Plan designed to move University to Research II status

Vice President for Research Donald E. Thompson and his staff have created a comprehensive plan for sponsored program development that is designed to move the University toward designation as a Research II institution. The plan, called "Meeting the Research Mission," sets out eight goals (see box) to move WMU from its current designation of Doctoral I by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching. He presented the plan Nov. 3 to the Faculty Senate.

The key for WMU to achieve Research II designation is securing between $15.5 million and $40 million in federal grants and contracts each year by increasing the percentage of total grants that are federal, Thompson said. "Most institutions that move from Doctoral I to Research II average 60 percent to 68 percent of award dollars in federal grants and contracts," he said.

"The pattern of growth reflects WMU's positioning in an environment of increasing competition for federal dollars," he said. "The University has seen federal awards grow from 18.2 percent of total awards in 1988-90 to an average of 36 percent in the past four years."

Thompson's plan calls for WMU to increase its level of federal funding to at least 68 percent. In the fiscal year just ended, WMU received a record $16.8 million in research and other sponsored programs, of which nearly $6 million or 35 percent was federal.

"If our goals will change the profile of the research enterprise so that by fiscal year 1996-97, the University will realize an increase to $25 million in grant and contract awards annually, of which 65 percent would be in federal funds," he said.

Patterns characterize research

Thompson described a number of patterns that have characterized WMU research efforts in recent years.

"Since 1989-90, total external funding and the number of proposals submitted have increased while the number of awards and active faculty members has remained nearly constant," he said. In the five years since then, he noted, funding has increased by 68 percent, from $10 million in 1989-90 to $16.8 million in 1993-94. It has quadrupled since 1984-85, when the figure stood at $3.9 million.

The number of proposals funded in the last five years has remained constant at about 229 and the number of active faculty investigators has remained steady at about 120. Some 15 staff members have been active each year in sponsored programs during this time.

"Reasons for the constancy of awards could be that our federal applications have increased and that the environment is more competitive," he said.

The number of proposals submitted has increased in all but one of the past five years, from 402 in 1989-90 to 470 in 1993-94, up 17 percent.

"WMU continues to develop an infrastructure that supports research," Thompson said. "The mechanisms available include internal programs, human resources systems; work by the College of Fine Arts, proposal development and writing services; project administration services; oversight by regulatory bodies; publications; and ongoing policy.

"Sabbatical leaves enhance research and creative activities," he continued, "as does an array of University-wide internal programs, which are regularly reviewed and revised to meet changing needs," he continued.

Thompson cited the Faculty Research and Creative Activities Support Fund, which awards a variety of funds to faculty members. His office offers a number of support initiatives, including research development awards and the Centers for Excellence competition.

"Each college also provides programs for research support, travel and assistantships," he said, citing mini-grants in the Haworth College of Business and the College of Education among his examples.

Five assumptions

The research plan is based on five assumptions, he continued. Among them are that departments offering the doctoral degree must develop or maintain strong research efforts.

"Other assumptions are that both individual investigators and teams of researchers, often interdisciplinary, will constitute the base of sponsored program activity; that new tenure-track faculty members will be expected to conduct sponsored projects; and that new federal programs or those not recently explored will help broaden the base of program support."

Another assumption is that centers and institutes housing teams of researchers become the focus for an institutional research presence.

"The Evaluation Center and the Institute for Water Sciences, for example, are models for emerging centers, and the University will continue to look to them for continued growth and development," Thompson said.

He also pointed to the six Centers for Excellence so far established as "models for productivity in the conduct of interdisciplinary research." Those include centers for enabling technology, geographic information systems, water resources research, tribology, environmental signal transduction and at-risk youth.

FUND RAISING REWARDED—Pamela G. Libecki, left, admissions and orientation, and Randall K. Lung, printing services; Dorothy J. Martin, registrar's office; Joseph J. Oetker, physical plant-administration; Aibertia R. Parker, campus planning, engineering and construction; Joseph W. Pata, industrial engineering; Yoncall L. Phillips, academic affairs; Elizabeth Richardson, minority affairs; Nancy J. Salvaggio, Sinc协euse Health Center; James T. Schaper, auxiliary enterprises; Diana L. Shurburn, human resources; Bobbie D. Spitznagel, geography; Jewell M. Street, affirmative action; Rose M. Thompson, College of Fine Arts; and Danny H. Thompson, social work.

(Continued on page four)
University attracts more than $2.1 million in grants

More than $2.1 million in grants was awarded to the University during September, according to a report presented Nov. 4 meeting of the Board of Trustees.

A total of $2,129,397 in grants was received during the year from the U.S. Department of Defense, and another $33,684 for a five-year, $5.2 million grant awarded in 1990 to WMU's Evaluation Center and is under the direction of E. Merati, who also directs the Evaluation Center.

A $150,000 grant, also from the U.S. Department of Defense, was awarded to the University of Waterloo in Ontario, will focus of a presentation Monday, Nov. 21.

Speaker to address issue of resource scarcity

The issue of whether or not our global resources are becoming scarce will be the focus of a presentation Monday, Nov. 21.

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Twelve staff members have been selected to receive Staff Service Excellence Awards for the first quarter of the 1994-95 fiscal year. A total of 48 employees were nominated for the awards, which are designed to recognize and reward persons who give service above and beyond job requirements. The 12 chosen by the Staff Service Excellence Selection Committee were the maximum allowable under the program that was initiated July 1.

The winners for July-August-September are: Fausha E. Bonthron, residence hall facilities; Lora A. Bell, residence hall facilities; Brenda A. Brewer, College of Arts and Sciences; Janet L. Ferrell, College of Health and Human Services; Lisa M. Camell, electrical engineering; Marcia Ellis, Sincere Health Consulting; H. Fickinger, physical plant building custodial and support services; Jeff L. Gerard, residence hall facilities; John R. B. Heather, office administration; Joy E. Lester, residence hall facilities; and Bryan K. Sutton, physical plant-building custodial and support services.

Counseling Center earns continued accreditation

The University’s Counseling Center has received continued accreditation through 1999 by the International Association of Counseling Services (IACS) Inc. of Alexandria, Va. The center is directed by Norman M. Kircaco. Located in the Faunce Student Services Building, the center’s staff of professional counselors and psychologists offers personal counseling, academic advising and career counseling to students.

The IACS evaluated the center against high standards of counseling practice and it was found to offer “competent and reliable professional services to its clientele.” Approval by the IACS is also dependent upon the organization’s adherence to “professional standards, ethics and guidelines of professional practice.”

The center also serves as a training facility for graduate students from the Department of Counseling Education and Counseling Psychology, the School of Social Work and the Department of Psychology. The IACS is an organization of U.S. and Canadian counseling agencies. It was founded in 1972 to encourage and aid counseling agencies to meet high professional and ethical standards through peer evaluation, and to inform the public about counseling services that are competent and reliable.

On campus

LEARNING THE LANGUAGE — Assisting students in WMU’s Career English Language Center (CELCIS) is a job of Kimberly S. Smith. An admissions coordinator in the center, Smith processes applications and advises students about CELCIS offerings, like CELCIS, located on the lower level of Ellsworth Hall, offers intensive language instruction for its proficiency in English in order to pursue higher education in the United States.

At the moment there are 133 students enrolled in the program primarily from the Far East and Middle East. “It is like the interaction with the students and the staff,” Smith says. “The staff communicates well and that’s important. The students are very perceptive and they need to see that we all work as one and support each other. We strive to make a good impression at all times.”

Smith, who has an associate’s degree from Hope College, began working in CELCIS four years ago as a secretary. She was promoted to her current position nine months ago. An added benefit of her job, Smith says, is contact with a culture in which she has a special interest. Smith was born in Seoul, South Korea. She was adopted at age 2 and was raised in Kalamazoo. In recent years, she has traveled back to South Korea and has tried to expose her five-year-old daughter to the culture of her native country. “I was not raised with the culture,” she says. “But now I bring my daughter to the social events planned by CELCIS students so that she can see what the Korean culture as well as other cultures are about.”

Breakfast program gives inside look at Bolshoi

WMU alumni and friends will get an “Inside Look at the Bolshoi Ballet” during a breakfast program Tuesday, Dec. 6, in the Green Room at Miller Auditorium.

Last two lectures on Asia set

The final lectures in a series this fall on ‘The Coming Asian Century’ will be presented by H. Byron Earhart, comparative religion, and Paul A. Flickinger, a graduate student in religion—Fujiko” Tuesday, Nov. 22. Richard E. Fox, religion—Japanese, will discuss “Japanese Philosophy and Women” Tuesday, Nov. 29. Both lectures will begin at 7 p.m. in the Lee Honors College.

The series is sponsored by the Office of International Affairs, Asian Studies Program, Lee Honors College, Department of Political Science and Institute of Government and Politics.

Exchange

FORSALE — Beautiful hardwood wooden doll house — ready to decorate; $40; two ten-nine-by-12-foot rugs and 10-by-14-foot rug in red and tan; $40 each. Call 7-3407 days or 345-6541 evenings.

Jobs

The following list of vacancies is currently posted through the Graduate Employee Program by employment services in the Department of Human Resources. Interested current WMU employees may submit a job opportunity transfer application or sign the appropriate bid sheet during the posting period. Positions marked S-01 and S-02 clerical positions are not required to be posted. Interested University employees who are not currently employed by the University may submit an employment staff member for assistance in securing these positions.

For more information, persons may call 382-6638 or 381-5099.

The event, which includes a continental breakfast, will begin with registration at 7:15 a.m. and conclude by 8:20 a.m.

Alexandra Lavrennik, a representative of the Bolshoi Company, will make the presentation. The company of 100 dancers will be in Kalamazoo for seven performances Dec. 7-11 at Miller’s “The Nutcracker” with the Kalamazoo Symphony Orchestra. Lavrennik will give insights on a typical travel day for the troupe, discuss the Russian method and technique, and preview the style of the Bolshoi.

The breakfast program is being sponsored by the WMU Alumni Association as part of its “Good Morning, Kalamazoo” series. The cost is $5 for alumni association members or $6 for non-members. Reservations should be made by Friday, Dec. 2, by calling the McKee Alumni Center at 7-8777.

Service

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

35 years — Gerard D. MacKaid, WMUK; 20 years — Judy K. Dunn, University recreation programs and facilities; Lydia A. Rhodes, accounting; and Thomas G. Waite, physical plant-bulding custodial and support services.

Fifteen years — Patricia A. Banks, Sincere Health Center; Carol L. Converse, Valley III dining service; Linda K. Middlebrooks, physical plant-building custodial and support services; and Jacklyn K. Skinner, Davidson dining service.

10 years — Jean M. Chever, telecommunications; Robert F. Day, physical plant-building custodial and support services; Mary A. Gardner, physical plant-bulding custodial and support services; Lourain Grover, Reading Center; Ed F. Marion, physical plant-BME maintenance; Linda L. Raab, physical plant-BME maintenance; Michael F. Salomone, physical plant-general services; Dorene L. Schellet, admissions and orientation; and Tom Y. Woolfolk-Barnes, Upward Bound.

Five years — Rex J. DeVries, physical plant-building custodial and support services; Linda C. Doby, College of Health and Human Services; Barbara Y. Moran, dance; Corrine S. Thomas, music; and John D. Tucker, University computing services.
Thursday, November 17

(thru Jan. 5) Exhibition, watercolors and acrylics by Gregg McInnis, WMU employee, artist, and artist, Department of Human Resources, 1240 Scibert Administration Building, weekdays, 8 a.m.-noon and 1-5 p.m.

(thru 19) WMU Department of Art Faculty Exhibition, Dalton Center Multi-Media Room, Monday thru Friday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

Exhibition, “Time, Date,” paintings by Paul Wong, New City, artistic director of Dieu Donne Papermill and artist-in-residence in papermaking, printing and painting, Special Gallery, Works on Paper, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. (and 18) Exhibition, “The Essential Material,” handmade books from Dieu Donne Papermill, Gallery II, Senge Hall, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Student employment referral service internship workshop, B-106 Ellsworth Hall, 10:30 a.m.; advance registration required by calling 7-2725.

Geographic Awareness Week lectures by Ernst Griffin, Department of Geography, San Diego State University, 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. Special Gallery, Works on Paper, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

*“Jazz quartet returns for second tour of Poland” (Continued from page one) _

**LUNCHEON DISCUSSION — Former Kalamaazoo Mayor Beverly A. Moore was among the speakers at a brown bag luncheon discussion Nov. 14 sponsored by the Division of Minority Affairs. She and other area leaders discussed policies and their views of law enforcement. Moore, who was a member of the City Council from 1984 to 1993, currently is executive director of HealthConnect, an organization dedicated to helping low-income people access medical and dental care. She served as mayor of Kalamazoo from 1991 to 1993. Another luncheon is scheduled for noon Monday, Dec. 5, in the Minority Affairs Multicultural Center, A-220 Ellsworth Hall. Several students and a staff member who traveled abroad during 1994 will discuss their experiences.**

Thursday, November 24

(25) Thanksgiving recess.

Saturday, November 26

*Women's basketball, WMU vs. Butler University, University Arena, 2 p.m.

Sunday, November 27

*Men's basketball, WMU vs. the University of Evansville, University Arena, 2 p.m.

Monday, November 28

*Men's basketball exhibition, WMU vs. Poland, University Arena, 7 p.m.

Monday, December 1

Meeting, Faculty Senate, Fetzer Center, 7 p.m.

Psychology colloquium, "Preventing HIV and AIDS: Strategies That Work," Jeff Kelly, College of Education and College of Health and Human Services research colloquium, 7:30 p.m.

*Men's basketball, WMU vs. Eastern Illinois University, University Arena, 7 p.m.

*Doctoral oral examination, "Toward a Biocritical Sociology," John Neuhaus, sociology, 1 p.m., room 2508 Sangren Hall, 8 a.m.

*Day of Fast—Hunger Banquet, Wesley Foundation, 6 p.m.

*Men's basketball exhibition, WMU vs. Poland, University Arena, 7 p.m.

*Graduate recital, Graduate Wind Quintet, Dalton Center Lecture Hall, 7 p.m.

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