Nursing program moves ahead with $5 million in gifts

The Irving S. Gilmore Foundation of Kalamazoo, the W.K. Kellogg Foundation of Battle Creek, Borgess Medical Center and Bronson Methodist Hospital have jointly pledged more than $5 million to fund the University's proposed baccalaureate degree program in nursing.

"These very generous gifts will enable us to establish a much needed School of Nursing," said President Haenicke. "I will be forever grateful to these two foundations and the hospitals for their exemplary generosity. Now, after more than 30 months of fundraising efforts, we can proceed with curriculum development, internal and external program reviews, and faculty and student recruitment."

Provost Nancy S. Barrett indicated that the external review process includes the consent of the academic officers of the state universities in Michigan, endorsement by the Michigan State Board of Nursing and final approval by the WMU Board of Trustees.

"Thanks to all these gifts, we can now go ahead with full scale program development, but the actual date of implementation is dependent upon internal and external program review and approval processes," said Janet I. Pisaneschi, dean of the College of Health and Human Services, where the proposed School of Nursing will be administratively housed.

Pisaneschi expressed hope that the University will be able to begin accepting applications for the nursing program in the fall of 1994 for the first classes to be offered in January 1995.

"We have the unique advantage of being able to develop our curriculum from scratch," Haenicke said. "We will not be encumbered by past traditions. We will bring the best minds in the country together to develop a competitive model for the future of nursing education. This is truly an exciting opportunity for WMU."

"In addition to establishing the program self-sustaining for at least the first five years," Barrett said. "We'll need to raise additional funds to fund program start-up, but we are confident that we will be successful because several foundations and federal agencies have told us that they will consider applications for additional funding once our program is up and running."

"Additionally," she continued, "we already have an endorsement for nursing scholarship from about $4 million, thanks to the generosity of the late Theodore Perg, a lifelong resident of Kalamazoo. He established the scholarship endowment fund at WMU in memory of his wife, Hazel, and to affirm his personal commitment to helping others."

WMU has been working with Margaret Murphy, a nationally recognized nursing education consultant from Milwaukee. Initial planning and staff functions will be provided from the Detroit Foundation, the Upton Co., the Morehouse Brown Foundation, the Gilmore Foundation and the Kalamazoo Foundation.

The Battle Creek Health System and the Alumni Association of the Bronson School of Nursing will also have contributed to the project.

Barrett indicated that WMU has received more than 600 inquiries about the program over the past two years from prospective students. Five public forums—one each in Battle Creek and St. Joseph and three in Kalamazoo—were conducted to bring together key constituents in the region with the University's nursing consultant to assist in developing the structure and content of the proposed nursing program. Nurses from Allegan, Barry, Berrien, Branch, Calhoun, Cass, Kalamazoo, St. Joseph and Van Buren counties were invited to voice their recommendations on the bachelor's in nursing program relevant to the needs of their communities, Barrett said.

The curriculum will be developed with local, regional and national health care leaders in mind. Pisaneschi said, "It will be problems focused, locally sensitive, and will incorporate the trend toward the promotion of healthy lifestyles," she said. The program will take advantage of the diversity of health care service opportunities in the nine counties of Southwest Michigan with special emphasis on learning experiences in community-based and primary care settings in addition to the more routine tertiary and hospital-based clinical experiences.

Initially, the WMU baccalaureate program will have two programmatic options: a program of studies specifically designed for students who are registered nurses; and a four-year program for students with no prior nursing education. Later, perhaps in the third year, an accelerated track may be offered for students seeking a second degree as part of a career change, Pisaneschi said.

"Only 16 percent of the graduates in Southwest Michigan have a bachelor's degree as compared to U.S. average of 33 percent," she said. "Baccalaureate degree nurses play a role in all areas of health care and are in great demand."

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While Gov. John Engler's proposed 2.3 percent increase in state appropriations for WMU for the next fiscal year is "very good news," it does not adequately reflect the kind of institution that WMU has become, President Haenicke told the Board of Trustees Dec. 17.

Haenicke said he plans to take the massage that WMU is the state's only Doctoral level institution — and should be funded as such to legislative leaders in the months ahead. The designation, by the Carnegie Foundation of the United States, means that WMU awards at least 40 doctoral degrees each year in five or more disciplines. In addition, WMU will become a candidate for professional accreditation, Haenicke said.

"My frustration over all these years has been that there is a small pack of schools at the bottom," he said. "And since we are a one-of-a-kind school in Michigan, we have a very hard time making this point because we have no partners in suffering, so to speak, that can go with us to make our case," he said. "So we are going to make this case all by ourselves."

"That is the one troubling aspect of the governor's budget proposal," Haenicke cautioned, adding that he believes that "most if not all" of the state's public universities are understaffed. "But it should not detract from the fact that, for the first time in three years, there is a proposed increase in the state's budget for higher education."

The governor's proposed calls for a 3 percent increase in state appropriations for higher education institutions for the 1994-95 fiscal year, or about $3.5 million. State spending on the 15 public universities and related education institutions totals 1.1 billion for the fiscal year.

"An increase of 2.3 percent is not much, but compared to zero increases in each of the past two years, it's a good place to start," Haenicke said. He added that he hoped this was the beginning of efforts to reverse the fiscal year.

National consultant sought as interim director of school

Margaret M. Murphy, a nationally recognized nursing education consultant from Milwaukee, has been named the interim director of the proposed School of Nursing. Her appointment, effective Jan. 1, 1994, was approved Dec. 17 by the Board of Trustees. Since 1991, Murphy has served as a consultant to the College of Health and Human Services for the development of the School of Nursing.

At a news conference before the board meeting, the University announced that it had secured gifts totaling more than $5 million to establish the school.

Murphy will spearhead the University's efforts in curriculum development as well as faculty and student recruitment for a baccalaureate degree program in nursing. In addition, she will be instrumental in facilitating internal and external program reviews, which will include the consent of the academic officers of the state universities in Michigan, endorsement by the Michigan State Board of Nursing and final approval by the WMU Board of Trustees. The University hopes to begin accepting applications for the program in the fall of 1994 for the first classes to be offered in January 1995.

After working as a health officer at the U.S. Embassy Health Center in Lusaka, Zambia, Murphy will serve as interim director of the proposed School of Nursing.

HOLIDAY RECEPTION—Trustee Richard V. St. John of Kalamazoo, second from right, welcomed faculty and staff members to a Dec. 17 holiday reception in the Bernhard Center sponsored by the Board of Trustees and President Haenicke. Extending holiday greetings were, from left, Louise S. ForslefT, community health services; Carole J. Lint, human resources; Jacqueline J. Van't Zelfde, human resources; and C. Edward Smith, transportation services.
Business building named for founding dean Schneider

Several events are being planned at WMU to commemorate the birthday this month of Martin Luther King Jr.

Activities to commemorate the late civil rights leader will begin at 6:30 p.m. Friday, Jan. 14, with a lock-in at the Student Recreation Center. WMU students and their guests will enjoy an evening of workshops and seminars on issues of diversity and culture as well as other activities surrounding the theme “Finding New Ways To Solve Old Problems.”

The lock-in will open with an address by Martin Butler, WMU dean of minority affairs, and Charles C. Warfield, educational leadership. The event, which is expected to run until 6 a.m. Saturday, is sponsored by the Minority Student Organization Advisory Board. An admission fee of $5 for WMU students and $7.50 for students/children over 13 and adults is charged. Persons with questions may call Stephen L. Johnson at 324-4902 or Bill Bak at 373-4247.

Jan. 14-15, the MLK Academy at WMU will celebrate King’s birthday and recognize the accomplishments of students enrolled in the MLK Academy, a one-year, probationary student development program designed to encourage those who would not otherwise pursue higher education to do so.

The keynote speaker will be Olle Barren, a former professor who now works as a psychologist for the Upjohn Co. of Kalamazoo.

This year’s banquet is being coupled with a performance of the Urban Bush Women at 8 p.m. Saturday in Miller Auditorium. By combining the folklore and religious traditions of Africans, this New York City dance troupe explores the struggle, growth, transformation and survival of the human spirit. Tickets for the banquet/theatre package are $15 for adults and $7.50 for students/children. For information and reservations, persons should call the MLK Academy at 7-3322.

The observance will continue on Mon- day, Jan. 17, with two free events sponsored by the Division of Minority Affairs. A breakfast will be held in the MLK Academy, and a multimedia presentation will be shown in the multipurpose room on the lower level of the Haenicke Student Center. The college will discuss the impact King has had on their lives and their community.

The annual candlelighting ceremony is being held for the first time on Monday in Kentla Chapel. Students will light 39 candles to symbolize King’s age when he was assassinated in 1968, and the news that changed his life. The keynote speaker for the ceremony will be the Rev. James Lewis Felton, one of WMU’s alumnae/pastor at the First Baptist Church in Kalamazoo. For more information, persons may contact the Division of Minority Affairs.

President Haenicke is encouraging facul- ty members to use some time in their classes Jan. 17 to discuss issues raised by King. He also asked that faculty members excuse from class those students who wish to participate in special events connected with the King birthday observance and he requested that no tests and exams be given on that day.

Urban Bush Women performance is Jan. 15

Urban Bush Women, a premiere dance troupe from New York City, will perform at 9 p.m. Monday, Jan. 17, in Miller Auditorium. Throughout movement, live music, a cappella vocalizations and the spoken word, the company explores the struggles, transformation and survival of the human spirit. The all-African-American troupe delves into the racial myths, sexist stereotypes and other topics that must be confronted in an evolving society.

Urban Bush Women was established in 1984 by artistic director Jawole Willa Jo Zollar and has quickly gained national exposure, acclaim for its innovative performances. The group has presented major performances in major cities across the United States and in other countries.

Zollar will present a lecture at 7 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 13, in the Daltone Center on the topic of the creative process used by the troupe as it relates to survival through culture and its impact on King. A reception will follow in the Green Room.

Members of the company will teach master classes to WMU dance majors and other students on Monday, Jan. 14. Community activi- ties also are planned with the Black Arts and Cultural Center.

The residency is sponsored by the Department of Dance, Miller Auditorium, the Plaza Arts Council and the Visiting Scholar and Artists Program. Tickets are $16, $13 and $10 and may be purchased by calling the auditorium ticket office at 7-2300.

Vellenga to address gathering of alumni and friends Jan. 18

Business will be the topic for the next breakfast meeting for alumni and friends of the University Tuesday, Jan. 18.

The event will begin with a continental breakfast at 7:30 a.m. in the Fetzer Center. The speaker will be David B. Vellenga, Haworth College of Business.

The event is being sponsored by the WMU Alumni Association as part of a series this year titled “Good Morning, Kalamazoo!”

The cost is $6 for association members or $7 for non-members. Reservations are requested by February 14, 14, by calling the Alumni Office at 8-8777.

WMU DONATES FOOD TO KALAMAZOO GOSPEL MISSION — For the second year in a row, WMU's Division of Minority Affairs, the Gospel Mission for use during the holidays. Last year, the dining services staff decided to donate the food that wouldn't keep over the two-week holiday break to the mission. A total of 463 pounds of food was donated, consisting primarily of dairy products and produce. Here, Richard R. Deane, dining services director, shows off some of the produce. “This is a good way for our staff to participate in our community service project,” Dean said. “In addition, we're making sure some is getting to use this food, rather than wasting it.”
On-campus

On-the-job training proves to be a lifesaver

Patricia J. Staffard-Keim, telecommu-
nications, started off the winter semester
with a score, and now has new appreciation
for a course persons in her employee group
are required to take.

Stafford-Keim was eating lunch at her
table on Jan. 3, when a piece of food became
lodged in her throat. A co-worker, noticing
that she wasn’t breathing well, stopped
and asked if she needed help. Another co-worker, Timothy A. Endo,
responded and lodged some of the obstruc-
tion back up her throat. Patiently, Stafford-Keim was then able to go to the
Sindecuse Health Center for further help.

"She was able to take care of my self. I
ever had no way of getting any air. This just
proves the need for people to take training in
CPR and the Heimhlich maneuver." Staffard-Keim and Endo had both
attended training offered by the Division of Environmental Health and Safety. The Office
offers annual classes for WEMU em-
ployees who work in confined spaces, such as areas that employees
belong to a group in telecommunications that is required to take the course.

Zest for Life

Let Zest for Life help you start the new
year right with health promotion programs
designed to meet your needs. Our exercise
and health enhancement opportunities can
assist you in controlling stress, managing
weight, developing physical fitness, im-
proving stamina and feeling good about
yourself.

Exercise programs that begin with the week
of Jan. 2 through 8, include: "Cardiovascular Impact Aerobics, Aqua Fitness-Water Exer-
cise, Yoga Stretch and Tone, and Chair Ex-
ercise." All programs will be offered on a
regular basis throughout the semester, and
also may be arranged for specific faculty
and staff use. For more information, persons
may call University wellness programs at 7-3263.

Lunch hour seminars set

The Family and Medical Leave Act will be
the topic of discussion Wednesday, Jan. 12, in the first in a series of five
noon hour presentations for the spring
semester.

The brown bag lunch hour sessions will
begin at noon in the Red Rooms of the
Sindecuse Health Center and be sponsored by the Administrative Professional Association, the
Clerical/Technical Organization and the
Department of Human Resource Services.

Memorial contributions may be made to
the Arizona State University
Music Scholarship Fund, Arizona State University
Tempe, Ariz. 85287.

F. Stanley Moore, a faculty member in the
Department of Geography from 1958 to 1969, died Dec. 26 in Salt Lake City. He was
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Mr. Moore was working in Salt Lake City as a
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Nursing program

(Continued from page one)

key to the delivery of health care and public health services." Currently, there is one diploma program in southwestern Michigan — at the Bronson School of Nursing in Kalamazoo — and there are five associate degree programs in this region — at Kalamazoo Valley Community College, Kellogg Community College in Battle Creek, Glen Oaks Community College in Centreville, Lake Michigan College in Benton Harbor and Southwest Michigan College in Dowagiac. WMU intends to work with these institutions to develop mutually agreeable articulation arrangements and other appropriate strategies to enable their graduates to enter and complete the WMU baccalaureate and expand their career options.

A priority of the Irving S. Gilmore Foundation is to support community initiatives that sustain or improve the social, economic or cultural life in Greater Kalamazoo. The W.K. Kellogg Foundation was established in 1930 to "help people help themselves."

Board approves sabbaticals for 34 faculty members

A total of 34 faculty members were granted sabbatical leaves for the 1993-94 academic year in action Dec. 17 by the Board of Trustees. They are: Sissy Asea, economics; Robert O. Brinkerhoff, educational leadership; James M. Butterfield, political science; Linda M. DeBehnke, kinesiology; David G. Dickinson, geography; Stuart J. Dybek, English; Paul Farber, education and professional development; Gunilla Holm, education and professional development; and Judy A. Yaeger, business and human resources. The club, which now has 290 active and 198 retired members, is the cornerstone of WMU's ongoing employee recognition program.

Maier's views on the historical Jesus showcased on international radio and in national magazine

A WMU faculty member was heard around the world on Dec. 12 as part of a Voice of America international broadcast that focused on the historical aspects of the birth of Jesus.

Paul L. Maier, history, who is an internationally recognized authority on the origins of Christianity, published "In the Fullness of Time," a guide for the program that featured questions asked by Maier of a panel of journalists drawn from the VOAs and from around the world. Maier's views on the historical Jesus also were explored in the cover story, "Who Was Born on Dec. 12," 20 of U.S. News and World Report. That story reflected a wide array of scholarly opinion on Jesus and prominently mentioned Maier and WMU. Maier also appeared on cable television's "The Learning Channel Dec. 19. The program, titled "The First Christmas," was the first episode in a series on "The Life and Times of Jesus" that was produced by U.S. News and World Report and shot in Montreal.

Maier's voice in the VOAs program resulted from a Dec. 21, 1992, cover story in U.S. News and World Report that made extensive use of his views and scholarship. VOAs Neale Lawson saw the story and contacted Maier when planning a Christmas program to be aired this year.

Maier's telephone responses to the journalists' questions were taped locally Dec. 25 and was repeated Dec. 26 on VOA Europe, an FM satellite service to Western Europe that reaches more than 260 cities in 21 countries.

In the program, the historical aspects of Christianity — what really happened, what is really known and how we came to know it. The questions posed to Maier included: "How reliable are the Gospel accounts of the Nativity?" "Are there archeological supports for the definiteness?" and "Was Mary a virgin?"

Maier, a widely published and internationally recognized authority on the origins of Christianity, published "In the Fullness of Time" in 1991. In it he uses historical and archeological records to supplement the New Testament accounts of Jesus' birth, including the crucifixion and resurrection as well as the spread of Christianity around the world. The volume includes updated edition of three earlier volumes, "First Christmas," "First Easter" and "First Christians."

Ponchilla carving selected

Paul E. Ponchilla, blind rehabilitation has received an award for his original curving, "Baffin Hunter." The piece has been chosen by a juried art committee for red direction by the American Printing House for the Blind Inc. of Louisville to be distributed in a network of 300,000 schools and clubs.

The card is part of an edition of 12 that will be distributed to schools and clubs in various regions of the states. The art was selected from works included in an exhibit of seven 1993 showcase competitions. The three-panel card includes information about the artist, both in print and in braille. The cards, available through APH, are circulated internationally.

Ponchilla sculpts from soapstone, antler and wood. The three-panel curving of "Baffin Hunter" was purchased from Greenlanders sustenance hunters. The sculpted piece has been displayed at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Another Ponchilla carving, "Red Cloud," was selected "Best of Show" at the recent Art Exhibit of the Michigan-based Annual Congress of People with Disabilities.

Calendar

Thursday, January 6

(Thu.) Exhibition, prints by Joel Bujnowski, Charleston, W.Va.; admission charged.

Friday, January 7

(Fri.) Exhibition, paintings by Deborah Zlotsky, Cedar Falls, Iowa, artist, Gallery II, Fetzer Center, 4 p.m.; reception, 3:30 p.m.

Saturday, January 8

(Sat.) Dance lecture, "Survival Through Cultural Traditions," Jawole Willa Jo Zollar, artistic director, Urban Bush Women, Dalton Center Recital Hall, 7 p.m.; reception following in the Dalton Center Green Room.

Sunday, January 9

(Sun.) Retirement reception honoring Frances Therkildsen, logistical services-freight/postal/delivery, President's Dining Room, Bernhard Center, noon.

Monday, January 10

(Mon.) Psychology colloquium, "Faculty's Favorites," WMU psychology faculty, 3760 Kalamazoo Hall, 4 p.m.

Tuesday, January 11

(Tue.) Women's basketball, WMU vs. the University of Akron, Lawson Arena, noon.

(Thu.) Women's basketball, WMU vs. the University of Akron, Lawson Arena, 2:30 p.m.

Wednesday, January 12

(Wed.) Sherrill Hall, 2:15 p.m.

(Blad.) Women's basketball, WMU vs. Ohio University, Lawson Arena, 5:30 p.m.

(Thu.) Women's basketball, WMU vs. Ohio University, Lawson Arena, 8:15 p.m.

(Thu.) Concert, Christian Lindberg, trombone, Dalton Center Recital Hall, 8 p.m.

Thursday, January 13

(Thu.) Dance lecture, "Surviving Through Cultural Traditions," Juwale Willa Jo Zollar, artistic director, Urban Bush Women, Dalton Center Recital Hall, 7 p.m.; reception following in the Dalton Center Green Room.

* Admission charged