Students choose service projects over suntans for break

A group of 45 WMU students have priorities and expectations for Spring Break, 1994, that differ from those of traditional Florida-bound students.

In order to discover the root causes of current issues, the students will depart from campus Friday, Feb. 25, to participate in "Alternative Spring Break" in sites located in four states.

Alternative Spring Break is a service-oriented initiative that provides students with an opportunity to participate in a positive volunteer experience while learning the importance of community service. Sponsored by WMU's student volunteer services, the program encourages students to leave their familiar campuses and strike out for some new experiences.

"When students are on campus, they are sheltered from what is really going on in the world and Alternative Spring Break allows them to change their focus," said David J. Martineau, a senior from Manistee and co-chairperson of the program.

Because Alternative Spring Break immerses participants in other cultures, it advocates life-long social action and promotes the value of community service, he said. As a result, the program "stresses participants in other cultures, it advocates life-long social action and promotes the value of community service, he said. As a result, the program "stresses intelligence, civic consciousness, academic excellence and cultural awareness. Alternative Spring Break is one way students can explore all of those elements and grow personally," said Terri M. Benton, student volunteer services.

Martineau is chairing the program with Ellen K. Muehlberger, a senior from Three Rivers. They were instrumental in setting up the opportunities for the other students. Together, they chose and secured the sites, interviewed and selected candidates, trained the site leaders as well as provided administrative support for the entire program. While Martineau is participating with the team going to Florida, Muehlberger will remain in Michigan and will provide support upon the group's return.

The sites are located in Atlanta, Ga.; Big Talbot Island, Fla.; Westmoreland, Va.; and Dupere, S.D. Martineau and Muehlberger selected the sites using a variety of resource BreakAway, a nationwide network of alternative break resources, offered lists of possible sites. In addition, Martineau and Muehlberger contacted other colleges and universities and an advocacy group to obtain site suggestions for those students as possible," Martineau said.

In Atlanta, site leaders Thomas-Vito Atchison, a juniors from Saginaw, and M. Bodley, a senior from Kalamazoo, will coordinate their group of eight students to work on issues of hunger and homelessness in an urban setting with the Open Door Community. Their project will incorporate skills in political organizing, educating about the economics and systematic causes of homelessness and poverty, and creating a supportive and inclusive community.

Martineau and site leader Melitah L. Ball, a junior from East Lansing, will lead 10 students in Big Talbot Island, Fla., where the team will work at the Bird Emergency Aid and Kure Sanctuary (BEAKS). The participants will help rehabilitate birds injured from human tampering with the environment.

In Virginia, site leaders Tricia L. Rapson, a senior from Bad Axe, and Steven R. Colmas, a junior from Coleman, will mentor their team of 10 students in repairing homes in a rural Appalachian community in connection with the Ivahone Civic League/Volunteers for Communities.

Site leaders Eric L. Feucht, a senior from Troy, and Jeremy D. Dowsett, a sophomore from Lansing, will travel with their 10-member team to South Dakota to work for the Sioux YMCA. The students will interact with Native Americans on a reservation as they construct and repair homes.

Site leaders are selected on the basis of involvement in previous Alternative Spring Breaks. They work closely with the co-chairpersons to train and facilitate their teams. They also serve as the liaisons for each designated site in order to develop the itinerary and

Winter not as deeply rooted in Wood Hall greenhouse

In the midst of the sea of white and cold brought on by this winter's weather, there's an island of green and warmth in the middle of campus.

The greenhouse on the south side of Wood Hall offers not only a welcome change of scenery with its own microclimate, but also an educational experience for those who visit.

"The public is welcome to the greenhouse any time," said Larry W. Yarger, the technician in charge of the facility. "We're open from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., but during the heat of the day the facility tends to get too warm, so the automated top vents open. Another way we try to maintain the temperature is by positioning the benches away from the windows to allow for air circulation."

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Yarger says.

Besides palms, rubber plants and begonias, the facility contains orchids, cacti and some unusual plants called "lithops" that look like stones.

Yarger, who has worked in the greenhouse a little more than a year, has been in the process of inventorying, classifying and labeling all of the plants. Some of that inventorying, Yarger says, will take "weed out" during the annual plant sale, which is scheduled for April 6-8 this year. Prices usually range from $1 to $25.

Yarger tries to maintain the temperature in the greenhouse at 65 to 70 degrees during the winter and 80 to 90 degrees during the summer. When the facility gets too warm, automated vents open. Another way

Yarger regulates the temperature is by painting lime on the windows to act as a sunscreen.

Because of the facility's age, Yarger says it's getting harder to maintain an even temperature. He's hoping for the proposed new science building include an upgraded greenhouse.

Working in the greenhouse is a home- coming of sorts for Yarger. He attended WMU for two years before transferring to Michigan State University to earn his bachelor's and master's degrees in horticulture. He then spent 10 years living in Third World countries and working in agricultural and rural development. His experience in other countries, he says, is to be able to function effectively in a very hot and humid environment.
WMU faculty and staff, along with students living in the residence halls, will be encouraged to get Spirit Awareness Week Feb. 21-25, off on the "right" foot. Spirit pencils from Buster Bronco will be distributed through campus organization representatives, to the University community that want to promote the celebration of WMU pride.

Members of the Division of Student Affairs and residence hall councils, Spirit Awareness Week is being coordinated by assistant directors Larry Barry and Christopher W. Trembley.

The highlight of the week will be "Buster's Birthday Bash Blood Drive" April 27 that honors students, faculty and staff. It will take place at 2 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 23, in 209 Kalamazoo Center. Faculty and staff who want to participate are invited to join the festivities, which will include refreshments, a raffle drawing and a chance to win raffle prizes.

Other activities will include a presentation by Buster to President Haenicke on President’s Day, Feb. 21. Haenicke will be honored with an award recognizing his contributions to school spirit.

Students living in the residence halls will receive brown and golden Buster Bronco placards to display in their windows during the week. Covered halls will be advertising related programs for Wednesday, Feb. 23.

Members of the University community are invited to support "1994 Michigan Pride Day," which is designated as the last Wednesday of every month.

The Spirit Awareness Week concept originated in a group problem solving class taught by Paul Yelima, communication.

Winter semester drops must be processed by Feb. 25.

The deadline is the same for on or off campus or more classes for the winter semester is Fri., Feb. 25. "All drops" must be processed before midnight at the Dean of Students Office on the third floor of the Seibert Administration Building. Hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Spirit Awareness Week planned for Feb. 21-25

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Grant funds science education efforts in Muskegon

A $53,679 grant to WMU’s Center for Science Education will be used to put the latest science education techniques and findings in the hands of Muskegon area elementary school teachers.

The grant for Making Elementary Science Happen in Middle and High Schools was awarded to the center, which is directed by Robert H. Poel. The funding is a Higher Education Competitiveness grant from the Michigan Department of Human Resources.

The MESH grant will extend that successful two-year-old effort into Muskegon County during the current school year. During the past two years, Poel has worked with the principals and lead science teachers in 26 elementary schools in Allegan, Kalamazoo, St. Joseph and Van Buren counties. This year, 15 schools in the Muskegon Intermediate Unit are participating.

"The students will be selected to take part in the program that features interactive sessions designed to strengthen teaching strategies and build leadership for science education reform," Poel says.

Principals and teachers involved in the program will attend a three-day conference in June 1994. The session is designed to make them aware of what is happening in elementary science education and to provide program information that they can implement in their schools and use to develop their own action plan.

"Science education is an area in which many principals are not comfortable," Poel says. "But advances in science education won’t happen unless principals exert their leadership in this area. The program is designed to help principals and lead teachers work together with their colleagues and their communities to reach that goal."

Scholarships available in College of Education

Applications are being sought for the College of Education Undergraduate Scholarship Program.

Students enrolled full time as freshmen, sophomores, juniors and seniors in the college who have demonstrated high academic achievement are eligible to apply. Qualified minority students and males seeking elementary or early childhood education degrees are asked to apply as part of the college’s encourage ment to recruit and retain underrepresented groups in teacher education.

Application forms are available in the dean’s office of the College of Education, 2300 Homer Stryker Hall. The deadline is Tuesday, March 1.

For more information, persons may contact Amy L. Kampa at 7-2966.

Johnathan J. Hendon

The new president-elect of the American Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers (AACRAO) will be Stanley E. Henderson, currently an assistant director of personnel management and admissions.

He will be inducted at the organization’s annual meeting April 17-20 in Boston.

Henderson has been very active in the organization for many years, including service as vice president for enrollment management and secretary/treasurer and membership on the board of directors and corporate advisory board, all from 1990 to 1993.

After a one-year term as president-elect, Henderson will become president of AACRAO and will be explored as being used for the 1993-94 season. For professionals from some 2,300 higher education institutions comprise the organization’s constituency.

Henderson has held numerous positions with both the Michigan and Kansas associations. His professional service also has included membership in several national organizations and chairs or co-chairs national conferences on strategic enrollment management. He has written numerous articles for professional journals and he has made many scholarly presentations at state and national conferences.

Prior to joining WMU’s staff, Henderson was director of admissions at Wichita State University from 1977 to 1981. He was a research assistant in the Office of School and College Relations and to the University Senate Budget Committee in 1977-78 at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. In 1970-71, he was an admissions counselor and resident director of orientation at Michigan State University.

Henderson received his bachelor’s degree with high honors in chemistry in 1969 from MSU and a master’s degree in government in 1971 from Cornell University. He also has a master’s degree in counseling from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

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"I’m happy to accept the award and I look forward to the year ahead with pleasure and pride, and I look forward to working with all of you," Henderson said.

On campus

A HELPING METACRIPAL — No bones about it, Jane A. Lyon enjoys her job as an administrative assistant in the Department of Occupational Therapy.

"My specialty is solving problems," she says. "I think the most important thing I do." Through a network of people and resources on campus, she smooths the way for students in the program who have roadblocks on their way to getting an education. She helps students get answers to their questions about job opportunities in such areas as registration and financial aid. In addition, she manages the main office in occupational therapy. "As needed, where needed, when needed—that's my motto," she says. "I respond to what comes through the door." Lyon, pictured here with her colleagues, has been used in the department’s courses, has worked at WMU for 20 years and in occupational therapy for the last 10. She says she particularly enjoys the students she meets through her work. "Our students are undoubtedly the best students I've encountered," she says. "They're very caring and that shows in their involvement in the department and the community. It's a rare day when we have a bad seed for an occupational therapy student." When not in the office, Lyon enjoys spending time with her husband, David, associate dean of the College of Arts and Sciences and director of collective bargaining and contract administration, and her family. She keeps a menagerie of pets ranging from horses to cats on the 10 acres they own in Lawton. Lawrence. She also enjoys participating in an antique club and is the proud owner of a 1931 Ford Cabriolet.
MEDALLION COMPETITION — Some 500 top high school seniors turned out Feb. 12 for the 10th annual Medallion Scholarship Competition on campus. During a pause in the activities, from left, Stanley E. Henderson, enrollment management and admissions director; and David Gromes, Grosse Ile High School’s Ellen Skidmore from Climax-Scotts High School as Joyce and Corey Leon looked on. The Leon’s, now married and in graduate school at the University of Michigan, are the last of the first group of students who began the Medallion program as freshmen in 1987. The Leon’s are among academic awardees, including the prestigious $25,000 Medallion Scholarships.

In sculpture by Scott George, Rotunda Gallery; and BFA show in painting by Grant Johnston, South Gallery.

Doctoral oral examination, “The Effects of Utilitarianism on Performance Appraisal and Selected Output Measures in a Weberian Bureaucracy,” Donald W. Wright, public affairs and administration, 207 Walwood Hall, 4 p.m.

Tuesday, February 22

“Breakfast program for alumni and friends, “Playwrights on Playwriting; Love Is Strange,” Amie Johnston, English, and alumna Deborah Percy, Fetzer Center, 7:30 a.m.; call 7-8777 for reservations.

*University computing services workshops, 2033 University Computing Center: (24) “Introduction to Microsoft Powerpoint for Windows,” 9-11 a.m.; “Introduction to TPU,” 1-3 p.m.; and (24) “Introduction to Microsoft Works for Macintosh,” 3-5 p.m.; call 7-5430 for registration information.


Student recital, Kristin Blanchard, flute, Dalton Center Lecture Hall, 8 p.m.

Wednesday, February 23

WMU Pride Day.

*University computing services workshops, 2033 University Computing Center: “Introductory Lotus 123,” 1-3 p.m. (and 24); “WordPerfect for Windows,” 3-5 p.m.; “Electronic Mail Using PMDF for VMS," 3:30-5:30 p.m.; and call 7-5430 for registration information.

School of Music Convocation Series concert, Student Musicales, Dalton Center Recital Hall, 8 p.m.

Spirit Awareness Week reception, “Buster’s Brown and Gold Blowout,” 209 Bernhard Hall, 8-10 p.m.

Biological sciences and Bio Sci Society seminar, “Trophic Tricks of Dominant Detritivores: How Does Prochlorococcus Lutescens Achieve High Production on a Low Quality Diet?” Richard G. Dubinsky, professor of Biological Sciences, Michigan Technological University, 5:270 McCracken Hall, 4:30-5:30 p.m.; refreshments, 3:45 p.m.


College of Education research colloquium, “Conversations With Educational Settings: The Use of Focus Group Interview Methods in Systemic Change,” Patrick M. Jenlink, professor of Educational Leadership, 2308 Sangren Hall, 4-5 p.m.

Cornelius Loew Lecture in Medieval Studies, “Hags and Bright Maidens: Female Encounters in Old English and Norse Literature,” Helen Damico, the University of New Mexico, 1104 Rood Hall, 4 p.m.

“Use of Focus Group Interview Methods in Systemic Change,” Patrick M. Jenlink, professor of Educational Leadership, 2308 Sangren Hall, 4-5 p.m.; refreshments, 3:45 p.m.

Doctoral oral examination, “The Relationship Among One’s Beliefs Regarding Divine Education Leadership, 2308 Sangren Hall, 9:30 a.m.

University computing services and faculty development services videoconference, “Classroom Design With Technology in Mind,” clock tower conference room, University Computing Center, 1-3 p.m.; call 7-5385 to register.

University computing services workshop, “Advanced Electronic Mail Using PMDF for VMS,” 2033 University Computing Center, 1-3 p.m.; call 7-5430 for registration information.

*Admission charged

Students offer tax return preparation assistance

As the deadline for filing income tax returns approaches, a group of WMU students is planning to offer free assistance to the Kalamaoo community.

WMU’s chapter of Beta Alpha Psi, a national accounting fraternity, will provide free tax preparation for the elderly and persons with incomes of less than $20,000 who receive Social Security payments. The students will be preparing forms through the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program (VITA). Beta Alpha Psi will prepare both federal and state returns from 2 to 5 p.m. Thursdays, Feb. 17 and 24 and March 10 and 17, at the Douglas Community Center, 100 W. Parnon. In addition, members will prepare tax returns at WMU from 2 to 5 p.m., Thursdays, March 24 and 31, in 2308 Schneider Hall.

The honorary accounting fraternity has been involved in the volunteer tax project for more than 15 years. The activity is important for the group because it gives accounting majors the opportunity to put some of their knowledge to practical use to benefit the community. The students complete an individual tax course and receive additional VITA training before they participate in the tax preparation services.