Top students selected for $25,000 Medallion Scholarships

Eighteen students successfully competed against the best of the 1995 high school graduating class and each has been awarded a prestigious Medallion Scholarship to begin their college studies at WMU this fall.

The scholarships, each valued at $25,000 over four years, are among the largest merit-based awards in American public higher education. Recipients were selected against more than 1,000 talented applicants from 12 states for the award.

Each award bears the name of the scholarship donor or the name of the individuals in whose honor the scholarships were established.

Did you know?

- From 1918, when the State Board of Education first authorized teacher training institutions to formulate curricula leading to the bachelor of arts degree, through 1994-95, WMU awarded 169,279 bachelor’s degrees. Of them, 129,374 were bachelor’s degrees, 38,281 were master’s degrees, 480 were specialist’s degrees and 1,164 were doctorates.
- Enrollment at the University increased 27 percent in the 10 years between 1984-85 and 1994-95, from 20,233 students to 25,673 students. During that period, the number of minority students increased by 79 percent, from 1,334 students to 2,385 students.
- WMU’s programs are accredited or licensed by no fewer than 24 national agencies and the state of Michigan. The University is accredited by the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools. Agencies range from the Computing Sciences Accreditation Board to the Professional Services Board of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association.

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Two
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Western News

Classes of ’45, ’50 and ’55 gather for Reunion Weekend

Members of the WMU classes of 1945, 1950 and 1955 will gather in Kalamazoo Friday and Saturday, June 9-10, for a Reunion Weekend.

A welcome reception is scheduled for 5 to 7 p.m. Friday at Walldorf Union, the home of the McKee Alumni Center.

Saturday’s activities will begin with 8:30 a.m. registration and will take place at the Bernhard Center. A breakfast program will follow at 9 a.m.; featuring a presentation titled “Remembering Western” by Thomas E. Ricci, a 1935 WMU graduate and vice president emeritus for student services.

WMU faculty members will share their expertise with members of the 40th, 50th and 55th reunion classes during a special session, “Let Us Entertain You!” from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. The 1945-49 class will conduct its induction ceremony at the close of the program.

The weekend will conclude with a dinner program at 6 p.m. Saturday. The speaker will be Keith A. Pretty, a 1973 WMU professor of law at the University of Houston’s Cullen College of Humanities. He also is the Cullen Professor of Law in the Cullen College of Engineering.

Tickets are $40 for class members and $35 for spouses and guests. For more information, persons should call the McKee Alumni Center at 7-8777.

William L. Wimszale, a nationally known medical ethicist and legal scholar, will deliver the address. His talk, “The Newly Dead, the Nearly Dead and the Living: A Symposium on the Disposition of Their Cases,” will focus on resolving societal differences surrounding decisions about the end of life.

Wimszale is a professor of preventative medicine, psychiatry and behavioral sciences at Harvard University and a professor of philosophy and medicine at the University of Texas’ Institute for the Medical Humanities. He also is the College of Medicine’s dean for the Faculty of Health, Law and Policy Institute. He has appeared on the CBS Evening News, the NBC Nightly News and the Today Show as a commentator or expert on death, right to die, the insanity plea,privacy and confidentiality.

The weekend will begin with registration at 2 p.m., followed by oral presentations from 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. and poster presentations and reception from 5 to 7:30 p.m. The cost of attending the entire event is $25. The cost of attending the dessert and wine lecture is scheduled for 6 to 7:30 p.m.

The weekend will conclude with a banquet from 9 to 11 p.m. The cost of attending the banquet is $50 per person or $90 per couple.

Reception planned for Pelc

A retirement reception honoring Ronald J. Pelc, registrar’s office, is scheduled for 2 to 5 p.m. Monday, June 5, in the President’s Dining Room of the Bernhard Center. The University community is invited to attend.

The IACS is a professional association that accredits universities and college counseling centers; community, junior and technical college counseling centers; public and private counseling agencies throughout the United States and Canada.

Petru elected to board

John W. Petru, mathematics and statistics, has been elected to the Board of Governors of the Mathematical Association of America. He will represent the organization’s Michigan Section.

Petru’s three-year term as one of 28 members of the association’s governing body will begin July 1. The board of the Washington, D.C.-based organization meets twice annually, once in conjunction with the MAA’s annual national meeting and once in a regional setting.

Petru has served as a WMU faculty member since 1985. Petru has been active in the MAA since 1985, serving in various offices of the organization’s Michigan Section, including a term in 1988-89 as its chairperson. He is currently serving as editor of the Michigan Section MAA newsletter.

Kiraco selected as president of organization

Norman M. Kiraco, Counseling Center, has been elected president of the International Association of Counseling Services.

His one-year term as president follows a two-year term as vice president of the association and chairperson of the Board of Accreditation for University and College Counseling Centers. He also previously served as accreditation site visitor and as chairperson of the revision committee for the current version of the Standards of Accreditation for College and University Counseling Centers.

LAW-B-B MANAGEMENT RECOGNITION

WMU and the Michigan State Employees Association (MSEA) have received one of two special awards from the Kalama Zoo Area Labor-Management Committee for achievement in collective bargaining, which represents non-supervisory power plant employees, and WMU for their two-year agreement. They reached it before a Sept. 21 deadline, saving a $21 million state appropriation to modernize the plant. Proudly holding a plaque are, from left, MSEA bargaining team members David S. Prentice and Franklin G. McKenzie, power plant; and Clarence L. (Scotty) Mark, an MSEA chief steward; and WMU bargaining team members Doreen A. Brinson, human resources; George H. Zvirs, power plant manager; and Philip S. Roeke, transportation services, whose responsibilities include physical plant collective bargaining.

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Judiciary process concluded for 13 students

The judiciary process regarding the 13 students who were identified and charged with the violation of the Student Code for their participation in the obstruction of the Pennsylvania Avenue March on Feb. 22, 1995, is concluded.

Ten students with scheduled hearings pending before the Office of Student Judicial Affairs have admitted their violation of the Student Code and are subject to the sanctions that are imposed by the Student Judicial Affairs Board. The ten censures will be expunged from the students’ permanent records upon graduation, whichever comes first, these official writs of censure do not waiver the students’ right to due process.

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Due process has been served.

The sanctions consist of giving the students a letter of reprimand by the vice president for student affairs.

The case involving another student has been closed.

Due process has been served.

The sanctions consist of giving the students a letter of reprimand by the vice president for student affairs.

One student was admitted to the judiciary process regarding a violation of the Student Code. The case involving this student has been closed.

Due process has been served.

The sanctions consist of giving the students a letter of reprimand by the vice president for student affairs.

Merling Trio releases CD of works by Curtis-Smith

The Merling Trio, a resident faculty ensemble in the School of Music, has released its debut compact disc of works by Curtis-Smith, a faculty member in the school.

Titled “The Merling Trio Performs Works by Curtis-Smith,” the CD was released by Albany Records, a prestigious label in the field of classical and contemporary music.

The trio recorded this disc with recording engineer and producer Gregory S. K. Squires, of NY City. Squires was also the producer of the Grammy Award-winning “Chant,” CD recently topped classical music charts.

The CD contains “Sweetgrass Trio” and “Second Piano Trio.” Curtis-Smith, who was released by Albany Records, is a producing pianist and producer Gregory S. K. Squires.

Other members of the trio are pianist Susan Wiersma Uchimura and cellist Bruce Uchimura.

The CD is available locally at KCD and Pipilae Recordings.
Grants top $13 million so far this fiscal year

More than $1 million in external funding for WMU research and sponsored projects was received during March, according to a report to the Board of Trustees at its April 21 meeting.

The March grant total of $1,117,738 brought the total of grants received during the first quarter of fiscal year '95 to $13,253,375. Grants for research led the way, totaling $9,162,355 during the month.

A $400,000 award was made by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration's Low Earth Orbit Research and Technology Program to Daniel J. Dorney, mechanical and aeronautical engineering. The new award will provide duration of research for WMU's Starship Program to continue research on NASA's CRYO supercomputer, which is housed at the Ames Research Center in Mountain View, Calif.

A $359,391 grant will support the second year of a research program directed by Nickola W. Nelson and Michael J. Clark, both speech pathology and audiology. The award will fund research to investigate the effects of the medication on the language and speech development of preschoolers who were exposed to drugs in the womb.

There were 31 grants awarded to WMU in March by the U.S. Department of Education for five different research programs. The five programs will provide $2,765,615 during the month. The largest of these awards was a $1,926,355 during the month. The largest of these awards was a $1,926,355 award made by the National Science Foundation to help establish a chemical instrumentation laboratory for the Department of Chemistry and the Department of Environmental Science.

The policy sets forth general policies and procedures regarding the possibility of significant financial conflict of interest in research projects. The policy will apply to all externally sponsored projects, regardless of funding source.
WMU researchers on educational reform selected to evaluate NSF project in Vermont

Two WMU mathematics and science specialists, already part of a statewide Michigan education reform initiative, have been selected to play the same role for the state of Vermont.

The Vermont Institute for Science, Math and Technology in Randolph Junction, Vt., has awarded $65,000 for the first year of a four-year project to Zoe A. Barley and Mark Jenness, both WMU professors. They are part of WMU's Science and Mathematics Program Improvement project, designed to transform the way science and mathematics are taught in grades K-12. The Vermont initiative is one of several programs funded for five-year periods by the NSF.

Barley and Jenness also have been program evaluators since 1993 for the Michigan State Systemic Initiative, which was funded at the same time as the Vermont project. Their work in Michigan and recommendations by the NSF resulted in an invitation from the Vermont institute to submit a proposal in a nationwide search last year for a new evaluation team. Barley and Jenness competed successfully against some of the nation's leading evaluation teams to win the Vermont job.

"I think working on the Michigan project gave us an edge," Barley says. "The philosophy and approach we were using in Michigan was exactly what the Vermont team was looking for.

That philosophy and approach calls for the involvement of the evaluators in the decision-making process as the project develops. The approach contrasts sharply with other methods that call for evaluation only after the fact.

"These reforms are very evolutionary," Barley says. "We know ultimately that we want reform to lead to better learning, but along the way, we're constantly revising and deciding which strategies work best to accomplish the goals and which strategies are discarded and some are revised and kept. Mark and I are there to provide the information and technical assistance needed for making those decisions."

For Barley and Jenness, their new role also requires a different approach to work with the intensely local nature of the Vermont educational system. The Vermont institute's headquarters in Vermont is about the same as found in the Detroit Public Schools. Detroit is just one of the 26 districts in the massive Michigan project.

"One of the reasons we were interested in doing the Vermont evaluation," Jenness says, "is because it provides us with an opportunity to study school reform in two very different settings."

Besides the substantial size differences between the two state school systems, a number of other major differences exist. Although per capita income is lower in Vermont, fewer children (11.5 percent) live in poverty than in Michigan (18.2 percent). Average per pupil expenditure on education is higher in Vermont and the percentage of students who are part of racial or ethnic minority groups is much lower — 3 percent in Vermont compared to 22 percent in Michigan.

"Vermont also has few statewide mandates for schools and de-emphasizes standardized tests to compare one district's results with another," Barley says. "They have no equivalent to our MEAP (Michigan Educational Assessment Program) tests."

In Vermont, "local control," Barley says, often means a single-school, district-operated system with its own board of education. Local control also means an absence of statewide control over curriculum and of statewide mandates such as Michigan's new rules requiring suspension for students who bring weapons to school.

"To accomplish change in that kind of setting, you have to win people over. The climate for reform in Vermont is a very intimate one," Barley notes.

Barley and Jenness will travel to Vermont three or four times a year and will report on both the Michigan and Vermont projects in Washington, D.C., at NSF headquarters.

Grant funds study of services available in rural areas

Exploration of the mental health services available in the nation's sparsely populated "frontier" counties is the goal of a grant awarded to WMU sociologist and mental health expert. Morton O. Wagenfeld, sociology, a longtime researcher in the field of community mental health, has received $69,745 for the first of three years of work as a subcontractor to a larger project being conducted by the University of Denver. The funding for the entire project comes from the National Institute of Mental Health and Services Administration of the National Institutes of Health.

The major project, "The Frontier Mental Health Services Resource Network," will attempt to provide a comprehensive look at what is being done in the nation's most rural areas — those designated by the U.S. Bureau of the Census as being more than 100 square miles, with fewer than 2,500 people. Instead of population density, the project is based on the number of people per square mile. James A. Carllo, a researcher at the University of Denver, is the director of the project and Wagenfeld is the co-principal investigator.

"Virtually nothing is known about mental health in these areas," Wagenfeld says. "Gathering information is going to be a formidable task because there is virtually no published information about the topic. In many areas I will use a 'snowball approach' by contacting one person who may be able to refer me to others who are doing something in this area or who know some- one else who is.

"Wagenfeld says the counties being targeted for study exist overwhelmingly in the West in such states as Alaska, Colorado, New Mexico, North and South Dakota and Wyoming. But some also can be found in such locations as Michigan's Keweenaw Peninsula. The areas are fairly sparsely populated, some kind of support system or non-traditional medicine is employed to deal with the mental health problems.

"The latest research clearly shows there are essentially no differences between rural and urban areas when it comes to the prevalence of mental disorders," he says. People do have mental health problems in rural areas. If you are 200 miles from a health center, some other support system must be put together to deal with the problem."

East/West conference (Continued from page one)

number of import/export workshops for business persons in the region.

"We've established a good reputation with our trade conferences," Tang says, noting that the cultural, legal and social issues addressed by the conferences are as important as the traditional business topics when it comes to international trade. "They're all tied together. You have to take a multidisciplinary approach."

The conference is supported by a grant from the U.S. Department of Education and by contributions from the First of America Bank Corp. and the Upjohn Co. of Kalamazoo as well as WMU's Havercourt College of Business, Office of the Provost and Office of International Affairs and Michigan State University's Center for International Business Education and Research.

HEALTH AND FITNESS DAY — Franklin K. Wolf, industrial engineering, and Laurel Epstein, National Council for Air and Stream Improvement, were among those who participated in events celebrating National Health and Wellness Month on May 17. The two competed in a triathlon in the Zest for Life Room of Oakland Gymnasium, trying to accumulate as much distance as possible in 10-minute stints in an exercise bicycle, a rowing machine and a stair stepper. Wolf placed first in the men's division and Epstein placed second in the women's division after Anita L. Toms, College of Education. Other events during the day included free usage by faculty and staff of the Student Recreation Center, a two-mile "Healthy You" walk during the noon hour and informational displays and blood pressure screening in the Bernhard Center. Activities were coordinated by Zest for Life in University recreation programs and facilities.

Calendar

The master calendar maintained by news services for use in Western News is available through Gopher on the VMS cluster. Currently, there are three calendars available: June 1995, 1995 Summer, and Fall 1995. To access the calendar, connect to gopher.western michigan.edu and type Gopher at the prompt. At the next menu, choose 3, Western Michigan University, then choose 4, Campus Calendar. You will find options for 1, This Month’s Events, 2, Next Month’s Events and 3, Future Events.

Thursday, June 1
Meeting, Faculty Senate, Fetzer Center, 7 p.m.
Friday, June 2
fund 3) (and 3) Facing East/Facing West Conference, "North America's Relations with Asian! Pacific Countries," Fetzer Center, all day.
Saturday, June 3
West Michigan Beijing Network lecture, "Women's Lives in China," Faculty Dining Room, Bernhard Center, 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Wednesday, June 7
Discussion Sessions, College Physics Students' Conceptual Understanding of Area and Volume, and Relationships Between These Concepts and Students' Understanding of Physics Concepts," Jiang Yu, science education, 303 Moore Hall, 10 a.m. Retirees and friends of the Omega, PEL /r, Selig pne's ofc, President's Dining Room, Bernhard Center, 2:30-5 p.m.
Friday, June 9
Fun and Remainder Weekends, classes of 1945, 1950 and 1955, Walson Union and Bernhard Center, Friday evening and all day Saturday.
Wednesday, June 14
Writing workshop for the preparation of doctoral dissertations, specialist projects and master's theses, Graduate College Conference Room, Selig Administration Building, 10-11:30 a.m.; call 7-3569 to register.

*Admission charged