For the seventh consecutive year, and despite projections to the contrary, WMU has increased its enrollment over the previous year to a record 27,708 students — marking the result of retention and an increase in the number of graduate students.

Emeritus Chancellor B. Hannah, assistant vice president for academic affairs, of this fall's increase of 1 percent over last fall's total of 27,561 students. Hannah said: "We're absolutely delighted," said Susan S. Barrett, the provost and vice president for academic affairs.

"We were projecting a overall decrease of 1 percent," Hannah said. "This increase will help us with the many serious budget issues we face this year. Once more WMU is being recognized for its quality and value by the people who count — our students."

Total on-campus enrollment was 24,058, up 628 students or 2.7 percent over last fall's figure of 23,430 students. Off-campus enrollment is expected to be 3,650 students, up 36 students or 1.0 percent over last fall's total of 3,614 students. This year's increase is the result of improved efforts by the undergraduate level and more graduate students, Hannah said.

Hansen is writing a book on "The Crisis in Financing Higher Education." He also has written many papers on educational issues, such as the "Economics of Education for At-Risk Students" with Henry M. Levin, director of the Center for Educational Policy Research at Stanford University, Wednesday, Dec. 4.

"The Economics of Education in a World of Change" with Mary Jean Bowles could be his most important book of the year. Hansen is the author or editor of numerous other books, including "The End of Mandatory Retirement: Effects on Higher Education." He has written in many papers professional and student development, who is chairman of the Undergraduate Studies Council, which developed the new program, found the existing program in need of attention when it was asked to review general education by then Provost George M. Dennison in 1986. The result was a "modified distribution program" with a separate set of proficiencies.

"Despite some need for change, it is expected that 70 percent of existing general education courses would meet criteria for the new program and other courses certainly would be revised," said Carol Payne Smith, education and professional development, who is chairman of the Undergraduate Studies Council.

The lecture-seminar series is supported by a grant from the W.E. Upjohn Institute for Employment Research in Kalamazoo.

The council noted that "faculty and students have cited the current program's lack of structure and coherence, the perception of less rigor, the absence of contemporary perspectives and the general irrelevance of the program to the total baccalaureate program." The proposed University Education Program would require students to demonstrate mastery of "proficiencies" of writing, mathemat- ics, computer usage and health and fitness through taking courses or, in some instances, by taking a test. Proficiencies are not met by incoming students.

In addition, nine courses in four "core areas" would be required for a total of 30 hours of credit. The current program requires 35 hours of credit, which includes what are now separated out as proficiencies. The core areas include two courses in the arts and humanities, two in social and behavioral sciences, two in science and technology, two in world perspectives and one in issues and ethics.

The separation of proficiencies from core area requirements is a critical aspect of the structure of the proposed University Education Program, the proposal states. "The separation of skills and content is in keeping with curricular reform at universities nationally. "It strengthens the skills component of the baccalaureate by setting uniform standards of proficiency and strengthens general education by establishing core disciplinary and inquiry areas of study," the policy states.

Other recommended revisions include eliminating requirements for foreign language and upper-level writing and adding a laboratory science requirement. The world perspectives requirement for the study of the non-Western world.

The issues and ethics area is new, along with (Continued on page four)
WEMU returns to the air at reduced power

WEMU-FM (102.1), the University's public radio station, returned to the air Sept. 17 at reduced power after more than two weeks of following a lightning strike Aug. 30 that damaged transmission equipment and power supplies.

"We're back," said Richard R. Atwell, WEMU-FM. "We're a lot happier with music coming out of the speakers. This wasn't how we'd hoped to observe our 40th anniversary this year." The station's range is about 25 miles.

The station was ready to broadcast using what is called an intermediate power amplifier on Sept. 11 but had to wait for a variance from the Federal Communications Commission after a lightning strike Aug. 30.

"We were on the air within minutes of that phone call," Atwell said. The call came from the station's Washington, D.C., attorneys, saying that the FCC had approved the variance.

No estimate of the cost of damage has been completed and it has not been determined how much reduced power. "We're shooting for sometime in October," Atwell added.

The station's full-fund-raising campaign has been put "on hold" pending the return to full power, which will be restored with the installation of a new transmitter. On order since before the lightning strike, it was purchased with donations through the University's "Campaign for Excellence."

The Hispanic Heritage Month activities at WMU are being sponsored by the Division of Student Affairs. The banquet is being sponsored with the Office of Admissions and Orientation.

Griffin named to news board

Tony Griffin, WEMU-FM, has been re-elected to the board of directors of the Public Radio News Directors Association.

The organization is dedicated to enhancing public radio programming, services, programming and distribution throughout the national system. Last year, Griffin chaired the association's ethics committee.

PERFECT ATTENDANCE—A total of 45 WMU employees who are members of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees have perfect attendance for the job during the 1990-91 year and were honored Sept. 9 at a luncheon in the Bernhard Center. All received t-shirts and a year-end prize and will have their names listed on a plaque in the Bernhard Center for successfully completing the WMCU AFSCME Attendance Incentive Program. One name from the 45 was drawn at random for a grand prize. The winner this year was James (Mike) Brown, physical plant, center, who has elected to take a four-week trip to two Disney World in Florida. Congratulations to all recipients.

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A historical look at East Germany will be provided in talks in the coming week by a visiting international scholar.

Amin-Geil Kuckhoff, a retired faculty member from eastern Germany, is in residence at WMU for this month. His first public presentation, titled "The Rise and Fall of the German Democratic Republic from a Personal Perspective," is set for 4:30 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 19, in 3020 Friedman Hall. A reception will follow in 2090 Friedman Hall.

In his first talk, Kuckhoff is expected to describe the political, social and cultural changes that resulted from the origins, development and causes of the ultimate failure of the "socialist experiment" in the German Democratic Republic, formerly East Germany.

Kuckhoff has had a distinguished career in the academic theatre arts in eastern Germany. He was a dramatic adviser to theatres in Berlin, and was professor and chairperson and dean at theatres in Wittenberg and Weimar in Germany. He served as president of the Academy of Theatre in Leipzig from 1961 to 1969. He retired from the academy in 1977.

A guest professor and lecturer at several institutions, Kuckhoff has spoken at institutions in the Soviet Union, Poland and the United States.

Kuckhoff is particularly interested in the theatre and English for discussions about the dilemmas of writers and the arts in an ideological system as well as the role of playwrights and actors in the formation of the "underground movement" and in the "cultural movement" in the system's collapse during 1989-90.

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McDonald's to join stores in Bronco Mall by October

A McDonald's restaurant will be coming to the Bronco Mall in the Bernhard Center. The restaurant is expected to be open by the first week in October.

The University has entered into a five-year lease with McDonald's Corp. of Oakbrook, Ill., for a fast-food provider. At its meeting on July 26, the WMU Board of Trustees authorized the administration to enter into an agreement with a fast-food vendor pending the successful conclusion of negotiations.

Terms of the agreement, which was concluded Sept. 1, were not disclosed. The company included in the lease purchase some existing equipment and plans to make improvements to the site. Between McDonald's and the University began about six months ago.

This is a highly sought after, highly prized lease," said Robert M. Beam, vice president for Student Affairs. In addition to meeting faculty, staff and other students, participants were able to take care of such business as validating their ID cards and purchasing parking stickers. Patricia A. Dolly, adult learning services, left, and Paula J. Boodt, Graduate College, right, welcomed Mark R. Downing, a graduate student from North Muskegon, and Leigh Ann Nicol, a graduate student from Portage.

Senates (Continued from page one)

a course to be called "Culture of the United States" that would be required of all students. The social and behavioral sciences area.

"One of the strengths of the program is that it designates some courses as being lower level and others as upper level," Smith said. "That way students will develop more critical thinking skills as they move along. The upper-level world perspectives course, for example, will require more analysis and synthesis than an introductory course."

Meanwhile, proposals have been dropped that some courses be called "capstone" courses and that the issues and ethics course, which would have been a capstone course, be interdisciplinary in nature, although it is expected that some approaches to the area would be interdisciplinary, Smith said. The U.S. culture course had been called "The American Experience in Business." These and other changes were made, Smith said, in response to concerns expressed by an ad hoc committee set up to review the council's proposal. "The Ad Hoc General Education Committee does not see itself as a defender of the current program, and in fact views the lack of specificity of criteria for course content," the committee said in its report.

While agreeing with the philosophical goals of the program, it found that "criteria for the content of the program and implementation are the weakest part of the program," the council said. The committee was chaired by H. Byron Earhart, religion.

The committee also expressed concern that academic departments are designated as eligible to offer courses in some core areas but not in others. "A majority of the committee members feel it is more appropriate to review courses by course rather than by department," the report said. "A more important consideration is the lack of specificity of criteria for courses in the new program and which ones excluded.

In response, the Undergraduate Studies Council has agreed to accept a recommen- dation of the Earhart committee to establish a committee to more specifically define criteria for courses in the program, Smith said. That same committee would oversee the new program under the policy guidance of the Undergraduate Studies Council.

"Workshops and seminars for faculty members would be available to help them revise and develop courses for the new program," Smith said. "In them, faculty members could discuss trends in general education, how to incorporate new pedagogy and ways to handle the new emphasis on critical thinking in their classes."

Skadden to speak Sept. 26 on accounting accreditation

An expert on taxation and accounting education will speak at Western on Thursday, Sept. 26, as part of the Visiting Scholars and Artists Program.

Donald H. Skadden, vice president for taxation of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants in Washington, D.C., will deliver a public lecture at 7 p.m. in 2000 Haworth College of Business building.

Titled "Accounting Accreditation and the 150-Hour Requirement," the speech will focus on issues and problems related to accounting accreditation programs. Skadden also will be an invited guest for a 90-minute forum for accounting graduates who has been approved by the AICPA. After the forum, accounting graduates will need to have 150 hours of university-level education in order to join the AICPA. This requirement has been a topic of discussion at universities because it is beyond the 125 to 130 hours normally needed for a bachelor's degree in accounting. It is intended to address the growing volume of knowledge required today by accountants.

Skadden was senior associate dean for academic affairs in its School of Business from 1979 to 1997.

La Quinta Brain Trust grows

The La Quinta Brain Trust, an endowed scholarship fund at WMU, now contains more than $13,000, thanks to an $8,000 check presented recently by officials from La Quinta Inns.

The La Quinta Brain Trust agreement, the San Antonio-based hotel chain contributes 10 percent of the room rate whenever guests stay at La Quinta Inns at Kalamazoo for a University-related event.

The La Quinta Brain Trust grows because it is beyond the 125 to 130 hours normally needed for a bachelor's degree in accounting. It is intended to address the growing volume of knowledge required today by accountants.