Students win awards to conduct research with mentors

Five graduate students have been named WMU Research Fellows and awarded $10,000 each to undertake year-long research projects.

The five students, their academic programs and their faculty mentors are: Nancy L. Bruce-Comisar, a master’s degree student in the medieval studies program, who is working with Otto Grunender, religion and Medieval Institute; Brian A. Keller, a doctoral student in mathematics, who is working with Christian R. Hirsch, mathematics and statistics; Sandra Karen Lee, a master’s degree student in mechanical and aeronautical engineering, who is working with Parviz Merati, mechanical and aeronautical engineering; and Jean M. Rosinski, who is pursuing a master’s degree in business administration through the Haworth College of Business and is working with Nick G. Triantafillopoulos, paper and printing science and engineering.

The five were selected from among 34 applicants to the competitive award program initiated last year by Donald E. Thompson, vice president for research. All five students were recognized at a May 18 campus researchers’ luncheon and plaques were awarded to both the students and their mentors. Each student’s mentor also was awarded $1,000 to assist with project expenses.

The research projects selected for 1992-93 academic year awards include: a study by Bruce-Comisar of the cultural and religious preservatism that has fostered the existence of such groups as the cult of St. Winefrede, the patron saint of North Wales who died in 690 A.D. and who remains the subject of annual pilgrimages; an analysis by Keller of calculus students’ preferences in seeing mathematics problems represented in graphs, equations or tables and development of a statistical tool to analyze the preference data; a study by Lee of accessibility of health and human services for Kalamazoo County residents who suffer from sickle cell anemia; an examination by Parker of the fluid mechanical properties of supercritical jet flow and its effect on a target surface; and a study by Rosinski on infrared heating techniques that would make the use of environmentally safer water-based inks more productive and able to compete with solvent-based ink systems in gravure printing operations.

The award program is designed to improve the scholarly research environment of WMU and to enhance the quality and character of interaction between faculty members and graduate students by focusing on the mentoring relationship. The program was launched in April 1991. The first five recipients presented the results of their research to a campus audience this past April.

Selections for the award are made on the basis of the quality and significance of the proposed research, scholarship or creative activity; the intellectual quality of the experience; the significance of the students’ role in the research; the prospect for the development of a singular productive mentoring relationship; and the academic record of the student.

To be selected, a project also must demonstrate that it will contribute to the student’s scholarship and professional growth and sustain a mentoring relationship that will enrich the scholarly work of both the student and faculty mentor. At the conclusion of the research year, students must submit a final report and a dissertation or evidence that the research has been or soon will be published in a refereed publication or presented at a refereed conference.

University joins partnership in Battle Creek to assist with education reform movement

WMU will join two school districts in Calhoun County, Michigan State University and the Michigan Partnership for New Education to initiate two “professional development schools” in the Battle Creek area beginning this fall.

Battle Creek Central High School in the Battle Creek Public Schools and Prairieview Elementary School in the Lakeview School District have been designated as the participating schools.

In them "new" programs and technologies can be tried and evaluated," according to officials. Such schools are part of the reform movement in American education.

In addition, the two school districts have formed the Battle Creek Partnership for New Education, based on the state model. Their partnership will enable business partners, parents and others to "reform education in Battle Creek," officials said.

"We are delighted to be involved in this innovative project," said Dean Charles M. Hocking, WMU associate vice president of public affairs. "This provides a unique opportunity to cooperate not only with public schools but also with another university as school and university faculty members and others work together for change.

"An exciting aspect of these efforts is the potential to improve the way we prepare teachers, administrators and counselors," he said.

WMU College of Education faculty members Donald A. Crawford, education and professional development, and Carl A. Woloszyk, consumer resources and technology, will serve as liaison persons with administrators, teachers and community leaders in the Battle Creek and Lakeview schools. Faculty members from the schools and WMU will teach in one another’s classrooms, conduct research together and involve WMU students in pre-internship experiences among any number of possible activities, said Associate Dean Floyd L. McKenny, education. Specific activities won’t be known until the project gets under way.

Among the characteristics of the professional development school are that teachers teach for understanding “so that students learn for a lifetime,” that teachers and students are organized as “a community of learning” and that reflection and inquiry are central features of the school, officials said.

Professional development schools are intended to bring about the reform of American education through changes in teaching and learning practices, said Janice Gaiser, vice president of local area partnerships of the East Lansing-based Michigan Partnership.

The partnership, established two years ago, is supported in part by a grant from the W.K. Kellogg Foundation of Battle Creek. Professional development schools have been established in 10 other Michigan communities. WMU is among seven public universities in Michigan to be involved in the project.

ATHLETIC TICKETS PROVIDE ‘WIN’ OPPORTUNITY FOR BUSINESSES, CHARITIES, WMU, DISADVANTAGED YOUTH

Battle Creek and Kalamazoo area businesses are being asked to purchase blocks of tickets for WMU athletic events and then donate them to more than 60 charities and non-profit organizations for use by disadvantaged youth.

This is a definite a win-win opportunity for the ticket donors, the charitable organizations, WMU and, most importantly, the youngsters,” said George A. Franklin, vice president for public affairs at the Kellogg Co. of Battle Creek and chairperson of WMU’s Board of Trustees.

“We want to expose these youngsters to first-rate intercollegiate athletic experiences, college life and WMU’s beautiful campus in hopes that they will be encouraged to attend college some day.”

Battle Creek/Kalamazoo area businesses and charitable organizations have been on the state and national level for a reception at 5:30 p.m. Thursday, May 21, at the Fetter Center to kick off this special program. Individuals interested in purchasing and donating tickets also are invited. The project is being sponsored by the University’s new spirit committee and the "WMU and Kellogg” program, said John D. Fleckenstein Jr., aide to WMU’s vice president for student affairs.

Franklin indicated that several organizations already have expressed interest in participation. They include the Kellogg Co., Price Waterhouse, WMU Alumni Association and EPJ/ARM. Franklin is chairing the coordinating committee; chairing the committee are Joyce Brown of the Urban League and Peter Tripp of Big Brothers/Big Sisters, both of Battle Creek, and the Rev. Otha Gilyard and the Rev. John Grafwhalboth of Kalamazoo.

Two ticket package options are being offered: Option I, at a cost of $250, includes: six tickets for the Sept. 19 Bronco football home opener against Akron, the newest member of the Mid-American Conference; four tickets each for the Ball State, Eastern Michigan and Central Michigan football games; four tickets each for the Illinois-Chicago and Eastern Michigan volleyball games; four tickets each for the Merrimack and Notre Dame hockey games; and four tickets for the Eastern Michigan and six tickets for the Bowling Green basketball games to be played at Battle Creek’s Kellogg Arena.

Option II, at a cost of $100, includes 20 coupons each providing one reserved seat or best available ticket to Bronco football, basketball and hockey games and general admission seating for volleyball contests. Under Option II, some games will be limited to two coupons per contest.

Tickets will be purchased by individuals and/or businesses and they will go directly, in the name of the donor, to a charity selected by the donor from a list of participating agencies.

CONGRATULATING RESEARCH AWARD WINNERS — Donald E. Thompson, vice president for research, right, congratulates the five graduate students who were named WMU Research Fellows and presented with plaques at a May 18 luncheon. Each student’s mentor also was awarded $1,000 to assist with project expenses.

Douma to be recommended for post in Graduate College

The appointment of Rollin G. Douma as interim dean of the Graduate College will be recommended by President Haenicke to the Board of Trustees at its June 26 meeting.

Douma has served as associate dean of the Graduate College since 1979. An associate professor of English, he joined WMU’s faculty in 1970. He is a past president of the Michigan Council of Teachers of English and will replace LaVerne B. VanDerHeyden, who is stepping down after 13-12 years as dean, effective July 1. After a professional development leave, she plans to return to the WMU faculty.

Provost Nancy S. Barrett has indicated that a new search committee will be formed in the fall to recommend the appointment of a permanent dean.

New APA leadership will be introduced at May 22 meeting

The Administrative Professional Association will meet from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Friday, May 22, in the Red Rooms of the Bernhard Center.

Agenda items include: the annual comptax report; a report to the April APA’s 1992-93 survey; and the introduction of new officers and members of the Executive Board and Council of Representatives.

New officers of the APA will be installed at the May 22 board meeting, including: president-elect E. Elizabeth McKinnis; vice president-elect Kevin J. W. Le Guay; secretary-treasurer Mary K. Hutter; and program chair J. Cordero-Gonzalez.
Second edition of book by Northouses focuses on importance of communication in health care

The second edition of a textbook designed to improve communication between health care providers and the patients and families whose lives have been turned upside down due to illness has been produced by a WMU faculty member and a WMU alumna.

"Health Communication: Strategies for Health Professionals" was written by Peter G. and Laurel L. Northouse, who are husband and wife. The text focuses on effective communication in the health care setting through the authors' dual disciplines. He is a professor of communication at WMU and she is an associate professor of nursing at Wayne State University in Detroit.

Geared for professional health care providers and individuals who want to expand their understandings of effective communication in health care, the book explores problems and conflicts inherent in relationships between professionals, patients and families who are dealing with severe illness. It examines such issues as empathy, trust, self-disclosure and control that arise after illness is diagnosed.

"When people get sick and experience a degree of uncertainty about their disease and their future," says Peter Northouse, "they frequently lose a sense of control about their circumstances. It's very important for health care providers to share information and control with their patients and help them gain control of their health care and participate in their health treatment process."

Previously titled "Health Communication: A Handbook for Health Professionals," the revision includes new chapters on control and the ethical dilemmas in health care settings with emphasis on the integral role communication plays in their resolution.

"With such issues as informal consent, health service financing and the termination of life support that are prevalent in today's society," Northouse says, "we felt the addition of a chapter on ethical health was important.

Gifs and grants running ahead of last year's records

With three months left in the current fiscal year, grants and cash gifts to the University are running ahead of last year's record highs, according to reports presented to the Board of Trustees at its April 24 meeting.

Grants received during the months of February and March totaled $1,095,516, bringing the year-to-date total of grants awarded to WMU to $9,053,569. That figure is $23,345 more than the total of grants received during a comparable period last year.

Gifts received during the months of February and March totaled $72,793, bringing the year-to-date total of gifts to $122,000, which is $52,000 more than the amount of cash gifts received by the end of March last year.

Notable gifts for the period reported included a pledge payment on previously announced gifts to fund construction of the building that houses the Haworth College of Business.

Also counted toward the period gift total was a $50,000 charitable remainder unitrust naming WMU as beneficiary. Norman C. and Gilda M. Greenberg arranged the trust to create an endowment fund for Waldo Library that will bear their names. He retired with emeritus status in March after 20 years at WMU. At the time of his retirement, he was senior advisor to the president for international affairs and professor of anthropology and social science. Earlier, he served as dean of the College of General Studies and dean of international education and programs.

She retired in 1989 as professor emerita of humanities and social science after teaching at WMU for 16 years.

Major grants received during February included a $126,137 grant from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism to Leonard C. Ginsberg, chairman, and Merrill Arneklev, chemist. The grant will fund their third year of work, with W.H. Kunkletz and the University of Colorado at Boulder, examining the genetic changes to cells caused by exposure to alcohol. Such changes lead to liver problems and may eventually cause cirrhosis of the liver in alcoholics.

Among major grants received during March was a $74,500 award from the Kalamaoo Valley Intermediate School District to the WMU Office of Conference and Institutes to support the Michigan Department of Education's 1992 Summer Institute Institute to support the Michigan Department of Education's 1992 Summer Institute.

The Western Jazz Quartet, a resident faculty ensemble in the School of Music, will perform May 7 from 7:30 to 9 p.m. at the Union in Downtown Kalamazoo. The concerts in four cities — including four appearances in the capital city of Bratislava — are the quartet's first European tour.

Faculty members in the quartet are Thomas Kniffel, bass; Trent P. Kynaston, saxophone; and Stephen M. Moore, piano. Joining them on the tour to play drums will be Sam Neid, a former School of Music student.

With the three months left in the fiscal year, WMU directing professor in residence, said Provost Nancy S. Barrett, "The last three months have been a whirlwind of travel and meetings, and we are looking forward to a productive fourth quarter of the fiscal year."

With the Department of Education's 1992 Summer Institute and other professional activities, Barrett said, "the last three months have been a whirlwind of travel and meetings, and we are looking forward to a productive fourth quarter of the fiscal year."

New Department of Physician Assistant formed

The formation of a new Department of Physician Assistant at the College of Health and Human Services was approved April 24 by the Board of Trustees.

"The creation of this department, which is effective July 1, 1992, is the result of a reorganization in the college," said Provost Nancy S. Barrett. "As the only degree-granting, full professor status school, the Physician Assistant Program had

Gavelnick Reish mission is to design and foster programs for the academically talented student. He will be responsible for the appointment of a permanent dean of the college.

Three candidates interview for position in placement

The last of three candidates for the position of director of career planning and placement services will make a public presentation at 9 a.m. May 22, in the Stevens Classroom of the Faunce Student Services Building.

Lenora Crowder, director of career planning and placement at Baylor University in Texas, will give a 15- to 20-minute talk on a topic related to career services.

The other two candidates, who visited campus earlier this week, are David A. Graham, director of the placement office at George Southern University and the 1984 recipient of a master's degree from WMU; and Jeffrey A. Powell, director of career planning and placement at Tulane University in New Orleans.

A third member of the committee is Norman M. Kiraco, Counseling Center.

Reisch is the associate dean of the College of Medicine at the University of California, San Francisco, where she is director of an appointment in the division of French. Reisch is the author of numerous articles on 19th century French literature and also is a published poet.

The Lee Honors College enrolled nearly 900 students in the 1992 winter semester. Its mission is to design and foster programs for the academically talented student. He will be responsible for the appointment of a permanent dean of the college.

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Graduate student earns $15,000 UJoff fellowship

A WMU graduate student has been named the second recipient of a fellowship endowed by the Upjohn Co. of Kalamazoo. The fellowship, called the Upjohn Director Fellowship in Educational Administrative Leadership, was endowed by the Chicago Board of Trade as a securities buyer for two years before returning to WMU to begin his graduate studies. He earned a bachelor's degree in public administration and marketing and a master's degree in educational administration and planning. Murphy will begin his graduate studies at WMU in the fall and is expected to complete his doctorate next spring. He plans to return to Upjohn after graduation.

The fellowship is intended to provide financial assistance to graduate students who are interested in careers in educational administration. Murphy has worked for Upjohn for three years and as a research assistant to the director for three years as acting director during the 1991 search that resulted in the name of Wayne R. Schaper. The Upjohn fellowship, which was established in 1987, calls for joint selection of the recipient by the Upjohn Co. and the Department of Educational Administration and by the director of KAMSC. The first recipient was W. Thompson, chairperson of educational administration, and the second was K. Loo, assistant to the director for three years as acting director during the 1991 search that resulted in the name of Wayne R. Schaper.

Jeffries

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On Campus

BENEFITING FROM HIS JOB — Two major changes affecting University benefits have kept Richard K. Schaper on his toes this year. The revision in the early retirement plan on the switch in the University hospital/medical administration from Aetna to John Hancock has resulted in a few byzantine months for Schaper, the manager of benefits for the Department of Human Resources. He and his staff of two professional and two clerical employees are responsible for administering the University's retirement, hospitalization, long-term disability, life insurance and workers' compensation programs, "as a liaison between the insurance and retirement companies and the University community," Schaper says. In addition, they oversee the leave of absence, sick leave and annual leave benefits. A native of Saginaw, Schaper came to Kalamazoo in 1978 as a student after spending some time in the Air Force. He obtained his bachelor of business administration degree from WMU in 1981 and joined the benefits office staff that same year. He went on to earn his master of public administration degree from WMU in 1990. Schaper says one of the "benefits" he enjoys from his job is interacting with many segments of the University community. Working at WMU has been a kind of family affair for Schaper. His brother, James T. Schaper, is director of auxiliary enterprises.

Emma S. Odom, in addition to serving as director of the Kalamazoo Area Math and Science Center, is an assistant professor in the Department of Educational Administration and Planning.

Herb Jeffries, a student in educational leadership, has been named the second recipient of a fellowship endowed by the Upjohn Co. of Kalamazoo. The fellowship, called the Upjohn Director Fellowship in Educational Administrative Leadership, was endowed by the Chicago Board of Trade as a securities buyer for two years before returning to WMU to begin his graduate studies. He earned a bachelor's degree in public administration and marketing and a master's degree in educational administration and planning. Murphy will begin his graduate studies at WMU in the fall and is expected to complete his doctorate next spring. He plans to return to Upjohn after graduation.

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Western News  May 21, 1992  Three
Branchaw book spells out rules of grammar

Equipping students with a tool they'll want to use is the goal of a new book written by a WMU faculty member. Bernadine P. Branchaw, business information and organizational management, of the third edition of "English Made Easy," a text-workbook for high school and college students, presents the rules of grammar.

"No matter what career students choose, they will need to know how to communicate effectively," Branchaw says. "In a communication situation, their main tool for success is their command of the English language."


"This is the text," Branchaw explains, "that presents the basic principles of written and oral communication. It was written for students who need to improve their oral and written communication skills."

"My text-workbook will enable students to use the basic rules of grammar in their written and oral communication," Branchaw says. "Specifically, it will help students review the basic principles of English grammar which are the fundamentals of the English language, review the basics of English grammar and express their ideas, and apply them naturally and effectively in oral and written communication."

The book consists of 50 distinct four-page lessons. According to Branchaw, the first two pages of each lesson teach the principles using explanations, illustrations, and simple exercises. The next two pages of each lesson present additional exercises that allow students to apply the principles.

"English Made Easy" will be used in the University's BIS 100 "Introduction to Business Writing" course beginning in the summer session. It also will be used in high schools and colleges throughout the nation in the fall.

The 202-page paperback book soon will be available in bookstores for $13.95.

Calendar

Thursday, May 21

(then July 10 Exhibition), "Watercolors and Pastels, Still Life and Figurative," by Julia Lichtenheld, Kalamazoo artist, Department of Human Resources, 1240 Seibert Administration Building, weekdays, 8-noon and 1-5 p.m.

University Health Medical Plan open house, May 12 in Good Hall.

Friday, May 22

Meeting, Faculty Senate Ad Hoc Committee to Revise General Education, 204 Bernhard Center, 9-10 a.m.; refreshments, 8:30 a.m.

Writing Project, Kathryn Welsch, doctoral candidate, 3310 Sangren Hall, 4 p.m.

Component Is Addressed in the Administration of Tech Prep Programs," Linda R. Kwasny, educational leadership, Tate Center, 3210 Sangren Hall, 10 a.m.

Friday, May 23

Doctoral oral examination, "The Extent To which the Career Guidance and Counselling Program is Addressed in the Administration of Tech Prep Programs," Linda J. Kwasny, educational leadership, Tate Center, 3210 Sangren Hall, 10 a.m.

International Issues in Education Series, "Strategic Planning in Higher Education Institutions," Robert D. Beatty, assistant professor, School of Public Administration, Ohio University, 3:30 p.m.; refreshments, 3:15 p.m.

Thursday, May 28

Meeting, Faculty Senate Ad Hoc Committee to Revise General Education, 204 Bernhard Center, 9 a.m.-noon.

NIH guide available on VAX

The National Institutes of Health Guide for Grants and Contracts is now available to WMU faculty and staff members through the VAX computer. This weekly publication announces scientific opportunities and administrative information to individuals and organizations who need to be informed of new opportunities, requirements and changes in grants and contracts activities administered by the NIH. About 20,000 paper copies are distributed to universities, hospitals and investigators nationwide.

There are several advantages to having the electronic version. It is available 24 hours a day; it eliminates the need to wait two or three days earlier than the paper copy and several months of guides are available for immediate retrieval. In addition, the full text of each guide is available for applications is included, while the paper copy version only provides a brief description.

This new service is provided by research and sponsored programs and University computing services. For more information and specific directions on how to access the guide, contact the NIH office. The guide is for use at the WMU computer center only, and is not available on personal computers.