.

"To be ready to compete in today's job market, students need to spend at least a semester overseas," Somerville stressed. "And it's extremely important for our faculty to encourage students to expand their education internationally." WMU students who have studied and traveled overseas will share their experiences at World Speak, an open discussion scheduled for 7 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 27, in 209 Bernhard Center. In addition, WMU's Inter- national College holds a luncheon meeting at noon every Wednesday in the basement of the Wesley Foundation. The club's membership includes both U.S. and foreign students.

While nearly 200 WMU students participated in study-abroad programs during the 1991-92 academic year, the Office of International Affairs would like to see that number at least double within the next five years.

"The primary goal of our office," Som- erville said, "is to increase the number of students going abroad. Currently only 1 percent of American students study abroad compared to Europe's projection of 10 percent by 1995. Right now the typical foreign student is a middle-class white female, so another of our emphases is to get more males, minority students and students with disabilities involved in our programs.

Literally thousands of foreign work, study and travel opportunities are available to WMU students. They range from experiencing environmental studies in Australia and fashion merchandising in London to the political transformations of Russia. WMU students receive travel grants and study abroad scholarships to cover the costs.

"The United Way has been an excellent experience for me," said Janice Frank. "It really makes me feel privileged to be a part of the campaign, and I have a much greater appreciation for the wonderful job that the agencies do. I can't recommend this work highly enough for anyone to do."

Experience abroad is key to competing in job market

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Exhibition, "Faculty Collects," works from the personal collections of WMU art faculty, Gallery II, Sangen Hall, 10 a.m. and 3 p.m.

Teleconferencing, "Technologies in Distance Education," 3210 Sangen Hall, 9-10:30 a.m.; register by calling 7-5054.

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Saturday, October 24

Kalamazoo Invitational Golf Tournament, Gary Center Gym, 9 a.m.

*Volleyball, WMU vs. Kent State University, Oakland Gym, 7:30 p.m.

Sunday, October 25

Soccer, WMU vs. Bowling Green State University, Waldo Stadium, 2 p.m.

* (Nov 26) Concert, pianist/humorist Victor Borge, Miller Auditorium, Sunday, 7 p.m.; and Monday, 8 p.m.

Monday, October 26

* (Nov 6) Exhibition by BFA painting candidates, Student Art Gallery, East Hall, weekdays, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

Presentations by Carl Cohen, professor of philosophy in the Medical School and Residential College, the University of Michigan: lecture, "Is There a Right to Health Care?" Lee Honors College lounge, 3 p.m.; and lecture, "In Defense of the Use of Animals in Medical Research," 3770 Knauz Hall, 7:30 p.m.

Tuesday, October 27

ZestforLife health enhancement seminar, "The Promise of Vitamins—A Shifting Attitude," Tuesday, October 27

Presentations by Harrison Huford, professor emeritus of American literature at Northwestern University and authority on writer Herman Melville: seminar on his collection of American women's poetry, 10th floor, Sprau Tower, 4 p.m.; and lecture on "Moby Dick," 3321 Brown Hall, 6:30 p.m.; followed by reception.


Wednesday, October 28

University Theatre production, "A Quiet End," York Arena Theatre, 8 p.m.

Thursday, October 29

*Admission charged

Teaching awards (Continued from page one)

His experience in the field has contributed to his expertise in the classroom, according to one alumna who nominated him for the award. "Rich was an excellent instructor who was enthusiastic, well-organized, extremely knowledgeable and eminently fair," she said. "He used innovative teaching methods, wonderfully colorful personal experiences and examples, and allowed lots of "hands-on" work, which is so vital in a curriculum like occupational therapy."

Cooper has taught a variety of undergraduate and graduate courses, including "Daily Living Skills," "Psychiatric Conditions" and "Teaching and Supervision in Occupational Therapy." He also has field-work and independent research classes.

Cooper's contributions to the field of occupational therapy have been recognized by two professional associations. In 1987, the American Occupational Therapy Association named him to its "Roster of Fellows," and honored him with service awards in 1987 and 1990. He received Outstanding Michigan Occupational Therapist Award from the Michigan Occupational Therapy Association in 1984.

Cooper has not limited his drive to inspire creative learning to the occupational therapy classroom. He is a co-founder of WMU's "Inflatable/Light Workshop," a multidisciplinary group that uses inflatable domes and laser art to create performances that communicate the functional significance of the left and right hemispheres of the brain.

Stillwell joined the WMU theatre faculty in 1966 and has led classes in acting, directing and improvisation. She also teaches "Music Theatre Performance Workshop," the final course in the bachelor of fine arts music theatre performance curriculum that is thought by students and faculty alike, to be one of the most valuable in the theatre, music and dance departments. Stillwell helped develop this curriculum. In addition, she created and teaches "Theatre and Social Populations," a seminar that serves as an apprenticeship for the Mad Hatters, a Kalamazoo professional theatre that is dedicated to making theatre more accessible to people with special needs.

"One of the unique qualities that I first noticed about Lyda is her ability to close the gap between people that often exists between students and professionals," said a student in nominating her for the award. "Her friendliness and personal manner makes people feel comfortable working with her, free to ask questions and experiment within the guidelines that she suggests. For me, this supportive learning environment is essential. In theater, a student is putting himself on display and this is what the teacher must judge and grade. Lyda always offers advice without being critical or, in other words, wonderful at using "positive reinforcement."

In addition to teaching, Stillwell directs two student productions each year. "I also directed "Qulters," which I selected as a finalist in the American College Theatre Festival," she said. "It was performed at the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C. Over the last two years, she has worked on a collaborative project with University Wellness Programs to use theatre to promote learning and healthy decisions regarding sexuality by students."

The result is a production of "Incest Experiences: Fantasies and Fears," that has toured the WMU residence halls and is being performed at other colleges this fall.

Stillwell has put her ideas about teaching into words with a book, "Creative Dramatics for the Classroom Teacher," co-authored with Ruth Beall Heining, emerita in communication. Her expertise in theatre also has been recognized by Region III of the American College Theatre Festival. She serves on its selection committee for productions for the regional festival.

A graduate of the University of Texas at Austin, Stillwell went on to earn a master's degree from the University of Washington at Seattle.

Documentation workshop setup

Help is on the way for students struggling with research papers. The Academic Support Center is offering a free documentation workshop beginning in late October.

The workshop will focus on teaching correct techniques for quotation, paraphrase and summary of sources.

"I asked Silum Fares, the Writing Lab coordinator, to develop this workshop in response to both faculty and student demand," said Julia M. Mosley, Center for Academic Support Programs director.

The workshop will be offered in two versions. "Beginning" takes place from 3 to 5 p.m. on Oct. 28 and Oct. 29 at the Language Center. A series of six sessions reviewing American Psychological Association style will be offered from 4 to 6 p.m., Tuesdays, beginning Oct. 27, in 1034 Moore Hall. Each workshop meets once a week.

The workshop is open to undergraduates and, on a space available basis, to graduate students. For more information and to register, persons should call the Writing Lab at 7-4442.